

Plean Teanga Mhúscraí
Caibidil 10 - English Summary – Achoimre Béarla

10. THE MUSCRAÍ GAELTACHT IRISH LANGUAGE PLAN 2017.

After a lengthy process of public consultation and research, the Language Plan for the Múscraí Gaeltacht has now been prepared for public consultation prior to a final submission for approval to the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

10.1 Introduction:

There are 9 Chapters in the proposed plan. They were initially written entirely in Irish. The following is a brief summary, in English, of each chapter. The introduction gives a summary of the Values, Vision and Objectives that are at the core of the Language Plan. It reiterates the importance of the role of the community and it's stakeholders. It also thanks the people involved in the preparation process.

The following are the primary Objectives of the Irish Language plan:

10.2 Objectives

- **SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS** – to provide a wide range of social activities through the medium of Irish for every age group thus increasing the amount of informal Irish being used in the community.
- **PARENTS** – Support services for parents through a range of informal Irish language workshops, formal Irish language classes, social activities through the medium of Irish. Resources to help with school work, more information about the benefits of bilingualism
- **IRISH CLASSES** – to provide a wide range of Irish language classes, both formal and informal, for all age groups.
- **CHILDCARE CENTRE (Crèche)**- The sooner the child hears Irish, the better. A childcare centre needs to be developed in Gaeltacht Mhúscraí to provide early education and childcare facilities through the medium of Irish.
- **CONSCIOUS DECISION** – The people and the local business must make a conscious decision to speak more Irish.
- **HOUSEHOLD LANGUAGE** – To increase the amount of Irish being spoken at home:

Household language – National School Students 2016	2021	2025
28.7% Irish and English	29%	32%
57.3% English	57%	54%
7.3% Gaeilge	7.6%	10.6%
Household language – Secondary School Students 2016	2021	2025
23% Irish and English	23.3%	26.3%
67% English	66.7%	63.7%
6% Irish	6.3%	9.3%

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Household language – Parents / Guardians 2016	2021	2025
42% Parents that speak Irish more than half the time	42.3%	45.3%

- **LANGUAGE AWARENESS** – raise a sense of awareness, pride and place when speaking Irish.
- **IRISH LANGUAGE POLICIES** – to increase the number of Irish language policies being created and implemented by local businesses, community groups and public centres.
- **NUMBER OF IRISH SPEAKERS** – Measures to be taken to stop the decline in the number of Irish speakers between 2018 and 2021 and to stop the increase in the number of people without any Irish. And again to increase the number of Irish speakers and reduce the number of people without Irish between 2021 – 2025

	2016	2021	2025
People with Irish	76.8%	78%	82%
Daily Speakers	41%	42%	45%
Daily Speakers outside the education system	23.1%	25%	30%
People without Irish	21.17%	20%	18%

- **NUMBER OF IRISH SPEAKING PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN** – To increase the number of pre-school children with ‘good Irish’ & ‘native speakers’ by the end of the plan

	2015/2016	2016/2017	2021	2025
Children with ‘Good Irish’ and ‘Native Speakers’	16%	11%	15%	17%

- **POLICY ON GAELTACHT EDUCATION** – That each of the schools in Múscraí will attain Gaeltacht School Recognition during the term of the language plan.



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10.3 Summary of Chapters 1 -9

Chapter 1: The Language Planning Process

This Chapter provides an insight into the background of the language planning process and the plan - i.e. 20 Year Strategy for the Irish Language 2010 and the Gaeltacht Act 2012. The Gaeltacht Act 2012 has given statutory effect to the implementation of the [20-Year Strategy for the Irish Language 2010–2030](#), and under the Act, a language planning process was instigated and a language plan will be prepared at community level for each Gaeltacht district. Comharchumann Forbartha Mhúscraí was selected as the lead organisation in the preparation of the Language Plan. Comharchumann Forbartha Mhúscraí will have seven years to implement the plan. The Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht will periodically review the implementation of the plans during the 7-year period.

Chapter 2: The Lead Organisation

This Chapter contains information about the Lead Organisation: Comharchumann Forbartha Mhúscraí (see <http://www.cfmteo.ie>) and the Language Planning Committee – Donnchadh Ó hAodha, Diarmuid Ó hÉalaithe, Breandán Ó Lionáird, Domhnall Ó Loingsigh, Siobhán Ní Loingsigh, Emma Ní Chéilleachair, Julia May Uí Chríodáin & Rachel Ní Riada.

