

South Ayrshire Council

**Report by Chief Executive
to Cabinet
of 28th October 2025**

Subject: Gaelic Language Plan (2025 – 2030)

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval of the Gaelic Language Plan (2025 - 2030).

2. Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:

- 2.1.1 approves the Gaelic Language Plan (2025 - 2030) (appendix one) and thereafter formal submission to the Bòrd na Gàidhlig on the 28th of October 2025; and**
- 2.1.2 approves delegated authority to amend the Gaelic Language Plan (if required) following formal consideration by the Bòrd na Gàidhlig.**

3. Background

3.1 The South Ayrshire Council Gaelic Language Plan (2025 – 2030) has been prepared within the framework of the [Gaelic Language \(Scotland\) Act 2005](#). It sets out how we will use Gaelic in the operation of our functions, how we will facilitate the use of Gaelic when communicating with the public and key partners, and how we will promote and develop Gaelic through taking a proportionate approach which recognises the area's tradition and current use of the language.

4. Detail

4.1 South Ayrshire Council's Gaelic Language Plan has been prepared in accordance with [statutory criteria](#) set out in the 2005 Act and having regard to the [National Gaelic Language Plan 2023-2028](#) and the supporting guidance on the development of Gaelic Language Plans.

4.2 South Ayrshire Council's [previous Gaelic Language Plan](#) covered the period 2020-2025, it was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 and outlined how we would take forward the work to promote and use Gaelic throughout the locality. This plan will be closed off by a final monitoring report issued by the Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

- 4.3 The new plan for the period 2025-2030 incorporates an action plan aligning with the public authority areas highlighted in the national plan (where relevant) and core commitments of: *Identity, Communications, Publications and Staffing*. Areas of current practice are highlighted, along with proposed new actions which will be taken forward over the life of the plan.
- 4.4 The plan will be reviewed by the Bòrd na Gàidhlig following formal submission which must take place no later than the 28th of October 2025 (Bòrd na Gàidhlig has extended our submission deadline by one day to meet our Cabinet reporting timescales). If necessary, the plan will be amended to reflect formal feedback received.
- 4.5 Future monitoring of progress against the plan will take place via the Service and Partnerships Performance Panel.

5. Legal and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 The recommendations in this report are consistent with legal requirements.
- 5.2 There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 Not applicable

7. Human Resources Implications

- 7.1 Not applicable

8. Risk

8.1 *Risk Implications of Adopting the Recommendations*

Insert one of the following statements:

- 8.1.1 There are no risks associated with adopting the recommendations. The contents within this report will enable the Council to meet its statutory obligations in respect of the [Gaelic Language \(Scotland\) Act 2005](#).

8.2 *Risk Implications of Rejecting the Recommendations*

- 8.2.1 The risks associated with rejecting the recommendations are that the Council may be delayed in meeting its statutory obligation of formally publishing an approved Gaelic Language Plan in line with the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005.

9. Integrated Impact Assessment (incorporating Equalities)

- 9.1 An Integrated Impact Assessment has been carried out on the proposals contained in this report and is attached as appendix two. A copy of the fully completed IIA can be accessed [here](#).

10. Sustainable Development Implications

- 10.1 **Considering Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)** - This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme or strategy or document otherwise described which could be considered to constitute a plan, programme, policy or strategy.

11. Options Appraisal

- 11.1 An options appraisal has not been carried out in relation to the subject matter of this report as follows:
- The Gaelic Language Plan 2025-2030 has been developed to comply with statutory legislation.

12. Link to Council Plan

- 12.1 The matters referred to in this report contributes to Priority Two: Live, Work and Learn.

13. Link to Shaping Our Future Council Yes No X

14. Results of Consultation

- 14.1 A Language Skills Audit took place with South Ayrshire Council staff in May 2025 and the results of this are detailed within the plan. There has been public consultation on the contents of this report - a four-week consultation period took place on the content of the Gaelic Language Plan (GLP). A dedicated focus group took place with the Prestwick-based community Gaelic Group. Further information on consultation can be found within the GLP.
- 14.2 Consultation has taken place with the Bòrd na Gàidhlig – the plan reflects feedback received prior to formal submission and review.
- 14.3 The consultation process was also highlighted to the Equality and Diversity Forum.
- 14.4 Consultation has taken place with Councillor Hugh Hunter, Policy Lead for Health and Social Care, and Councillor William Grant, Policy Lead for Education and Lifelong Learning, and the contents of this report reflect any feedback provided.

15. Next Steps for Decision Tracking Purposes

- 15.1 If the recommendations above are approved by Members, the Chief Executive will ensure that all necessary steps are taken to ensure full implementation of the decision within the following timescales, with the completion status reported to the Cabinet in the 'Council and Cabinet Decision Log' at each of its meetings until such time as the decision is fully implemented:

<i>Implementation</i>	<i>Due date</i>	<i>Managed by</i>
Formally submit South Ayrshire Gaelic Plan 2025-2030 to the Bòrd na Gàidhlig.	28 th October 2025	Susan McCardie

Background Papers [Gaelic Language \(Scotland\) Act 2005.](#)

[National Gaelic Language Plan 2023-2028](#)

Person to Contact **Kevin Anderson, Assistant Director (Corporate Policy, Strategy and Performance)**
County Buildings, Ayr
Email kevin.anderson@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Susan McCardie, Service Lead (Performance, Community Planning and Sustainability)
County Buildings, Ayr
E-mail susan.mccardie@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Date: 8th October 2025

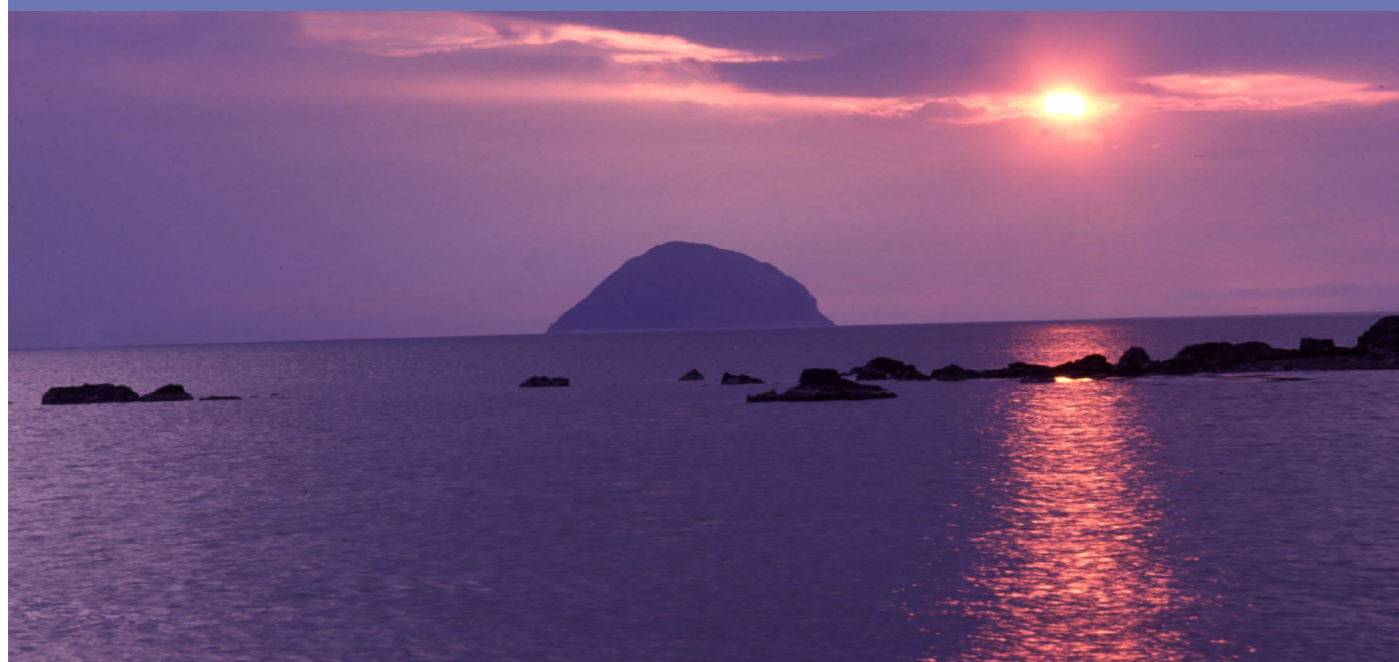
South Ayrshire Council
Gaelic Language Plan
2025-30

**Making Gaelic a visible part of
our inclusive culture**



Contents

- Summary of South Ayrshire 3
- Introduction4
- South Ayrshire Gaelic Language Plan 2020-20254
- Development of the South Ayrshire Gaelic Language Plan 2025-20304
- Consultation5
- Overview of South Ayrshire Council.....8
- Gaelic skills within South Ayrshire.....9
- Settlement locations of South Ayrshire residents who communicate in Gaelic (speak, read or write Gaelic).....10
- Gaelic Language skills within South Ayrshire Council.....11
- Gaelic Medium Education (GME) within South Ayrshire.....12
- School Based Learning.....12
- Community Based Learning.....13
- Gaelic in the Community13
- Gaelic in the Council.....15
- Gaelic and Partnership Arrangements.....16
- Core Commitments.....16
- Implementation and Monitoring.....19



Summary of South Ayrshire

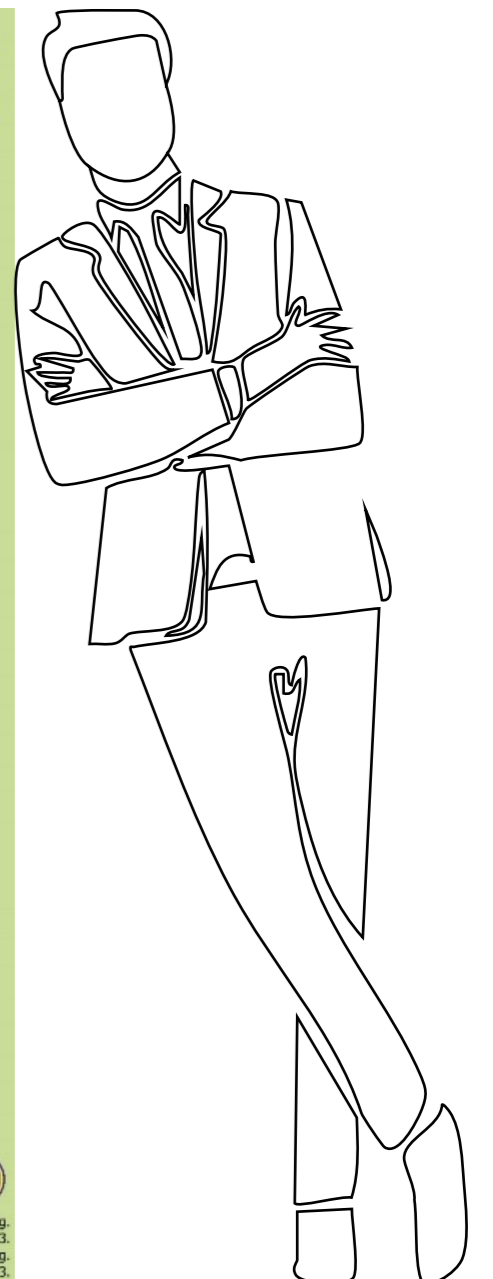
South Ayrshire Council (SAC) recognises that Gaelic is an integral part of Scotland’s heritage, national identity, and cultural life. South Ayrshire Council is committed to the main aim of the [National Gaelic Language Plan 2023-2028](#) which is to:

Increase the use and learning of Gaelic

The National Plan underpins the Scottish Government’s ambition to see an increase in the number of people speaking, learning, using and supporting Gaelic in Scotland.

