ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

COUNCIL

EDUCATION SERVICE

26TH SEPTEMBER 2024

ALL GAELIC SCHOOL CONSULTATION FINDINGS

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report sets out the findings of the 10 week consultation that was carried out between 22nd April and 30th June 2024, in Gaelic Language Plan:-

"Argyll and Bute Council will engage fully and constructively with Bòrd na Gàidhlig, as adviser on Gaelic education, and other stakeholders (including parents and parent representatives) with a view to bringing forward, within the next 2 years, a consultation to ascertain the demand for an all-Gaelic School within the local authority area."

- 1.2 Members are being asked to:
 - a) Consider the findings summarised at paragraphs 4.8 to 4.15 of the report, together with the raw data available here gathered as part of the exercise, and to determine what further actions they wish to take.

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2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 This report sets out the findings of the 10 week consultation that was carried out between 22nd April and 30th
Gaelic Language Plan:-

"Argyll and Bute Council will engage fully and constructively with Bòrd na Gàidhlig, as adviser on Gaelic education, and other stakeholders (including parents and parent representatives) with a view to bringing forward, within the next 2 years, a consultation to ascertain the demand for an all-Gaelic School within the local authority area."

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Members are being asked to:
 - b) Consider the findings summarised at paragraphs 4.8 to 4.15 of the report, together with the raw data available here gathered as part of the exercise,

4.0	
4.3	This forms the basis for the engagement and consultation exercise that was carried out between 22 nd April and 30 th June 2024, with the purpose of ascertaining the

copies of the survey questions were also made available, should this be required. Additionally, a dedicated email inbox was set up to provide a central repository for any questions or comments received in respect of the exercise. All responses to the survey (673) were received via the online forms, with the exception of one response which was submitted via email.

Summary of Findings

4.8 This section of the report provides a summary of the key findings of the

- Help to address current Gaelic teaching staff issues attract and retain new teachers
- Argyll is the land of the Gael
- 4.11 Question 3 invited respondents who believe there should be an all Gaelic School to comment on what an all Gaelic School might look like. For example should it include ELC, primary, secondary or all of the above. An analysis of the results would indicate that the vast majority of those who answered this question would envisage a school covering 2-18 provision.
- 4.12 In the event that a proposal for an all Gaelic School progresses, there is a key consideration in terms of how this would be funded, therefore Question 4 of the survey invited views on how this could be achieved. A summary of some of the suggestions put forward are provided below:-
 - Using the vast funding available to support the Gaelic language in Scotland
 - Scottish Government
 - Increase in Council Tax
 - Gaelic language bursaries
 - Fund in same way as any other school
 - By the Council
 - Funding from parents

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- Mull
- Tiree or Islay
- Inveraray
- Arrochar
- A central location with a hostel / good transport links
 Where there is most demand is for Gaelic education
- hodnpen