Rosaí Nic Chárthaigh, Language Plan Coordinator.

Dr. Tadhg Ó hÍfearnáin, University of Limerick. External Advisor.

Chapter 3: An Overview of the Language Planning Area

This Chapter gives an overview of the current state of the area, including topography, population size and density, services, organisations and education in the area.

- According to the 2016 Census the population of Gaeltacht Mhúscraí is 3,619 (3 years of age and over)
- 76.8% or 2,782 people have Irish
- 21.17% or 787 people don't have any Irish
- 1.3% or 50 people did not say
- During the 2016 school year 840 students were enrolled in the 4 Pre-schools, the 5 national schools and the 2 secondary schools. All of which are taught and administered through the medium of Irish.
- There are 122 active community groups.
- There are 30 local businesses.
- In 2016 675 people were employed in Údarás na Gaeltachta client companies.
- In 2016 were 41 engaged in local social employment schemes.

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Chapter 4: An Overview of the Preparation of the Plan

This Chapter gives a brief description of the importance of public participation in the process of preparing the plan and of the research carried out in its preparation.

Number of Workshops / Meetings held	Number of suggestions & Ideas provided	Completed Questionnaires	Number of participants	Total Population
36	1,644	962	1,769	3,785

Chapter 5: Research Results

This Chapter presents the results of the extensive research conducted in the course of preparing the plan through focus groups and questionnaires regarding the current use of, and attitudes to the language as well as the suggestions of the community regarding their ideas and thoughts surrounding the Irish language and measures that could be taken to increase the use of Irish in the community.

The results show a positive attitude towards the Irish language and the Gaeltacht status. The people have shown that they wish to engage with the plan for Irish to be a living language in the community.

It also shows the intertwined connection between A) language use and B) language aptitude. Our aim will be to increase the number of formal Irish language classes and informal workshops in order to increase the aptitude levels of Irish and those two aims coupled with providing an extensive range of activities through the medium of Irish will provide more opportunities to speak Irish amongst one another in the community.

The schools in Gaeltacht Mhúscraí are fulfilling their role in providing a high quality Irish-medium education for young people in Gaeltacht schools and, in this way, to support and encourage the use of Irish in Gaeltacht communities. The primary school and secondary school students have highlighted their need for more social activities for the young people through the medium of Irish outside the school system.

The parents require more Irish language support in the form of classes, workshops, homework groups and more adult and family activities through the medium of Irish. It is more challenging raising children through the medium of a minority language.

Measures need to be taken to promote the use of Irish in business and community services. The Community Groups and Local Businesses play a very vital role in the community. The provision of Irish language support in drafting language policies and language awareness workshops is necessary as well as supporting them in their daily use of Irish. Public support for the language is critical. The more the language is used daily in local businesses the better.

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The local companies are important for local employment and the local economy but there is a need for the provision of Irish language support for employees and managers within the companies (answering the phone bilingually) and the amount of Irish being used visually (signage).

10.4 Summary of Chapter 6

Chapter 6: Actions

This Chapter details the plans proposed by community, language and cultural organisations to halt the decline and begin the regeneration of the language over the next seven years. There are 77 actions in total broken into 12 subsections / headings.

.1. IMPLEMENTING THE LANGUAGE PLAN

- Action 1.1 - Comharchumann Forbartha Mhúscraí / Múscraí Development Co-operative
- Action 1.2 - Fóram Pleanála Teanga Mhúscraí - Múscraí Language Planning Forum
- Action 1.3 - Múscraí Language Planning Coordinator
- Action 1.4 - Team of Facilitators
- Action 1.5 - Central Website
- Action 1.6 - Printed Informative Newsletter
- Action 1.7 – Digital Marketing Manager (Part-time)
- Action 1.8 - Online Forum of Translators
- Action 1.9 - Lee Valley Outlook – An Múscraíoch

.2. LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE THE EDUCATION SYSTEM

- Action 2.1 - Seirbhísí Teanga Mhúscraí / Múscraí Irish Language Services
- Action 2.2 - Facilitators for Cultural Activities
- Action 2.3 - Facilitators for Additional Activities
- Action 2.4 - Student Summer Scheme
- Action 2.5 - Support for Parents of Primary School Children without Irish
- Action 2.6 - Native Speakers Forum
- Action 2.7 - Workshop - People from other countries
- Action 2.8 –Múscraí School of Music

