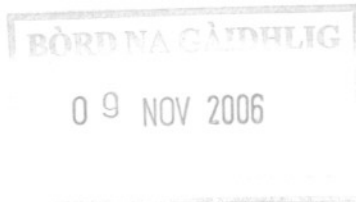


Peadar Morgan
Bord na Gàidhlig
Inverness IV2 7PA



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National Plan for Gaelic (Draft)

Dear Mr Morgan.

I have been able to read only part of the plan so some of my comments might be superfluous. Something more applicable to the likelihood of its being read by the General Public would be desirable.

Local Education Authorities should be encouraged to indicate their level of commitment to the promotion of the language. At the moment it is not impressive - more effort seems to be put into the provision of Urdu or the like. My impression is that they are happy to continue what has been government's approach over the last four hundred years namely a policy of either active or passive suppression of the language.

What provision is going to be made for training Gaelic tutors. Higher seats of learning need to be encouraged to have a more realistic approach to the provision of evening classes. The University of Dundee abandoned a proposed Gaelic class because of the lack of entrants. The classes in question were scheduled to begin at 5⁴⁵ PM!

I haven't yet had a reply to a letter suggesting that this timing would exclude many potential students who didn't finish their work until 5⁰⁰ PM. They would still have to battle through rush hour traffic then find a place to park their vehicle. Public transport would not be an option in the circumstances.

Is it the intention of the Board to give practical support to the likes of CUI and An Comann Gaidhealach who work extremely hard for the Gaelic Culture.

Is it possible to have a copy of the "draft plan" for my future reference.

Le deagh dhùrachdan

R Fraser Turnbull.