The South Ayrshire Council Gaelic Language Plan has been prepared within the framework of the [Gaelic Language \(Scotland\) Act 2005](#). It sets out how we will use Gaelic in the operation of our functions, how we will facilitate the use of Gaelic when communicating with the public and key partners, and how we will promote and develop Gaelic through taking a proportionate approach which recognises the area’s tradition and current use of the language.

South Ayrshire Council’s Gaelic Language Plan has been prepared in accordance with [statutory criteria](#) set out in the 2005 Act and having regard to the National Gaelic Language Plan and the Guidance on the Development of Gaelic Language Plans.



Introduction

The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 was passed by the Scottish Parliament with a view to securing the status of the Gaelic language as an official language of Scotland commanding equal respect to the English language.

One of the key features of the 2005 Act is the provision enabling Bòrd na Gàidhlig to require public authorities to prepare Gaelic Language Plans. This provision was designed to ensure that the public sector in Scotland plays its part in creating a sustainable future for Gaelic by raising its status and profile and creating practical opportunities for its use.

The 2005 Act requires public bodies to bring the preparation of its Gaelic Language Plan to the attention of all interested parties.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig provides public authorities with official notification of when they must prepare their Plan and details of the high level aims which should be met by the Plan.

South Ayrshire Gaelic Language Plan 2020-2025

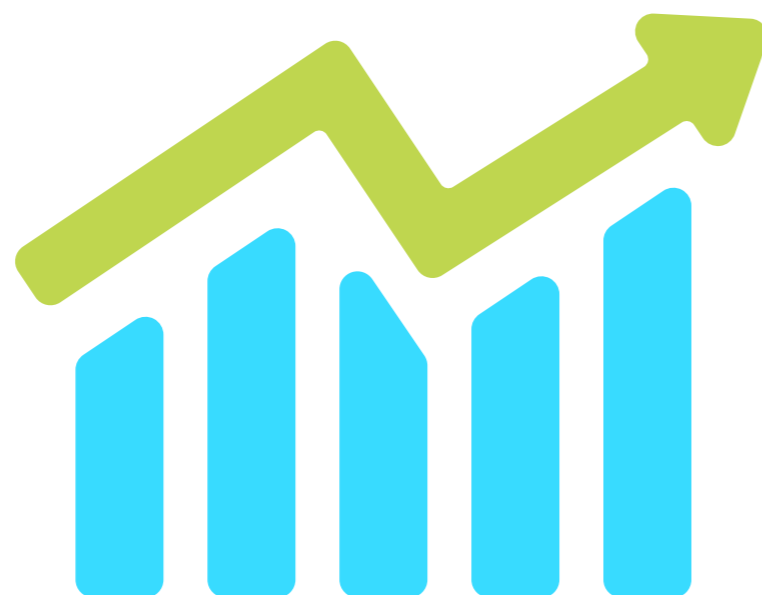
South Ayrshire Council's previous [Gaelic Language Plan](#) covered the period 2020-2025, it was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 and outlined how we would take forward the work to promote and use Gaelic throughout the locality.

Development of the South Ayrshire Gaelic Language Plan 2025-2030

The National Gaelic Language Plan 2023–2028 sets out the main goals for helping Gaelic grow. It aims to increase the number of people who speak, learn, use, and support the language. The plan builds on past progress but also recognises that challenges remain. It highlights key areas where more can be done to promote and teach Gaelic. Local Authorities were asked to keep these priorities in mind when developing their plans.

The priority areas identified are:

- Community support
- Support in the home
- Creative industries
- Business and economy
- Public authorities
- 0-18 education
- Post school and adult learning



Consultation

A Community Consultation was carried out from 18 August 2025 to 12 September 2025, it was open to the public via an online questionnaire, which was accessible through the South Ayrshire Council website. To encourage wider participation, the consultation was actively promoted to the public and key stakeholders through the following channels:

- South Ayrshire Council's official social media platforms
- The Community Planning Participation and Engagement Group
- Prestwick Gaelic Group
- Education Update distributed to all schools
- Internal communications to staff via Viva Engage
- Health and Social Care Partnership Locality Planning Groups

Additionally, posters featuring a QR code linking to the questionnaire were displayed in all public libraries. Paper versions of the questionnaire were also provided for individuals who preferred to complete and return a hard copy.

A dedicated focus group session was held on 30 August 2025 with the Prestwick-based Gaelic Group. During this session, participants engaged in a general discussion regarding the presence and future of Gaelic in South Ayrshire, offering suggestions for advancing the Gaelic Language Plan (see page 9).

Furthermore, Council officers met with representatives from the Broadway Cinema in Prestwick, who expressed a strong interest in incorporating Gaelic language into their venue. This initiative is being supported by Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

The findings of this consultation have helped to develop the actions within this plan, for more detailed information please see Appendix 1.



Strategic Commitments/Aims

Priority Area: 0-18 Education

Strategic Aim: Fulfil South Ayrshire Council's responsibility under the Education (Scotland) Act 2016 by promoting the opportunity and right for parents of pre-school children to request an assessment of the need for Gaelic Medium Primary Education (GMPE) within South Ayrshire.

Action	Lead Officer	Timescale
Develop the webpage regarding the right for parents of children under 5 to request Gaelic Medium Primary Education from South Ayrshire Council.	Co-ordinator (Literacy, Gaelic and Languages)	Reported on annually
Conduct a parental engagement survey for parents of 3- and 4-year-olds to gauge the interest for Gaelic Medium Education (GME).	Co-ordinator (Literacy, Gaelic and Languages)	Reported on annually

Strategic Aim: Promote Gaelic as part of the 1+2 initiative.

Action	Lead Officer	Timescale
Ensure that almost all primary school children in South Ayrshire have at least one experience of Gaelic Language Education (GLE) as part of their L3 offering by 2027 by continuing to promote Gaelic Language Education positively and build capacity of education/teaching staff to use our engaging learning projects and resources for children and young people.	Co-ordinator (Literacy, Gaelic and Languages)	2027 and then reported on annually
Promote Gaelic at the 1+2 Festival through the inclusion of Gaelic musical and dramatic performances and workshops.	Co-ordinator (Literacy, Gaelic and Languages)	Reported on annually

Priority Area: Support in the Home

Strategic Aim: Support Parents of Early Years Children

Action	Lead Officer	Timescale
Promote and encourage parents with 2/3-year-olds to attend the Seinn Còmhla Rium sessions.	Co-ordinator (Literacy, Gaelic and Languages)	Reported on annually
Re-introduce Gaelic Bookbug sessions if demand exists.	Co-ordinator (Culture)	Reported on annually

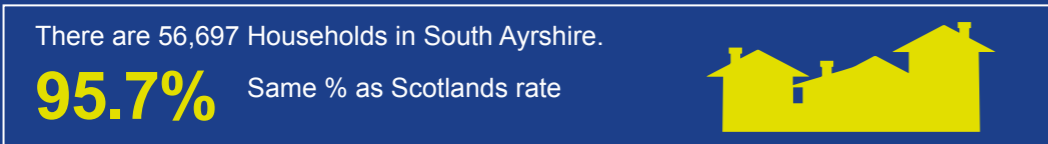
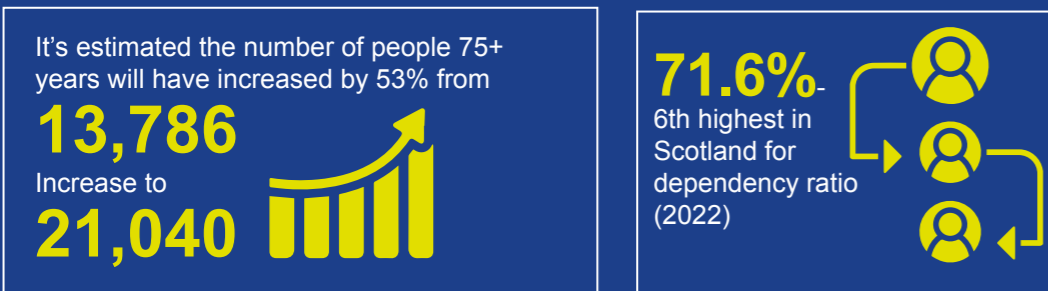
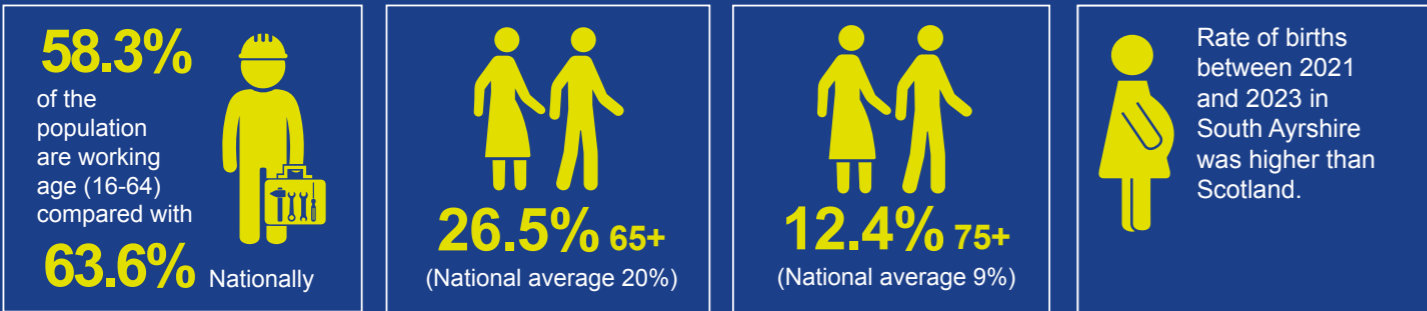
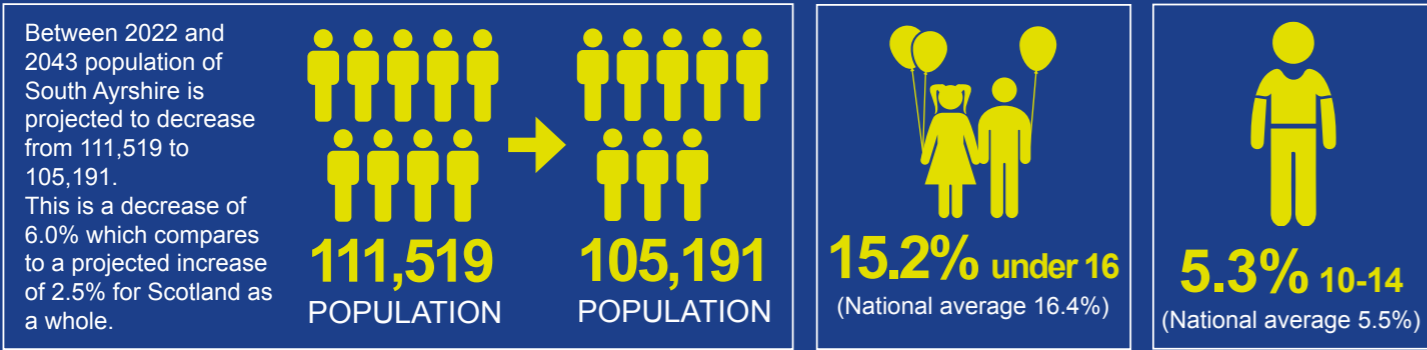
Priority Area: Support in the Community

Strategic Aim: Support and collaborate with any formal Gaelic community group who make themselves known to the council.

