



# Scottish Ambulance Service

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From: Robert Panton, Corporate Affairs Manager

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Mr Peadar Morgan  
Language Planning Manager  
Bòrd na Gàidhlig  
Darach  
Stoneyfield  
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Dear Mr Morgan

## **A NATIONAL PLAN FOR GAELIC AND GUIDANCE ON GAELIC LANGUAGE PLANS**

Thank you for giving the Scottish Ambulance Service the opportunity to comment on your plans. In my role as Corporate Affairs Manager and Secretary to the Board, I am responding on behalf of the Service.

As a national Scottish service, I have noted with interest your plans and am impressed with the comprehension and overall coverage across many spheres of the public sector and education. The Scottish Ambulance Service will, in areas where there are communities of Gaelic speaking residents, e.g. the Western Isles and many parts of the Highlands, begin to have Gaelic signage at ambulance stations and on our vehicles which travel through these areas. This will have to be done through our estates development and vehicle replacement programmes. However, though we will concentrate on these areas first, the new signage etc. will not be exclusive to those areas.

In addition, the Scottish Ambulance Service has three Emergency Medical Dispatch Centres in Inverness, Paisley and Edinburgh. These are the centres which handle requests for ambulance transport and 999 calls. I will ask the Managers of these centres, and especially the one in Inverness, to make local arrangements so that a Gaelic speaking person can be on hand to assist in any calls from members of the public whose only language is Gaelic.

I hope that this goes some way towards reassuring you that the Scottish Ambulance Service is committed to assisting in your plans as far as possible.

Yours sincerely

Robert Panton  
Secretary to the Board



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