

Draft National Plan for Gaelic – Response from BBC Scotland

BBC Scotland provides the only comprehensive national broadcasting service in Gaelic across television, radio and online. In 2005/06 BBC Scotland broadcast circa 180 hours of Gaelic television programmes, 3300 hours on Radio nan Gaidheal and provided a range of online Gaelic resources on the BBCi Alba website, www.bbc.co.uk/alba which receives an average of 55,000 hits per week.

BBC Scotland welcomes the articulation and aspiration within the vision set out by Bòrd Na Gàidhlig in its Draft National Plan for Gaelic and envisages contributing to successful outcomes in the following areas of the Draft National Plan for Gaelic:

Vitality

- By providing educational resources in Gaelic for all ages and abilities which will support the development of listening, speaking and reading skills and the extension of vocabulary and idiom.
- By providing a range of informative and stimulating programmes and online resources which will enhance people's language experience.
- By continuing to offer sustainable Gaelic-essential employment in a range of locations across Scotland and in a variety of disciplines.
- By continuing to offer Gaelic-medium work placements and short-term employment to students and school pupils.
- By offering opportunities to learn and use Gaelic in the BBC work environment.
- By collaborating with other agencies regarding the standardisation of Gaelic spelling, grammar, vocabulary and naming issues.

Status

- By contributing through programming to raising awareness of the Gaelic language and related topics.
- By supporting positive attitudes in programming and content to diversity and multiculturalism.
- By continuing to support awareness of and access to information on Gaelic-medium education, learning, artistic, cultural and heritage activities.

Education

- By providing a range of educational resources designed to support language acquisition and language enhancement from early years through to life-long learning.
- By collaborating with other agencies and partners to ensure BBC Gaelic educational resources support national strategies, as appropriate, and are complementary to materials being produced elsewhere.

Culture

- By continuing to showcase and celebrate contemporary Gaelic cultural activities and events and by exploring Gaelic's cultural and linguistic heritage through programming and resources across all media.
- By engaging in creative collaborations and partnerships which will enable increased access to Gaelic-medium heritage materials.

Communications

- By delivering and sustaining a new integrated multi-media Gaelic digital service in partnership with the Gaelic Media Service.
- By continuing to produce, broadcast and enable access to a wide range of quality resources and programmes in the Gaelic language.
- By continuing to engage in partnerships to expand the provision of interactive and online resources which support Gaelic-medium education and by developing new, bespoke online creative resources for Gaelic users of all ages.
- By harnessing new and emerging technologies to enhance provision for the Gaelic audience.