

CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM

1. Name/Organisation

Organisation Name

Cairngorms National Park Authority

Title Mr Ms Mrs Miss Dr *Please tick as appropriate*

Surname

van Buuren

Forename

Francoise

2. Postal Address

14 The Square

Grantown-on-Spey

Postcode	PH26	Phone	01479	Email
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3. Permissions – I am responding as an:

Individual <input type="checkbox"/>	Organisation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>(Please tick as appropriate)</i>	
<p>(a) Do you agree to your response being made public (in the Scottish Government library and/or on the Scottish Government website)?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please tick as appropriate</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>(c) The name and address of your organisation will be made available to the public (in the Scottish Government library and/or on the Scottish Government web site).</p> <p>Are you content for your response to be made available?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please tick as appropriate</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>(b) Where confidentiality is not requested, we will make your responses available to the public on the following basis:</p> <p>Please tick ONE of the following boxes:</p> <p>Yes, make my response, name and address all available <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Yes, make my response available, but not my name and address <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Yes, make my response and name available, but not my address <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>(d) We will share your response internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please tick as appropriate</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	

CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

1. What are your views on the Scottish Government's Core Commitments in Chapter II, regarding:

a) Identity and Visibility

As Scottish Government works closely with all Scottish Government Agencies and public bodies it would be useful if the Scottish Government's Gaelic Language Plan could produce and share with others any guidelines and databases of Gaelic signage used within their buildings to avoid duplication of effort and offer support and advice to encourage a consistent approach to public sector body Gaelic Language signs used in public areas.

b) Communications and Publications

The Minister acknowledges in his forward we are operating at a time "*when the public sector is operating under financial restraints and with this in mind we are seeking to introduce commitments which are cost neutral and seek a change in operation practice rather than incurring a direct cost.*"

With this in mind it would be useful if standard good practice in every day use of Gaelic can be made available to other public sectors e.g. bilingual signs in reception areas, automatically generated text such as email disclaimers, use of Gaelic on public sector websites, etc.

In addition, as the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) is a very small public sector body based in an area with relatively low Gaelic speakers (south and east of the Caledonian Canal) where no demand for enquiries to be dealt with in Gaelic has been received to date, we do not have the resources to employ a Gaelic officer.

It would be extremely useful if the Scottish Government could consider making their Gaelic Language team available to respond to CNPA Gaelic enquiries received by telephone, email or post with the understanding that this remains at an extremely low level of demand. To date the CNPA has not received any enquiries that require a response in the Gaelic Language.

If other small public bodies could pass Gaelic enquiries through to the Scottish Government's Gaelic Language team as a shared resource, this would support the Scottish Government's objective to help raise the status of the Gaelic Language and bring tangible benefits to Gaelic Speakers.

It would also help to meet the Scottish Government outcomes by delivering public services that are of a high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs while making good use of our limited available resources.

c) Staffing and Training

If any online Gaelic Language training resources are made available for Scottish Government staff it would be useful if this could also be made available for other public sector bodies to use with their staff or for it to be promoted for anyone to access via the Scottish Government website.

2. Do you have anything further to suggest regarding the Scottish Government's Gaelic Plan?

CNPA welcome the opportunity to comment on the Scottish Government's Gaelic Language Plan 2015-2020 and the clear direction it provides for other public sector bodies to follow. We strongly support the Minister's comments made in the forward of the plan which says:

"It is produced at a time when the public sector is under financial restraints and with this in mind we are seeking to introduce commitments which are cost neutral and seek a change in operational practice rather than incurring a direct cost."

We strongly support the comments made in the Executive summary which says:

"Like Bòrd na Gàidhlig, working with other organisations is key to our delivery of support for the Gaelic language and we wish to encourage all organisations to do what they can in this area. Small changes to how we all work can make a difference."

We therefore would like to see the Scottish Government's Gaelic Language Plan take a lead in sharing their good practice and guidance to avoid the need for duplicated efforts and help all public sector bodies make best use of our available resources. If possible, it would be very beneficial if the Scottish Government's Gaelic Language team resources could support smaller public sector organisations where there is a low demand for Gaelic Language services. This would help all public bodies deliver the same standards of public service while making best use of Scottish Government resources.