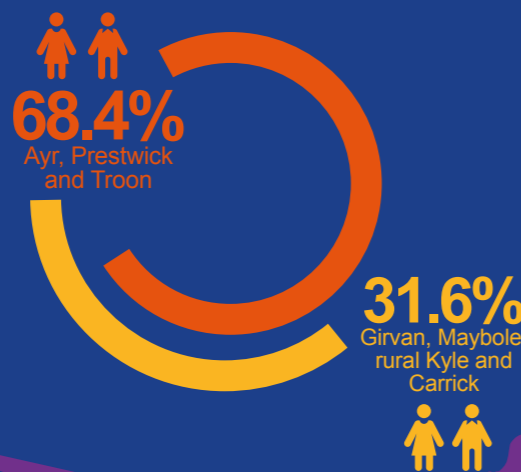
Action	Lead Officer	Timescale
Develop the webpage regarding the right for parents of children under 5 to request Gaelic Medium Primary Education from South Ayrshire Council.	Co-ordinator (Literacy, Gaelic and Languages)	Reported on annually
Conduct a parental engagement survey for parents of 3- and 4-year-olds to gauge the interest for Gaelic Medium Education.	Co-ordinator (Literacy, Gaelic and Languages)	Reported on annually



Overview of South Ayrshire Council



This may suggest that in terms of an increasingly elderly population and decreasing younger population, there may be issues with increasing Gaelic medium learning. However, the Council is committed to being part of the Bòrd's long-term vision for public authorities in Scotland to be part of a national language-planning framework that support the development of Gaelic, to increase incrementally over time the level of Gaelic provision within public authorities - challenging though that might be.



● TROON

● PRESTWICK

● AYR

● MAYBOLE

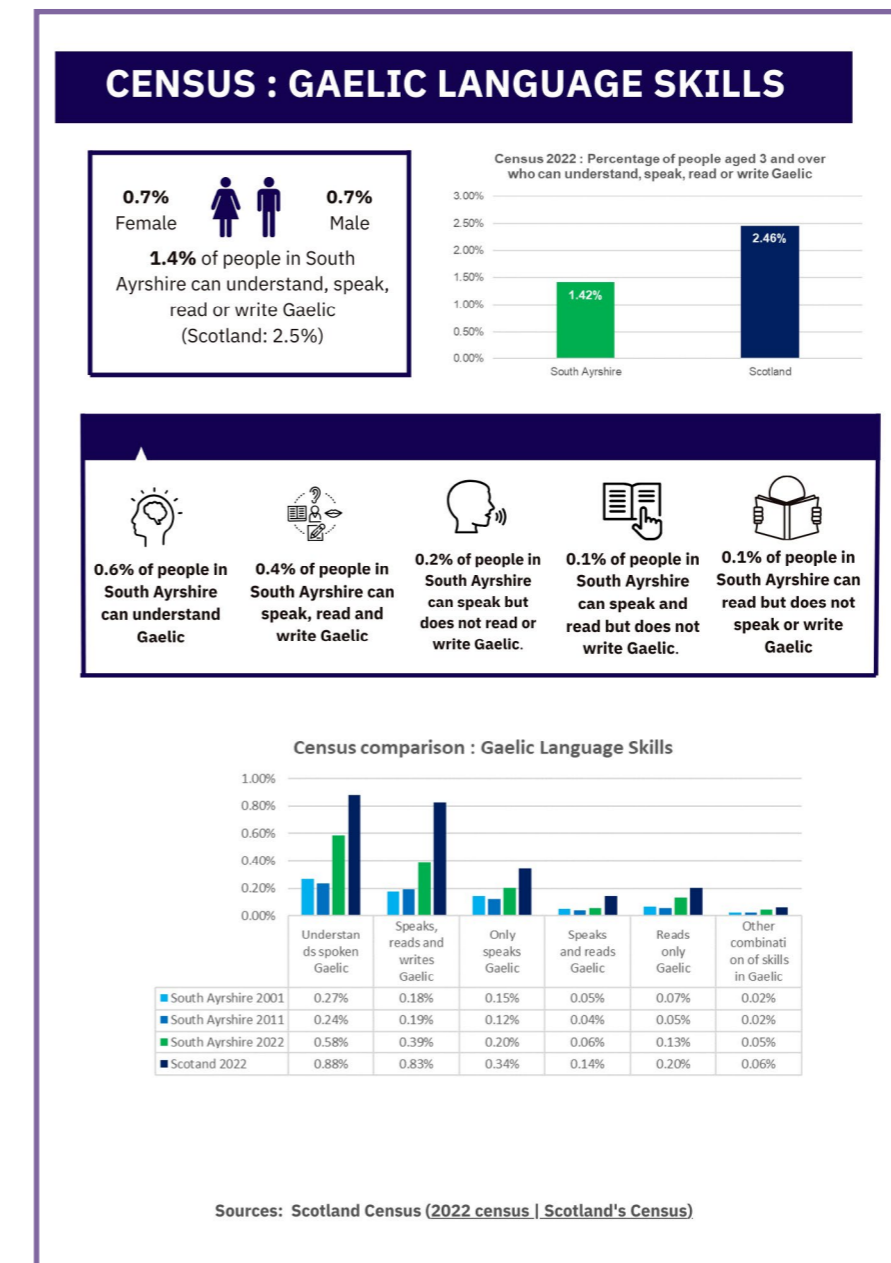
● GIRVAN

For information on Gaelic place-names in the area please use the following link which includes a resource by Iain Mac an Tàilleir for place-names. For example:

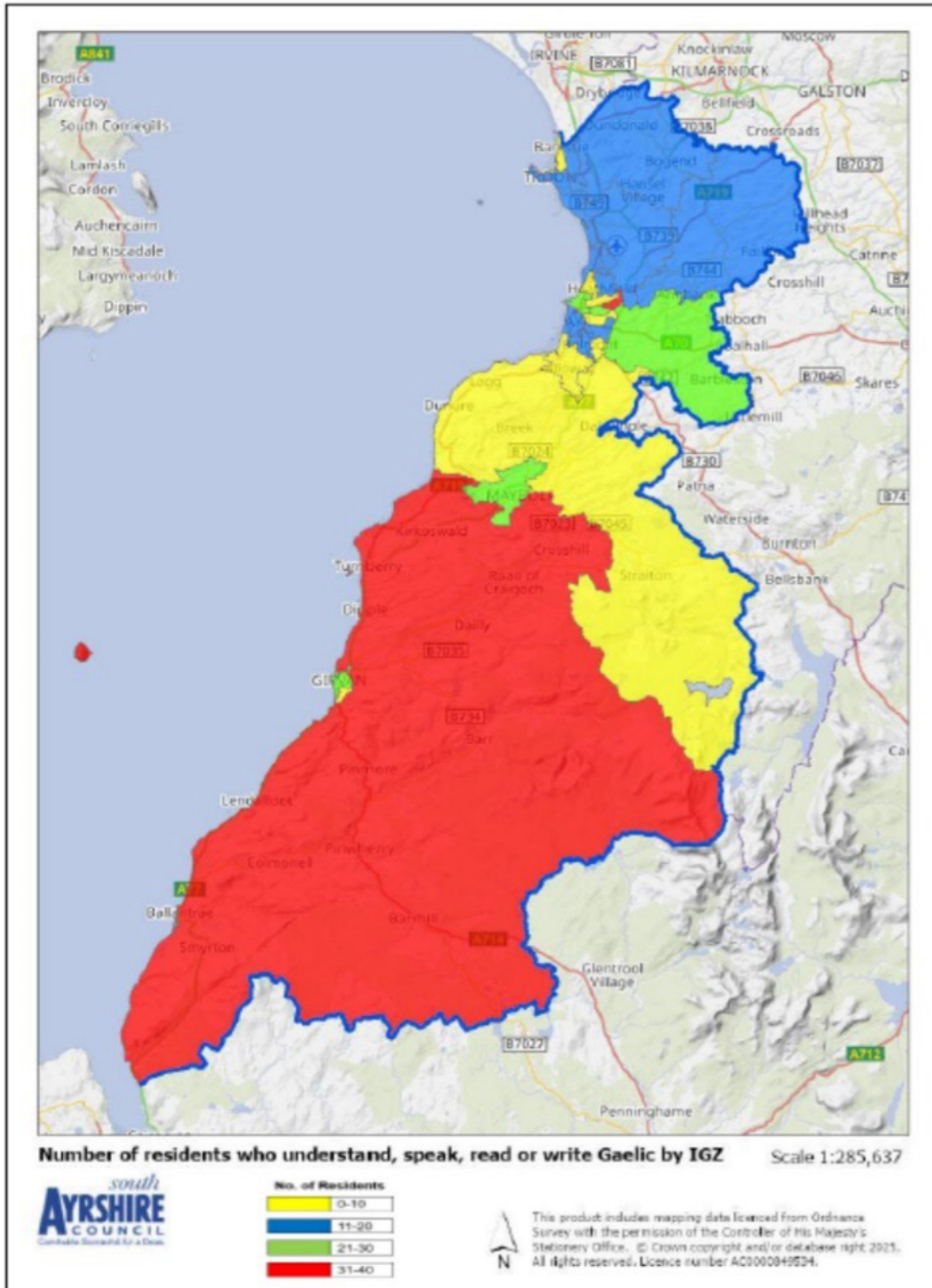
AREA	Gaelic Name
South Ayrshire Council	Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Deas
Troon	An Truthail
Prestwick Town	Baile Phreastabhaig
Ayr	Inbhir Àir
Girvan	Inbhir Gharbhain

[Ainmean-Àite na h-Alba \(AÀA\) – Gaelic Place-names of Scotland](#)

Gaelic skills within South Ayrshire



Settlement locations of South Ayrshire residents who communicate in Gaelic (speak, read or write Gaelic)



Gaelic Language skills within South Ayrshire Council

We have one 0.4 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Gaelic Development Officer, this post does not require fluency of any kind but a good working knowledge of Gaelic to be used for Gaelic Language Education in the Broad General Education is necessary.