.3. CHILDCARE, PRE-SCHOOL & FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

- Action 3.1 - Childcare Centre in the Múscraí Gaeltacht (Crèche)
- Action 3.2 - CD & illustrated book produced by the community (0-5 years)
- Action 3.3 –Parent & Toddler Groups
- Action 3.4 - Spraoi na Laoi After School Club, Béal Átha'n Ghaorthaidh
- Action 3.5 - Irish Speaking Childminders
- Action 3.6 - Support for parents raising children through the medium of Irish

.4. THE EDUCATION SYSTEM

Action 4.1 - Céilí Dancing – Primary Schools

Action 4.2 - Swimming Gala – Primary Schools

Action 4.3 - Schoolyard Language Practice

Action 4.4 - Secondary Schools Quiz

Action 4.5 - Language Awareness System for Parents of children in the Naíonraí

Action 4.6 - 3rd Level Students

.5. SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE & OTHER AGE GROUPS

Action 5.1 - Youth Clubs - Support

Action 5.2 - Youth Clubs – Additional Activities & Drop-In Centre

Action 5.3 - Resources & Publications

Action 5.4 - New Technological Resources

.6. THE BUSINESS SECTOR & CULTURAL TOURISM

Action 6.1 - Cultural Tourism Strategy

Action 6.2 - Develop local festivals & create new Gaeltacht festivals

Action 6.3 - Whit Sunday Festival

Action 6.4 - Music Festival

Action 6.5 - Community Archive / Museum

Action 6.6 - Local Businesses – Language Practices

Action 6.7 - Local Businesses, Business Support Scheme

Action 6.8 - Business Enterprise Centre

Action 6.9 - Local Companies, Language Choice

Action 6.10 - Social Committee for Local Companies

Action 6.11 - Local Farmers

.7. COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Action 7.1 - Language Policies

Action 7.2 - Language Practices, Day Centres

.8. THE MEDIA

Action 8.1 – RTÉ, Raidió na Gaeltachta

Action 8.2 - Cúla 4, TG4 - Múscraí

Action 8.3 - The Late Late Toy Show – Gaeltacht Campaign

.9. PUBLIC SERVICES

Action 9.1 - The Church, Language Practices

Action 9.2 - Irish Language Service, Macroom Credit Union

.10. PLANNING & PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Action 10.1 - Irish Language Visibility

Action 10.2 - Coláiste na Mumhan, Béal Átha'n Ghaorthaidh

Action 10.3 - Coláiste Samhraidh, Baile Bhúirne

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Action 10.4 - Playground, Cill na Martra

Action 10.5 –Footpath & Greenway, Cúil Aodha

Action 10.6 –AstroTurf, Gaeltacht Mhúscraí

Action 10.7 - Men’s Shed & Women’s Shed, Béal Atha’n Ghaorthaidh

Action 10.8 - Ionad Áise (facilities centre), Reidh na nDóiri

Action 10.9 – Post Office, Réidh na nDóirí

Action 10.10 - Mullach na Réidh Site, Réidh na nDoírí

Action 10.11 - Coiste Forbartha Baile Mhúirne

.11. SOCIAL & RECREATIONAL SERVICES

Action 11.1 – Multi-activity Camps, Pre-school Children

Action 11.2 – Multi-activity Camps, Primary School Students

Action 11.3 - Saturday Story Time

Action 11.4 - Chat & Tea Groups

Action 11.5 -- Book Clubs

Action 11.6 - Informal Music Clubs

Action 11.7 – ‘Show & Share Your Pet’ at Baile Bhúirne/Cúil Aodha Agricultural Show

Action 11.8 - Big Céilí, Easter Gathering

Action 11.9 - Family Easter Egg Hunt

.12. STATUS OF IRISH LANGUAGE IN THE AREA

Action 12.1 - Awareness Campaign

Action 12.2 - Campaign for Bilingual Meetings

Action 12.3 - Welcome Packages for Newcomers

Action 12.4 - Package for Expectant Parents

Action 12.5 - Paraphernalia

Action 12.6 - Irish Language Ambassadors

1. IMPLEMENTING THE LANGUAGE PLAN

Action 1.1 - Múscraí Development Cooperative

To develop a structure to implement the Language Plan with continuous input from the community. Three levels are required to do this:

1. Comharchumann Forbartha Mhúscraí (CFM) / Muscraí Development Cooperative.
2. Fóram Pleanála Teanga Mhúscraí / Múscraí Language Planning Forum (FPTM)
3. Coiste Stiúrtha / Steering Committee
4. Muscraí Language Plan Coordinator (CPTM) & Múscraí Facilitators (ÁM)

Action 1.2 - Múscraí Language Plan Forum (FPTM)

The existing Meitheal Pleanála Teanga Mhúscraí (Múscraí Language Planning Team) will be restructured and renamed Fóram Pleanála Teanga Mhúscraí (Múscraí Language Planning Forum). The committee has been steering the consultation process of the language plan but as it enters the implementation stage new members will be invited to join the forum to ensure a balanced representation in geographical terms, age groups and interest groups. The forum will have an integral role in monitoring and supporting the implementation of the language

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plan.

Action 1.3 - Language Plan Coordinator

The coordinator will be employed as part of the overall structure to co-ordinate and implement the actions of the plan with the support, participation and input of the community. It is important that the Coordinator is based in a central location in Múscraí.

Action 1.4 – Team of Facilitators

A team of facilitators will be identified, recruited and trained to facilitate a wide range of activities through the medium of Irish. i.e. Irish language workshops, Céilí dancing workshops, Knitting classes, Drama classes, Bingo...

Action 1.5 - Central Website for Gaeltacht Mhúscraí

This central website will provide a strong link between each of the villages and for Gaeltacht Múscraí as a whole. It will keep people informed and up to date regarding events, activities, classes, resources, contacts etc. Community participation is essential for the success of the website and will strengthen the relationship between the Language Plan and the Community. Local Cultural Tourism events will also be promoted on the website for Visitor Information which ties into Action 6.1, 6.2, 6.3 & 6.4.

Action 1.6 – Printed Informative Newsletter

Every 3 months a printed newsletter will be produced and dispersed to keep the community informed about Comharchumann Forbartha Mhúscraí and it's progress regarding the Language Plan. It will inform the people about the status of the 'actions' and objectives as well as providing other relevant information regarding a variety of Gaeltacht matters.

Action 1.7 - Digital Marketing Manager (part time)

This action entails the daily maintenance of the Plean Teanga website, the coordination of the online translators forum as well as creating content for all social media sites – facebook, twitter, instagram etc...

Action 1.8 – Online Forum of Translators

To support locals, committees and local organisations when using Irish in their advertising & publicity campaigns. This forum can be created through Slack or an email forum.

Action 1.9 - Lee Valley Outlook – An Múscraíoch

Create a section in the Lee Valley Outlook magazine where 'Irish language' items will be published. This will create awareness and a connection between the Gaeltacht community and those outside the Gaeltacht.

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2. LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE THE EDUCATION SYSTEM

Action 2.1 – Múscraí Irish Language Services

This is one of the most fundamental and pressing actions to be drafted - a team of Irish language facilitators will be identified, recruited and trained to facilitate a wide range of Irish language classes and workshops, both formal and informal. They will cater for every age group and every level. It is important that the facilitators work with and in the groups that are established and any new groups that are being created:

Examples of groups include:

- **Parent & Toddler groups**
- Parents of Children in Primary School with Irish
- Parents of Children in Primary School with little or no Irish
- Parents of Secondary School Students
- Retirees
- Beginners
- Medium Level
- Advanced Level
- Grammar
- Múscraí dialect
- Business People
- Native Speakers of Irish and a lot more.
- Custom Workshops
- Local Summer Camps - Action 11.1 & 11.2
- Participants of the local Community Employment Schemes

Action 2.2 - Cultural Activity Facilitators

Aisling Geal, Ealaíontóirí Mhúscraí and The Ionad Cultúrtha are carrying out very significant work in Gaeltacht Mhúscraí.

There is a demand for the provision of other cultural activities. CFM will recruit and train facilitators to organise a range of new workshops in:

- Drama (these facilitators will also support Beart 11.1, 11.2)
- Céilí Dancing (these facilitators will also support Beart 4.1, 11.1, 11.2, 11.8)

Action 2.3 – Additional Activity Facilitators

There has been considerable demand for the provision of other leisure activities.

