1. The aim of this policy is to affirm the University of Aberdeen’s commitment to use and promote Gaelic. The adoption of the Gaelic Language Plan will ensure that the institution's resources and decisions are made in respect of its statutory obligation under the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005.

2. The University recognises that Gaelic is an integral part of Scotland’s heritage, national identity and cultural life, and is one of five universities in Scotland required to have a Plan. This policy, in addition to the University’s Gaelic Language Plan, will assist in implementing and delivering the National Gaelic Language Plan and other relevant action plans issued by Bòrd na Gàidhlig under the framework of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005. The initiatives outlined in the Gaelic Language Plan will support the objectives of the National Gaelic Language Plan to secure the status of Gaelic in Scotland. The University of Aberdeen’s Gaelic Language Plan will outline the University’s commitment to the fair use and promotion of Gaelic and set the framework for all future initiatives under the following commitment areas:

   a) Identity  
   b) Communications  
   c) Publications  
   d) Staff  
   e) Acquisition  
   f) Corpus  
   g) Usage  
   h) Status

3. Using a template provided by Bòrd na Gàidhlig, the University’s Gaelic Language Plan will outline key actions in each commitment area and include clearly defined targets and objectives, in addition to identifying key sections, colleges, or schools which will be involved with the delivery of these actions. We will work with other universities to ensure that, wherever possible, the commitments we make are consistent.

   Relationships with the Wider Public

4. The University seeks to add significant value to its commitments to the Gaelic language and will work with local authorities, community groups, and other Universities to assist in its role in developing and implementing the National Gaelic Language Plan.

   Targets and Monitoring

5. The University’s Gaelic Language Plan Advisory Group will oversee and ensure the implementation of this policy, the Gaelic Language Plan, and related future initiatives, and set targets and objectives.

6. This Group will establish reporting procedures and commit to a process of continuous monitoring and improvement which meets or surpasses legislative requirements. The Group will also aim to promote current legislation which is related to the revitalisation and maintenance of the Gaelic language and culture.

7. The Group will report to the University Management Group. Each action area will be assigned to an appropriate member of staff who will be responsible for implementing that strategy in coordination with the Gaelic Development & Policy Officer and relevant stakeholders.

Gaelic Language Plan Advisory Group  
November 2014
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