A Gaelic Language skills audit was carried out in May 2025 for a period of four weeks, the survey was carried out via MS Teams and promoted through various internal communication streams and through our Equality & Diversity forum members. A range of questions were asked to ascertain the skills held across the Local Authority in terms of the Gaelic language. 85 staff members responded.

The survey highlighted that we have a low number of staff who were aware that a Gaelic Language Plan existed as well as a small number who have any Gaelic language skills. Staff would be willing to learn the language however felt that there were a number of barriers in their way including time commitments, financial, as well as travel to courses.

Suggestions to increase Gaelic in our working life included:

- Gaelic speaking groups, opportunities for learners in primary schools;
- Mandatory signage to normalise Gaelic in our schools and Council buildings (Gaelic does have equal status to English in the Gaelic Act);
- Open days to promote more through education and schools;
- Correct Gaelic on our signs;
- Closer working between corporate and education;
- Gaelic welcome in all Public Buildings and ensure staff can verbalise it;
- Offer courses/lessons;
- Social media posts celebrating the Gaelic language;
- Bring Gaelic provision more into South Ayrshire Schools; and
- More internal resources available.

We will endeavour to carry out another staff survey in the future to hopefully increase the number of respondents to our skills audit. See Appendix 2 for more in depth survey results.

Gaelic Medium Education within South Ayrshire

South Ayrshire Council currently has no provision for Gaelic Medium Education (GME) within any of its education schools or establishments. There is provision (P1-S6) for GME with East Ayrshire Council and South Ayrshire can link to this service when there is demand for it. Learners will be transported to the McIlvaney Campus, Kilmarnock, to enable them to have formal Gaelic Medium teaching. There are also links with North Ayrshire Council to engage with their Gaelic Medium Education service.

As of 2024-2025 we have had one child placed in East Ayrshire to be educated in GME and currently have two further enquiries for this provision.

Education Scotland Act 2016 includes provisions that give parents the right to request an assessment of the need for Gaelic Medium Primary Education from their Education Authority and the Scottish Government has established a process for parents, which is supported by Statutory Guidance on Gaelic Education published by Bòrd na Gàidhlig. Where parents within South Ayrshire make such a request Educational Services will follow Statutory Guidance.

School Based Learning

South Ayrshire has committed to raising the profile of Gaelic and building capacity amongst teachers and other practitioners to support and promote the use of Gaelic in schools.

We have:

- Created a permanent 0.4 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) post for a Gaelic Development Officer who collaborates with schools and Early Years establishments across the authority.
- Created and delivered Gaelic Language Education professional learning for primary teachers.
- Created and promoted a wide range of resources to support the teaching and learning of Gaelic.
- Established links with Early Years colleagues to promote Gaelic Language Education through rhyme, song and play to Early Years Practitioners.
- Applied for and made judicious use of funding from Scottish Government's scheme of Gaelic specific grant provision for Gaelic education.
- Collaborated with colleagues responsible for GLE and GME in neighbouring authorities: East and North Ayrshire.
- Promoted and facilitated Gaelic Language Education through Gaelic choirs who have performed locally and regionally.
- Hosted two annual Gaelic showcase events at The Cutty Sark Centre in Ayr.
- Promoted Gaelic through council newsletters, media channels and social media accounts.
- Collaborated with local authority partners to create engaging Gaelic Language Education opportunities for children and young people.
- Supported colleagues to undertake GLPS training and lead Gaelic Language Education initiatives within their school contexts.

Community Based Learning

The Council does not have any formal community-based learning of Gaelic at present.



Gaelic in the Community

Over the life of the Plan we will continue to liaise with Bòrd na Gàidhlig and community organisation contacts, to develop links and possible participation in existing and new projects.

Friends of the Broadway Prestwick, the charity re-opening the former Broadway Cinema on Prestwick Main Street, are developing a Gaelic language plan for the project's future development and have already received funding to include Gaelic in their first phase of operations. This includes bilingual signage throughout the building's visitor experience, which includes a pop-up museum and heritage exhibitions on the history of the Broadway Cinema. Their long-term vision for Gaelic development, if successful, will result in the creation of a leading culture, entertainment, and learning hub for the language in South Ayrshire.

The Broadway will be redeveloped with facilities for cinema, theatre, live music events, conferences, festivals, and more. The

museum project will be expanded to achieve full accreditation by national organisations, the group's initiatives with young people and learning through heritage and film will be continuously developed as the project progresses, and the charity has already developed positive relationships for the future with leading Gaelic media organisations including MG ALBA, Astar Media, and FilmG.

The group's vision is that the Broadway will become one of the leading entertainment hubs for Gaelic in Scotland; playing host to national events, film workshops, and community learning and support groups. This will bring increased interest, awareness, and positive exposure for the language in a thriving community asset.

For members of our community who request Gaelic interpretation and translation services, we use a range of translation and interpretation firms including the use of telephone interpreting services, in line with our well-established arrangements for alternative languages.

Gaelic in the Council

Museums & Galleries

Our Museums & Galleries service have a Scots Gaelic translation Tam o' Shanter, with interpretative materials, such as artwork labels, also in Gaelic. In early 2025 we created distinct profiles on [Bloomberg Connects](#) which will feature Gaelic translations of both permanent and changing exhibitions.



Libraries

Our regular Bookbug sessions have Gaelic resources available to participants. Our provision of Gaelic language books primarily covers dictionaries and books for young people. We can provide additional Gaelic books via customer requests, and participation in national campaigns or promotions, for example themed showcases on Scottish Writers via Scottish Libraries Information Council and reading Agency. We also regularly review and update Gaelic e-book services, with opportunity for users to request titles in Gaelic.



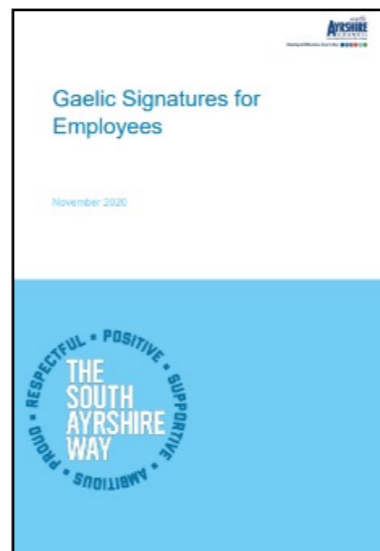
Employees

The Council will enhance its reputation as an Employer of Choice by establishing systems and methods which demonstrate equal respect for Gaelic and English language applicants.

The employees that are identified as having an interest in learning Gaelic will be signposted to the Council's e-learning platform.

The Council's Equality and Diversity Forum includes elected member representation from all political groups and meetings are held quarterly with the Equality Champions network. Equalities Champions offer local support and information to their Directorate colleagues on all equality and diversity matters.

All employees are encouraged to have a Gaelic signature translation on their email and guidance is available on our internal intranet system on how to do this. See example below:



Employee Scots Gaelic Translated Signature

Sarah Ross | Neach-taic (Leasachadh Buidhne) | Seirbheisean Luchd-obrach is Luchd-ceannach | Prìomh Roinn
 Togalaichean Siorrachd | Sarah.Ross@south-ayrshire.gov.uk
 Tel: 01292 612875 | www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Gaelic and Partnership Arrangements

Core Commitments

The following actions will take forward key areas of focus for South Ayrshire Council by aligning with the Public Authority priority areas (where relevant) highlighted within the 2023-2028 national plan.

Gaelic Orthographic

The most recent Gaelic Orthographic Conventions will be followed in relation to all written materials produced by the public authority.

Core Commitment Area:	Identity
<p>The presence of Gaelic in the corporate identity and signs of a public authority greatly enhances the visibility of the language, increases its status and makes an important statement about how Gaelic is valued and how it is given recognition. Developing the use of Gaelic through signage can also enrich the vocabulary of Gaelic users, raise public awareness of the language and contribute to its development.</p> <p>South Ayrshire Council recognises the importance of extending the visibility of Gaelic and increasing it's status.</p> <p>BÒRD NA GÀIDHLIG CORPORATE SERVICE AIMS¹:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Logo and brand - render the corporate logo and branding in both Gaelic and English at the first opportunity and as part of any renewal process. The logo should demonstrate equal prominence for both languages. Signage - Signage will include Gaelic and English as part of any renewal process. 	
<p>SAC CURRENT PRACTICE:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Gaelic translation is included within our corporate logo. Gaelic translation is included within town and road signage throughout the local authority area and will continue to be updated as part of renewal process. 	

¹ Corporate service aims as directed by Statutory Guidance on the development of the [Gaelic Language Plan](#) and GLP monitoring requirements



Core Commitment Area:		Communications
<p>The use of Gaelic at the initial point of contact that members of the public have with a public authority increases the visible and audible presence of the language and contributes to the sense that the use of Gaelic is possible and welcome. In addition to raising the profile of the language, it also creates opportunities for its practical use and encourages members of the public to use Gaelic in subsequent dealings with the public authority.</p> <p>The use of Gaelic in interactions with the authority by mail, e-mail and by telephone is important in creating practical opportunities for the use of language, and in contributing to the sense that its use is possible and welcome. The presence of Gaelic in a wide range of bilingual forms and Gaelic only forms can also greatly enhance the visibility and prestige of the language.</p> <p>The preparation of Gaelic forms, applications and similar documents, can also assist in expanding the range of Gaelic terminology and the awareness of the Gaelic-speaking public of such terminology, thus helping the development of the language itself.</p> <p>South Ayrshire Council recognises the importance of creating opportunities for the practical use of Gaelic in a wide range of everyday situations and is committed to increasing its level of provision in this area.</p>		
<p>BÒRD NA Gàidhlig Corporate Service Aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion - Positive messages that communication from the public in Gaelic is always welcome are regularly repeated. Written Communication - Written communication in Gaelic is always accepted (post, email and social media) and replies will be provided in Gaelic in accordance with the general policy. Reception and phone - Where Gaelic speaking staff are capable of providing this service, they are supported to do so and the service is promoted to the public. If there are not staff available to deliver this service, capacity will be built through training and recruitment. Public meeting - Opportunities to hold public meetings bilingually or in Gaelic are regularly explored and promoted. In those geographical locations in which the percentages or numbers of Gaelic speakers is greater, working towards this will be expected as standard. 		
<p>SAC CURRENT PRACTICE</p> <p>All employees are encouraged to have a bilingual email signature, instructions on how to do this are available on our internal site with step-by-step instructions.</p>		
NEW ACTIONS	Lead Officer	Timescale
We will develop a communication plan including topics such as email and social media incorporating aims one and two, promotion and written communication advising Gaelic users within South Ayrshire of these opportunities.	Community Planning & Equalities team with support from Communications Team	Reviewed annually
At present, we are unable to provide a Gaelic reception and telephone service within the local authority. However, we are committed to supporting staff who are interested in developing their Gaelic language skills and will actively explore opportunities to build internal capacity to enable future service provision.	Community Planning & Equalities team	Reviewed annually
Where requests are received, we will endeavour to host public meetings bilingually or in Gaelic.	Community Planning & Equalities team	Reviewed annually

Core Commitment Area:		Information
<p>The use of Gaelic in a range of printed material can assist Gaelic development in a variety of ways. It helps increase the visibility of the language, it enhances Gaelic's status by being used in high profile publications, and it can help develop new and enhance existing terminology. The use of Gaelic in the media helps demonstrate a public authority's commitment to making important information available through the medium of Gaelic, as well as enhancing the visibility and status of the language. As more people access information about public authorities through their websites, making provision for the use of Gaelic can significantly enhance the status and visibility of the language.</p> <p>South Ayrshire Council is committed to increasing the use of Gaelic in these areas where the subject matter is of most interest to the general public or relates specifically to Gaelic issues.</p>		
<p>BÒRD NA Gàidhlig Corporate Service Aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> News releases - High profile news releases and all news releases related to Gaelic are circulated in both Gaelic and English. Social Media - Gaelic content distributed regularly through social media, working towards fully bilingual social media. Website - Gaelic content available on the public authority's website, with emphasis given to the pages with the highest potential reach; working towards fully bilingual website in those geographical locations in which the percentages or numbers of Gaelic speakers are greater in the community, this will be expected as standard. Corporate Publications - Produced in Gaelic and English, with priority given to those with the highest potential reach and impact. Language - A process is in place to ensure that the quality and accessibility of Gaelic language in all corporate information is high. Exhibitions - Opportunities to deliver public exhibitions bilingually or in Gaelic should be explored on a regular basis, with priority given to those with the highest potential impact. 		
<p>SAC CURRENT PRACTICE</p> <p>If a request is received for information to be translated for news release/social media/website/corporate publications, then the appropriate steps would be taken.</p> <p>South Ayrshire Council uses the Bloomberg Connect app for translation purposes within Rozelle Museum Galleries and McKechnie Institute.</p>		
NEW ACTIONS	Lead Officer	Timescale
As part of the communication plan we include engagement with relevant departments to ensure wider Gaelic content is shared where appropriate. Explore sections within our corporate website where Gaelic could be incorporated, beginning with Gaelic related content such as the Gaelic language plan webpage and the webpage on Gaelic education.	Community Planning & Equalities team with support from Communications Team and Digital Services Team	Reviewed annually
Corporate publications will be considered for production in Gaelic and English where there is demand.	Community Planning & Equalities team and other council services where appropriate	Reviewed annually
Further exploration to deliver public exhibitions, this will be dependent on demand and availability of budget.	Co-ordinator Culture	Reviewed annually

Core Commitment Area:		Staffing
<p>In order to deliver services through the medium of Gaelic, it is necessary to develop the requisite job skills and language skills of staff. The provision of language learning for staff helps promote adult Gaelic learning and promotes Gaelic as a useful skill in the workplace. The identification of jobs in which Gaelic is a designated skill will contribute greatly to the status of the language and to identifying it as a positive skill to acquire.</p> <p>The use of Gaelic in advertising also helps recognise that Gaelic should be used in public life and that Gaelic users have an important role to play within a public authority.</p> <p>Whatever the level of Gaelic skills required it is important that authorities ensure that Gaelic is a genuine occupational requirement. Authorities should adopt and apply objective criteria to ensure appointments are made in each case on a fair and consistent basis, and reflect the identified skills needs of the post.</p> <p>South Ayrshire Council recognises the importance of seeing Gaelic as an important job skill and of identifying situations in which its use is essential or desirable. South Ayrshire Council also recognises the importance of enabling staff to develop their Gaelic skills if they wish to do so.</p>		
<p>BÒRD NA GÀIDHLIG CORPORATE SERVICE AIMS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Internal audit - Conduct an internal audit of Gaelic skills and training needs through the life of each edition of the plan. Induction - Knowledge of the public authority’s Gaelic language plan and training opportunities are embedded in new staff inductions. Language - Gaelic language skills training and development, delivered to staff, particularly in relation to implementing the public authority’s Gaelic language plan. Using Gaelic - Staff are encouraged to use Gaelic in their work. Awareness - Gaelic awareness training delivered, with priority given to senior staff, other key decision makers and staff dealing directly with the public. Recruitment - Gaelic language skills are recognised and respected within the recruitment process throughout the public authority. Gaelic named - As an essential and / or desirable skill in job descriptions in order to deliver the Gaelic language plan and in accordance with the Bòrd na Gàidhlig recruitment advice. Bilingual or Gaelic only - Job adverts for all posts where Gaelic is an essential skill. 		
<p>SAC CURRENT PRACTICE</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> An internal Gaelic language skills audit was carried out in May 2025, results are within this plan. Within our SAC resource library (available on our internal learnPro site) we direct staff to a few resources including: A Gaelic Online dictionary, Information on Gaelic education, the Digital Archive of Scottish Gaelic and Learn Gaelic. 		
NEW ACTIONS	Lead Officer	Timescale
(1-5) Carry out an internal communications campaign to promote the use of Gaelic and signpost staff to available resources.	Community Planning & Equalities team	Reviewed annually
South Ayrshire Council will promote Gaelic training opportunities on a bi-annual basis.	Community Planning & Equalities team	Bi-annually
(6-8) As and when the need arises, we will ensure that these processes will be taken into consideration.	Human Resources and Education	As and when required

Implementation and Monitoring

Following approval by Cabinet, the Gaelic Language Plan will be available on our website in English and Gaelic. The plan will be made known to the public and employees through our communications team.

This iterative plan will be reviewed annually, and actions will be added where appropriate. Overall progress of the Plan will be monitored by the Service and Partnerships Performance Panel.

Regular updates will be provided to the Equality & Diversity Forum.



This information can be made available, on request, in braille, large print or audio formats and can be translated into a range of languages. Contact details are provided below.

درخواست کرنے پر یہ معلومات نابینا افراد کے لئے اُبھرے حروف، بڑے حروف یا آڈیو میں مہیا کی جاسکتی ہے اور اسکا مختلف زبانوں میں ترجمہ بھی کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ رابطہ کی تفصیلات نیچے فراہم کی گئی ہیں۔

本信息可应要求提供盲文，大字印刷或音频格式，以及可翻译成多种语言。以下是详细联系方式。

本信息可慮應要求提供盲文，大字印刷或音频格式，以及可翻譯成多种語言。以下是詳細聯系方式。

ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਮੰਗ ਕੇ ਬੋਲ, ਵੱਡੇ ਅੱਖਰਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਸਣਨ ਵਾਲੇ ਰਪ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਲਈ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੈ, ਅਤੇ ਇਹਦਾ ਤਰਜਮਾ ਹੋਰ ਬੋਲੀਆਂ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਕਰਵਾਇਆ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ। ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ।

Niniejsze informacje mogą zostać udostępnione na życzenie, w alfabecie Braille'a, w druku powiększonym lub w formie audio oraz mogą zostać przetłumaczone na wiele języków obcych. Dane kontaktowe znajdują się poniżej.

Faodar am fiosrachadh seo fhaighinn, le iarrtas, ann am braille, clò mòr no clàr fuaim agus tha e comasach eadar-theangachadh gu grunn chànanan. Tha fiosrachadh gu h-ìosal mu bhith a' cur fios a-steach.

South Ayrshire Council
Contact Centre
0300123 0900

South Ayrshire Council

Gaelic Language plan

2025-30

Appendix 1



Appendix 1

South Ayrshire Council Gaelic Language Plan Public Consultation Report

In 2005, the Scottish Government passed the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005. Under this legislation, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, the national organisation responsible for promoting and supporting the Gaelic language issued a statutory requirement for all Scottish public bodies to develop a Gaelic Language Plan.

In response, South Ayrshire Council has created its Gaelic Language Plan covering the years 2025 to 2030.

To promote openness and community engagement, any new plans or policies that could impact residents of South Ayrshire are subject to public consultation. This process allows the Council to gather input and take community views into account before implementing any such measures.

Consultation Overview

The main method of consultation was an online questionnaire, which was accessible through the South Ayrshire Council website. It was open to the public from 18 August 2025 to 12 September 2025.

To encourage wider participation, the consultation was actively promoted to the public and key stakeholders through the following channels:

- South Ayrshire Council’s official social media platforms
- The Community Planning Participation and Engagement Group
- Prestwick Gaelic Group
- Education Update distributed to all schools
- Clann Gàidhlig, an organisation dedicated to promoting Gaelic language and culture in the West of Scotland
- Internal communications to staff via Viva Engage
- Health and Social Care Partnership Locality Planning Groups

Additionally, posters featuring a QR code linking to the questionnaire were displayed in all public libraries. Paper versions of the questionnaire were also provided for individuals who preferred to complete and return a hard copy.

A dedicated focus group session was held on 30 August 2025 with the Prestwick-based Gaelic Group. During this session, participants engaged in a general discussion regarding the presence and future of Gaelic in South Ayrshire, offering suggestions for advancing the Gaelic Language Plan (see page 9).

Furthermore, Council officers met with representatives from the Broadway Cinema in Prestwick, who expressed a strong interest in incorporating Gaelic language into their venue. This initiative is being supported by Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

Results of the consultation

Demographics of the individuals completing the form:

A total of 190 individuals participated in the online survey. Only 184 respondents chose to tell us about their gender. Of these respondents 123 identified as female, 49 as male, and 12 chose not to disclose their gender

Likewise, only 188 of the respondents chose to tell us about their age. The age of the individuals completing the survey were as follows:

16-25	5
25-34	16
35-44	50
45-54	33
55-64	32
65-74	30
75 and over	11
Prefer not to say	11

Questions regarding the use of the Gaelic Language

- Of the individuals completing the questionnaire 32% (61) knew South Ayrshire Council had a Gaelic Language Plan and 68% (128) did not with one respondent choosing not to answer.
- 59% (111) respondents were not a speaker or a learner of Gaelic, 16% (30) wanted to become a learner, 14% (26) considered themselves to be a beginner learner, 10% (18) are intermediate learners and 2% (4) are fluent speakers, one respondent chose not to answer.
- Most people (168) do not use Gaelic in their daily lives with 21 people stating that they did, one respondent chose not to answer.
- At home the 21 people, 52% (11) use it daily, 19% (4) use it weekly, 19% (4) stated it would depend on the situation and 10% (2) don’t use it at home.
- Of the 21 people who use Gaelic in their daily lives 1 person uses Gaelic at work daily, 3 people use it weekly, one uses it monthly, 3 use it depending on the situation and 12 do not use it at work.
- Within an education setting, 2 people use Gaelic daily, 8 use it weekly, 3 use it depending on the situation and 8 do not use it in an educational setting.
- 11 of the respondents use Gaelic in some social situations, 1 uses it monthly, 4 uses it weekly and 2 use it on a daily basis.
- Of the Gaelic speakers 14 note that they used the language on holiday, some of the reasons for this are:
 - Depending on where they are holiday i.e Scottish Highland and Islands
 - Because it is part of who I am
 - To practice and improve their skills
 - To use it when I can i.e. at the shops or in a social context
 - I try to engage speakers in conversation
 - They want to use the language
 - For cultural reasons



Wider use of Gaelic within Local Communities

181 people responded when asked where people see/ hear Gaelic being used in the community. Of the 179 31% (56) said they hadn't. From the respondents who had heard/see Gaelic being used:

- 34% (62) said that they had seen it used in signage or on public sector vehicles such as Ambulances or Police cars or on correspondence from the Council.
- 9% (17) had heard or seen this in another local authority including the Highlands and Islands of Scotland
- 6% (11) had heard or seen it used on TV including BBC Alba, the radio or other media sources.
- 8% (16) had heard or seen it used at Gaelic Clubs or Groups (including a children's group)
- 1 person said that they heard and saw it everywhere
- 5% (9) use it at home or with family members
- 2% (4) are aware of it being used in school with one respondent's children attending a Gaelic Medium Education setting
- 1% (2) are aware of Gaelic in their workplace
- 3% (6) hear Gaelic being used by other speakers or learners
- 3% (6) are aware of Gaelic being used at Events or Music Venues.

178 people responded to what Gaelic services or activities you use or take part in.

Of the 177 61% (108) said none, of the participants who did respond they answered that:

- 19 people used online courses
- 14 attended Gaelic Groups
- 1 was part of a national organisation
- 11 took part in Gaelic Education
- 2 attended Gaelic Events
- 2 attended Gaelic toddler groups
- 3 accessed Gaelic through television or radio
- 1 used it as part of their work signature
- 1 listened to Gaelic Music

6 people noted that they would be interested in attending local Gaelic Education classes.



Extremely Important	68 (36%)
Somewhat Important	21 (11%)
Neutral	10 (5%)
Somewhat not Important	7 (4%)
Extremely not Important	81 (43%)

When asked how important it was to promote and protect Gaelic in the local area 185 people answered the responses were as follows:

When asked to tell us about any Gaelic Initiatives, events or resources they were aware of in the area, 63 of the 155 respondents said none. Other responses included:

- Knowledge of the Gaelic Group meeting in Prestwick Library
- Gaelic Bookbug Bags/ books available on request
- Signage
- Books in Libraries
- Initiatives funded by Creative Scotland and Scottish Government
- Gaelic Forum in East Ayrshire
- School Gaelic Choir with Ayrshire Fiddle Orchestra
- Gaelic Performances in the Cutty Sark and at other local festivals
- Gaelic in Primary Schools
- Concern for it being taught in schools especially for dyslexic children

5 respondents highlighted that they didn't think promoting the Gaelic Language was important in South Ayrshire.

105 people responded to the question regarding what Gaelic Support would be most useful for you or your community. The results were as follows:

Classes for Adults	84
Gaelic in Schools	86
Bilingual signage	40
Events / Arts in Gaelic	46
Digital / Media Content	49

When asked what other suggestions would be useful, 30 people responded by saying that they did not think that in this financial climate, Gaelic should be promoted, and any money committed could be used for other purposes.

Other suggestions that were made included:

- Gaelic lessons both in person and online for adults and children
- Support for native speakers
- Gaelic writing competition
- Promotion of the history of Gaelic in South Ayrshire
- Taught in nurseries
- Have a Gaelic phrase of the week on social media channels
- Scottish Government should make it compulsory in schools
- Promotion of Gaelic speaking opportunities



151 people responded to tell us what they thought the main barriers to learning or using Gaelic locally. The main themes coming through were as follows:

- Lack of Gaelic presence in the community
- Limited access to Learning Opportunities
- Shortage of speakers and practice opportunities
- Negative attitudes

67 respondents told us that nothing would encourage them to them learning Gaelic, generally this was because of a lack of interest or that they could not see the relevance to their day-to-day life. Of the 94 respondents who made suggestions about what would encourage them to learn Gaelic, the following themes were clear:

- Improved access to Gaelic Learning
- Educational system support
- Community Engagement & Promotion
- More resources

71 respondents told us that they did not have any suggestions for specific Gaelic Programmes or initiatives. Of the 54 who responded their answers included:

- Gaelic Language learning opportunities
- Integration of Gaelic into community activities
- Culture events & celebrations of the language
- Workplace support for those with Gaelic skills to discuss initiatives
- Visibility & Promotion

Of the 134 who told us which places a Gaelic presence would be most helpful, 56 told us that there would be no places where this would be the case, with 8 expressing that they don't think this would be a good use of resources. Of the other responds the helpful places stated were mainly schools, libraries and community centres but in addition some mentioned it would be good to have it at big events such as the Air Show, on internal communications within the council and in Early Years Centres.

Gaelic Language Plan 2025-2030

When asked to comment on South Ayrshires 4 key commitments in the Gaelic Language Plan 118 people responded. 30% (36) felt strongly that implementing the Plan would be an inefficient use of funds and 20% (24) did not have any comments. Of the comments made, the key points are:

- Gaelic is more than a language – it's part of our identity, wellbeing, and has wider economic and cultural value.
- If the government is serious, invest in Gaelic through education, not superficial efforts.
- Gaelic feels redundant – few speak it and fewer want to.
- There's value in Gaelic, but little active promotion. A dedicated Gaelic officer and local GME provision could help long-term growth.
- Combat negativity by promoting the benefits of bilingualism.
- Follow-through matters – I was once given Gaelic tapes with no translation or support.
- Core commitments are good, but boosting learner numbers is vital.
- Gaelic learning should be optional and paid for by those interested.
- Too costly – staffing and delivery require significant resources.
- Extra cost to the council – if encouraged, Gaelic would need funding for tuition and staff time.
- Gaelic is deeply tied to identity, especially for children. But raising Gaelic-speaking kids can be isolating. The emotional impact is real and complex.

- Small steps like bilingual greetings by staff could help normalise Gaelic, similar to “Hello, Bonjour” in Canada.
- These initiatives lack impact – focus should shift to more meaningful priorities for South Ayrshire.
- Older people could benefit from Gaelic classes to stay mentally active and socially connected.

When asked if the respondents had any further comments to make the majority of comments echoed the answers already provided in the rest of the questionnaire, with many stating that they felt the plan should not be a priority over other council services. Of the other responses many wanted to see the promotion of the language in the area through events and education accessible at all stages of life

Gaelic Language Plan Consultation	Focus Group - Prestwick Gaelic Club
30th August 2025	9 Members of the Gaelic Club Present
<p>Discussed the use of Gaelic in South Ayrshire and that there are number of Gaelic speakers spread across the locality with one member of the group attending from Girvan.</p> <p>The key discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beyond this group and informal networks, there are no real opportunities to speak or learn Gaelic in South Ayrshire. • No adult learning options exist locally; one member had to travel to Stranraer College. The group suggested Thriving Communities could pilot beginner classes. • Parents of nursery-aged children may be interested in learning Gaelic; a group could be offered to gauge demand. • Libraries lack Gaelic books beyond beginner level. • The group wants Gaelic to be promoted like Scots, given it's historical roots in the area. • A Gaelic education base is requested in South Ayrshire, similar to those in East and North Ayrshire. • The Council should review how the Gaelic budget is spent, not just on signage. • More investment is needed in Gaelic teaching resources for schools. • The group asked for clarity on Gaelic training available for teachers. • Learning Gaelic is seen as beneficial for keeping the brain active later in life. • Further education in Gaelic exists but not locally; the closest is Kelvin College in Glasgow. • The group asked is transport funding could help residents access learning outside the area, as costs are a barrier. • Suggested local research into interest in learning Gaelic, possibly in partnership with Glasgow University. • Noted that many use apps like Duolingo, but real progress requires opportunities for spoken practice. 	
Policy Officer Community Engagement	

South Ayrshire Council

Gaelic Language plan

2025-30

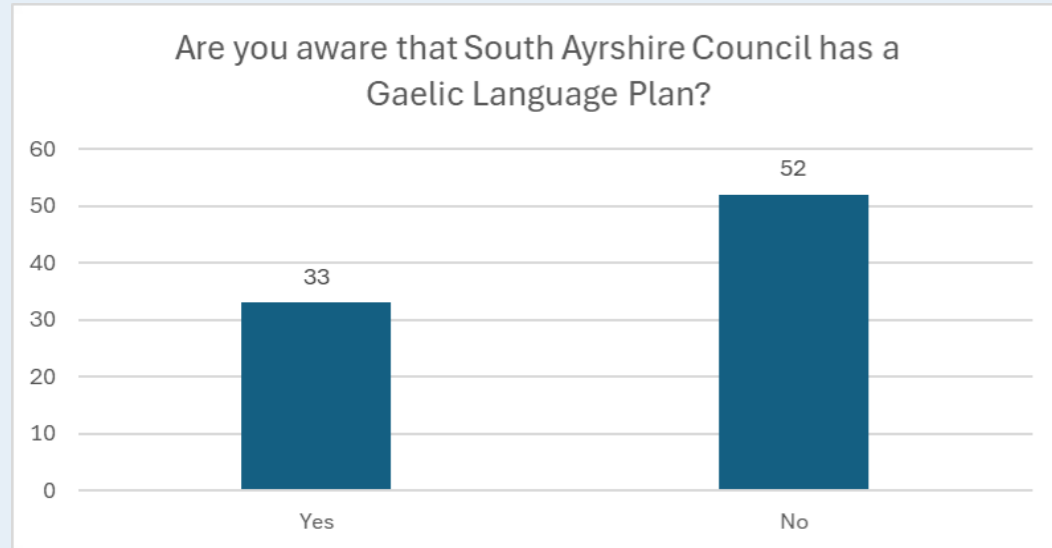
Appendix 2



Appendix 2 - South Ayrshire Council Staff Gaelic Language Skills Audit

The following responses were received in response to our Language Skills audit in May 2025.

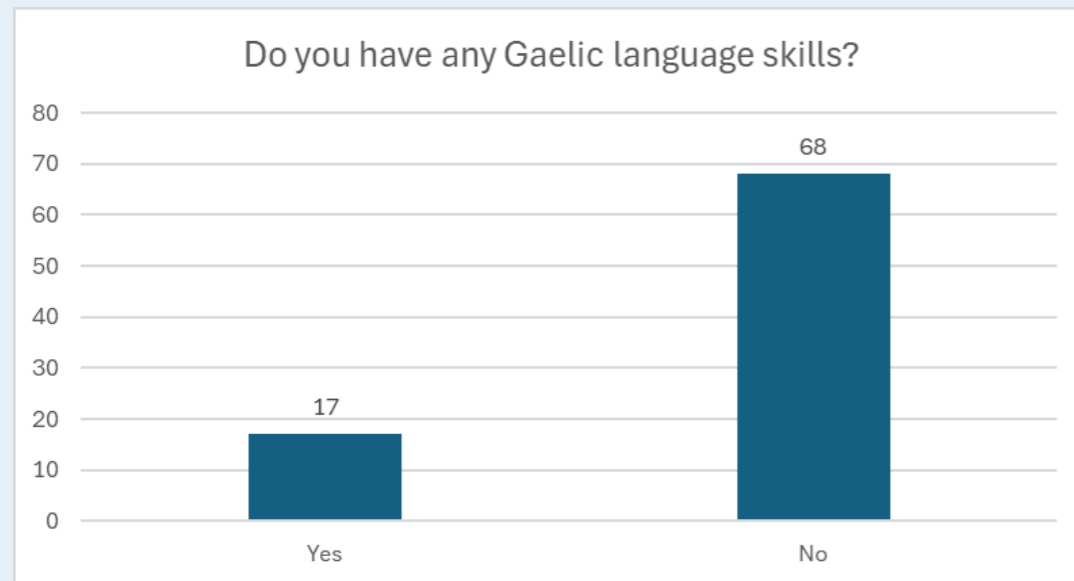
Are you aware that South Ayrshire Council has a Gaelic Language Plan?



When staff were asked if they were aware that South Ayrshire Council had a Gaelic Language Plan, 52 (61%) staff members said 'No', and 33 (39%) said 'Yes'.

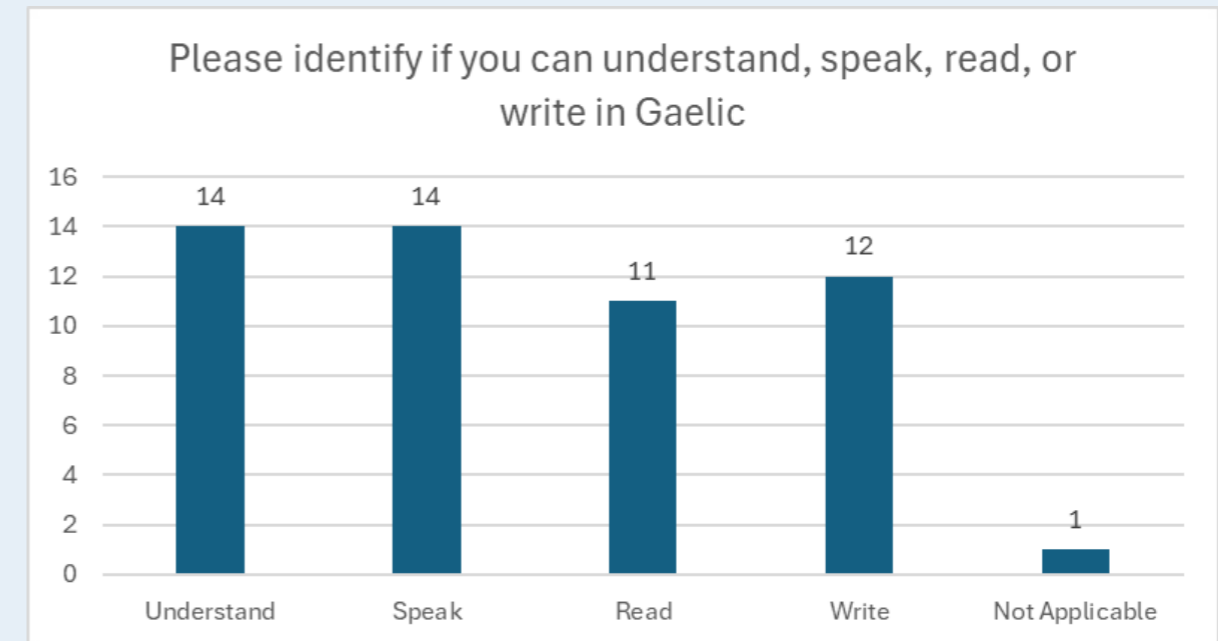
The next section of the survey asked staff members around their Gaelic language skills. For staff members that selected 'No' they were branched to Question 5, for those who selected 'Yes' they were asked two further questions.

Do you have any Gaelic Language Skills?



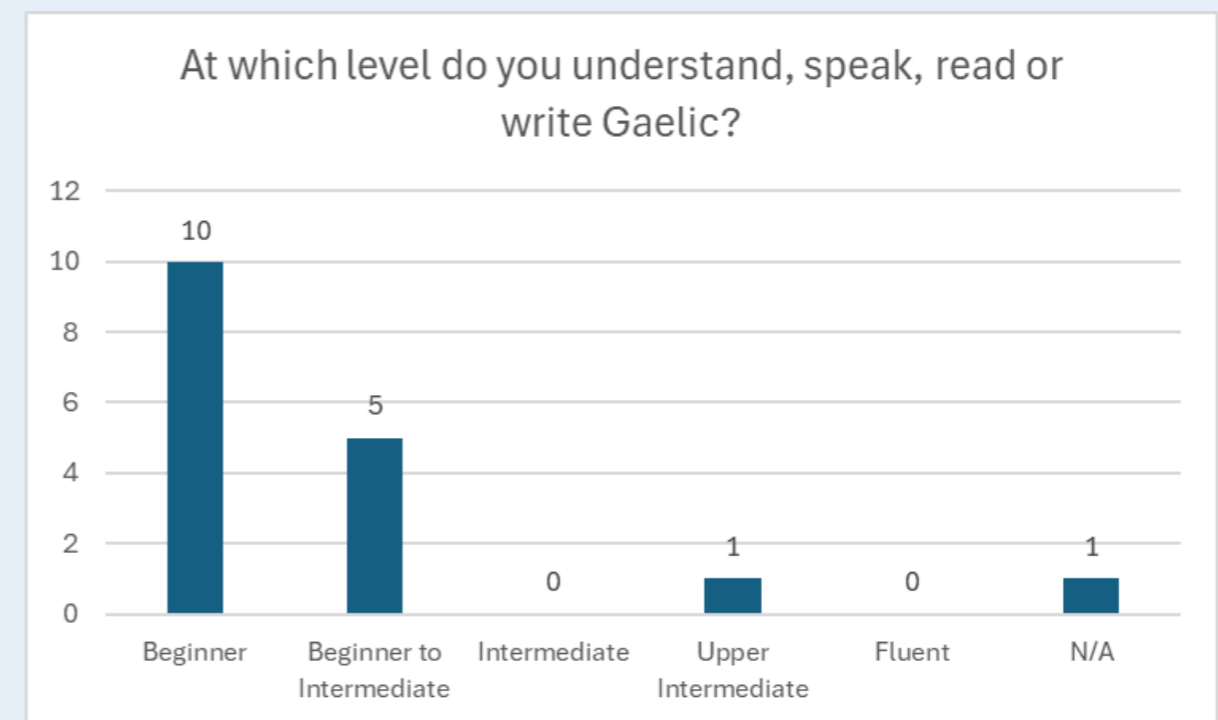
When asked if staff members have any Gaelic language skills, 68 (80%) of staff members said 'No', and 17 (20%) said 'Yes'.

Next, of those staff members who selected 'Yes' to having Gaelic language skills, staff were asked if they could understand, speak, read or write in Gaelic. Each respondent was asked to select all that applied to them.



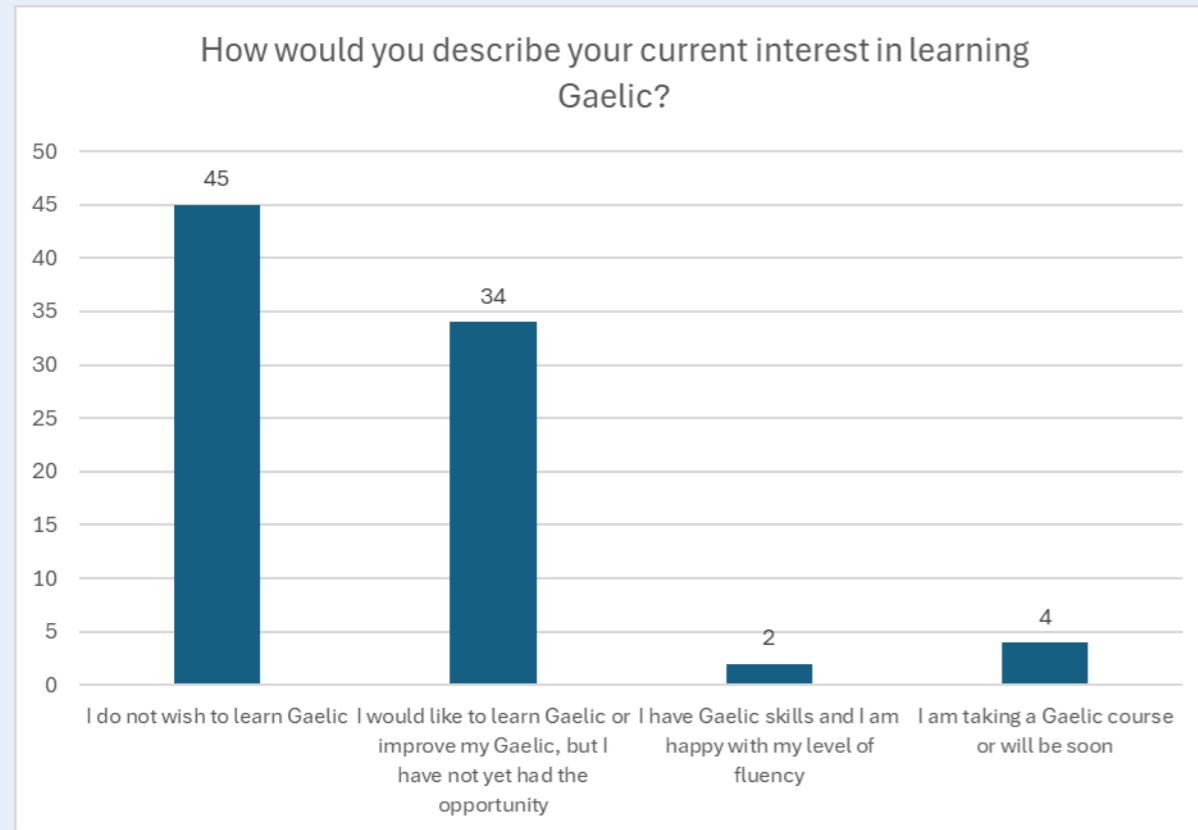
14 out of the 17 (82%) staff members selected that they could both speak and understand Gaelic. 11 staff members (65%) selected they could read Gaelic, and 12 (71%) selected they could write in Gaelic. One individual (6%) chose to select 'Not Applicable'.

Lastly, staff members who selected 'Yes' were asked at which level they believe they spoke Gaelic.



10 staff members (59%) stated that they believe their level of Gaelic was at 'Beginner' level. 5 (29%) staff members stated they believe they were between 'Beginner to Intermediate' level. 1 (6%) staff member believes their Gaelic language skill is at an 'Upper Intermediate' level. One individual (6%) chose to select 'Not Applicable'.

How Would You Describe Your Current Interest in Learning Gaelic?



When asked about current interest in learning Gaelic 45 out of 85 (53%) staff members selected ‘I do not wish to learn Gaelic’. 34 (40%) staff members selected ‘I would like to learn Gaelic, but I have not yet had the opportunity’. 2 (2%) staff members stated, ‘I have Gaelic skills and I am happy with my level of fluency’. Finally, 4 (5%) staff members selected ‘I am taking a Gaelic course or will be soon’.

If Gaelic training opportunities were available, would you consider learning or improving your Gaelic skills?



If given the opportunity, 43 (51%) staff members said, ‘Yes’ they would consider learning Gaelic, with 42 (49%) saying ‘No’.

Next, staff members were asked about potential barriers to them learning or improving their Gaelic skills. This question allowed staff members to comment using a comment box, a summary of comments included but are not limited to:

- Distance of classes, rural areas miss out.
- Time and resources to be released from work.
- There are no barriers as I do not wish to learn it.
- Costing
- As it is not a widely spoken language, learning and practicing would be hard in a day-to-day context.
- Childcare

To what extent do you feel that the use of Gaelic should be increased within South Ayrshire Council?

This question allowed staff members to comment using a comment box, a summary of responses are included below but are not limited to:

- Schools should promote Gaelic Language Education more and should trained staff members to facilitate it.
- I do not believe Gaelic should be promoted any more than it already is.
- Gaelic Medium Education needs to be improved as it is not delivered in South Ayrshire.
- Dependent on the communities we support, if there is a need to increase the usage we should, and if there isn't there shouldn't be an increase.
- Within communities and areas of work other languages are much more prevalent and so more work should focus on those areas.
- I believe Gaelic language learning is not relevant to me, and I have never met a Gaelic speaker in/from South Ayrshire.
- Basic Gaelic sessions for staff members who wish to learn it.
- Language acquisition is important and has its benefits, and so due to Scottish heritage Gaelic and Scots should both be promoted more.
- Basic awareness of Gaelic and its historic roots may be beneficial.

Do you have comments/suggestions on how to increase the use of Gaelic in our work?

This question allowed staff members to comment using a comment box, a summary of comments included but are not limited to:

- We should increase awareness of Gaelic, and they do not need to be at any or major costs, posting on social media etc.
- There is no need to increase the use of Gaelic.
- It is one of our national languages, we should promote it as much as it is appropriate for South Ayrshire to better understand our culture and heritage.
- Gaelic Champions within South Ayrshire Council.
- Ensure the usage of Gaelic is correct, i.e. signage etc.
- Courses should be offered to those who want to learn.

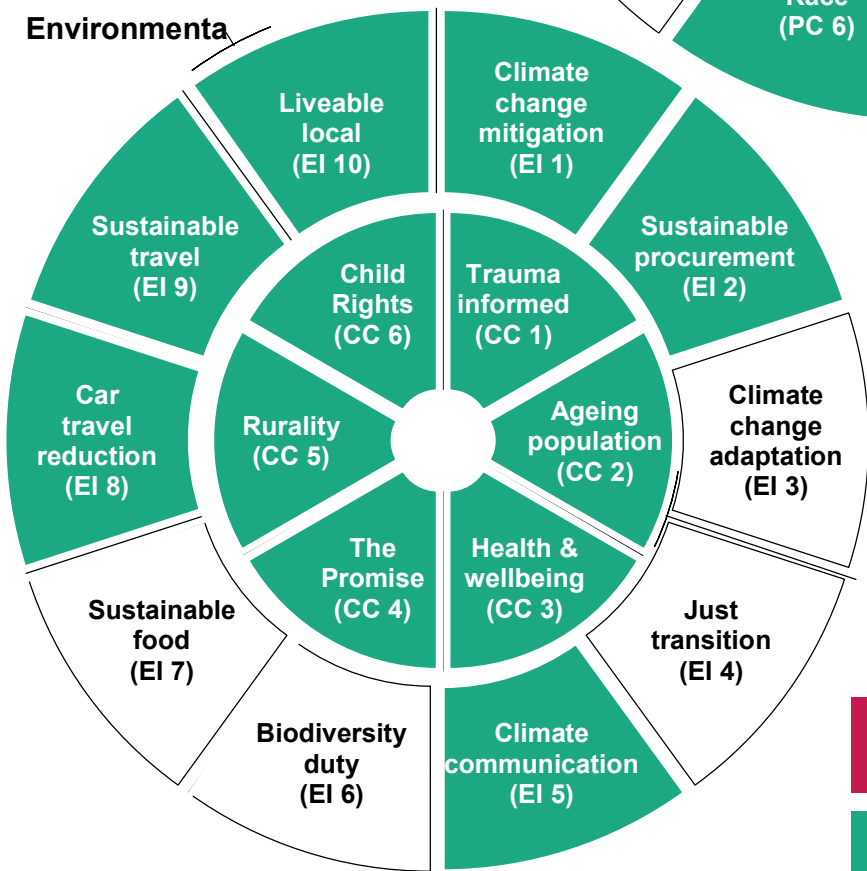
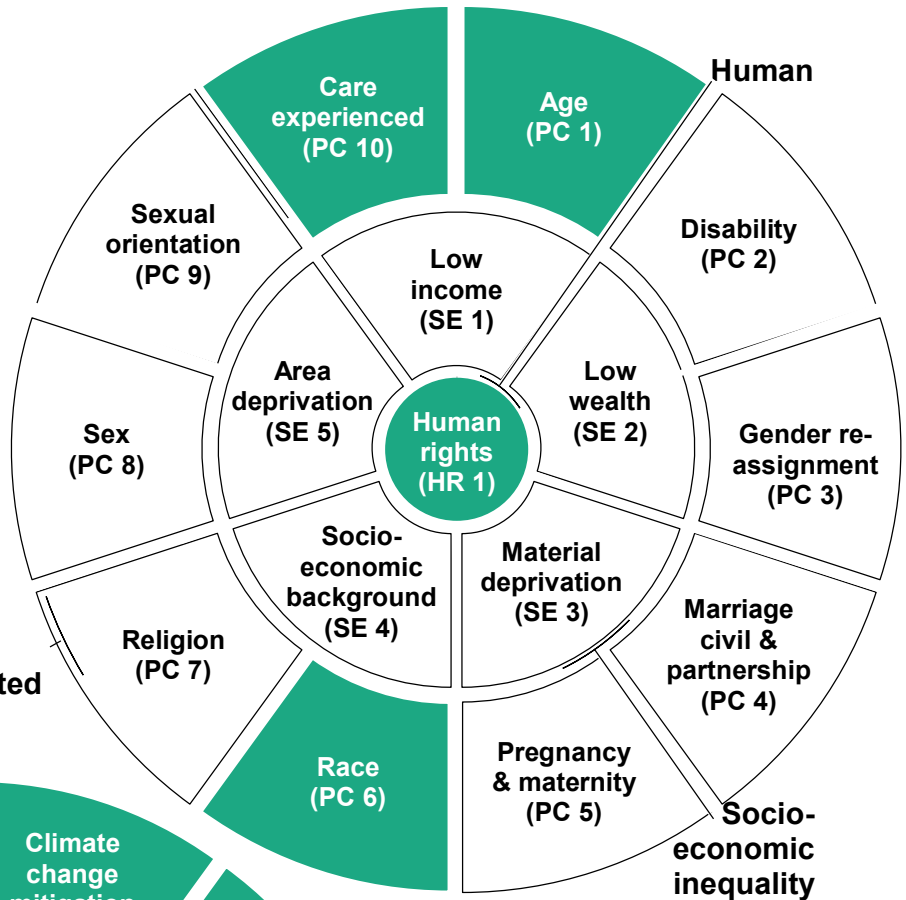
Integrated Impact Assessment Summary Report

The Gaelic Language Plan 2025-2030



Completed by:
 Elizabeth Dougall,
 Senior Policy Officer,
 Deputy Chief Executive

Date started 06/09/25



To be implemented on:
 October 2025
 Review date:
 Annually
 Oversight Panel:
 Cabinet (then Service and Partnerships Performance Panel)

negative impact	uncertain / not clear
positive impact	no impact / not applicable

Public sector equality duty

Eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment, and victimisation?

The Gaelic Language Plan 2025-2030 aims to eliminate discrimination, harassment, and victimisation of people who use the Gaelic Language or those who wish to learn it by providing actions that raise Gaelic's status and profile as well as creating practical opportunities for its use.

Advancing equality of opportunity?

The Gaelic Language Plan 2025-2030 aims to advance equality of opportunity for those who wish to use/do use the Gaelic language within South Ayrshire. South Ayrshire Council provides opportunities for Gaelic Language Training, translation and transcription (on request), as well as raising Gaelic's status and profile through actions such as creating signage in Gaelic.

Fostering good relations?

The Gaelic Language Plan 2025-2030 aims to raise Gaelic's status and profile within South Ayrshire to promote better understanding of the language and culture of those who choose to use it/learn it.

Consultation declaration

We confirm consultation has been carried out as part of this process.

Child Rights & Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) summary

CRWIA for a non-legislative policy/measure

CRWIA title:

The Gaelic Language Plan 2025-2030

Publication date:

26th October 2025

Summary of policy aims and desired outcomes

The South Ayrshire Council Gaelic Language Plan has been prepared within the framework of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005. It sets out how we will use, facilitate and communicate with the public and key partners.

Executive summary

Development of new Gaelic Language Plan 2025-2030 replacing previous Gaelic Language Plan .

Background:

The Gaelic Language Plan 2025-2030 sets to improve the status of Gaelic and encourage Gaelic Language learning. This may affect individuals, groups, families, organisations or communities.

Scope of the CRWIA, identifying the children and young people affected by the policy, and summarising the evidence base:

The Plan has a number of core commitments that sets out how the Council will use, and facilitate Gaelic in relation to our main business functions, this includes learning in schools.

Children and young people's views and experiences:

During the public consultation young people had the opportunity to have their voice heard. A total of 5 young people 16-24 answered the consultation.

Key Findings, including an assessment of the impact on children's rights, and how the measure will contribute to children's wellbeing:

Through the implementation of the Plan, which are intrinsically linked to the rights of the child through improving outcomes in Gaelic and reducing inequalities and contributing to children's wellbeing with the Gaelic language.

Monitoring and review:

Monitoring and review will take place annually.

CRWIA Declaration Authorisation

Policy lead:

Elizabeth Dougall, Senior Policy Officer, Community Planning and Equalities

Date:

30/09/25

Deputy Director or Equivalent:

Kevin Anderson, Assistant Director - Corporate Policy, Strategy and Performance