CFM will support existing facilitators and recruit new facilitators in order to ensure that there are a wide variety of activities available throughout the Gaeltacht through the medium of Irish. Activities such as:

- Cooking Classes
- Baking Classes
- Gymnastics
- Yoga
- Gardening
- Farming for young people

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- Orienteering
 - Cards
 - Bingo
 - Knitting
 - Sewing
 - Crafts
- These facilitators will support Action 11.1 & 11.2

Action 2.4 - Student Summer Scheme

It is proposed to create an Irish language student Summer scheme where students can enter a paid internship during the Summer months. The student/students will work closely with the Irish Language Co-ordinator.

Action 2.5 - Support for Primary School parents without Irish

There are a few steps involved in this action:

- Identify & create the group.
- Carry out workshops to find out the needs of the group and develop a programme around their requirements.
- Introduce the successful ‘**Tús Maith**’ scheme.

Action 2.6 – Native Speakers Forum

To create a forum for Native speakers of Irish to examine their requirements and their role in the language planning process.

Action 2.7 – Workshop - People from countries outside of Ireland

CFM will carry out workshops with people who have moved here from other countries to find out what their language needs are. It is also important to establish a core committee with representation from each area in order to put a plan in place together with the language planning team.

Action 2.8 – Scoil Cheoil Mhúscraí – Múscraí School of Music

To provide traditional music classes and classical music classes through the medium of Irish
To employ music teachers through the school and to develop a wide range of activities around the musicians.

3. CHILDCARE PRE-SCHOOL & FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Action 3.1 – Childcare Centre in Gaeltacht Mhúscraí - (Crèche)

A Childcare Centre (crèche) run through the medium of Irish does not exist in Gaeltacht Mhúscraí at present. Children are educated through Irish in the Naíonraí, primary schools and secondary schools and herein lies a gap for children of pre-naíonra age.

A committee needs to be established to start the process and a Feasibility Study must be carried out as soon as possible.

- The centre will have a robust language policy from the outset.

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- Other services can be provided i.e. after school care, homework clubs, breakfast clubs.
- A suitable location must be established.

Action 3.2 – CD + Illustrated booklet produced by Múscraí’s Community (0-5 years)

- To produce a music CD that includes a mixture of songs including Sean-nós songs, Pop songs & Nursery rhymes – similar to ‘Sicín Mise go Sona Sásta’.
- The artists/musicians will be sourced locally and the songs will use the Múscraí dialect.
- An illustrated booklet will also be produced that will explain the lyrics through a mixture of words and pictures.

Action 3.3 - Parent and Toddler Groups

While the Childcare Centre is being developed there is an urgency to commence workshops in the Parent & Toddler groups in Réidh na nDóirí, Cúil Aodha & Béal Átha’n Ghaorthaidh. This will involve a range of fun workshops through the medium of Irish: i.e. useful phrases, céilí dancing.

Action 3.4 – After School Club, Spraoi na Laoi, Béal Átha’n Ghaorthaidh

To develop the services being provided by the After School Club in Béal Átha’n Ghaorthaidh -

- To examine if there is a demand for a Breakfast Club?
- To develop a decisive Irish Language Policy within the organisation.
- Actions 2.1, 2.2 & 2.3 will provide facilitators to run a variety of activities in the Club ‘as Gaeilge’ throughout the year.

Action 3.5 – Irish Speaking Child-minders

Examine the proposal to compile a ‘directory’ of Irish speaking Child-minders.

Action 3.6 – Support for parents / guardians raising children through Irish

Identify the families and organise workshops with them to find out what their needs and challenges are.

4. THE EDUCATION SYSTEM

Action 4.1 – Céilí Dancing – Primary Schools

This action involves organising Céilí Dancing classes in each primary school as part of their Physical Education curriculum. The classes would culminate in a ‘Big Céilí’ with all 5 schools participating. This is a wonderful way to promote the Irish language and our culture at the same time.

Action 4.2 – Swim Gala – Primary Schools

This action involves organising a Swim Gala in the Cúil Aodha swimming pool for 3rd Class to 6th Class. This will strengthen the connection between the students of the 5 national schools and promote the Irish language amongst the children while also having fun.

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Action 4.3 – Pilot Scheme – Schoolyard Language Practice

At the beginning of the school year students can choose their 'ideal' prize to the value of €1,000 per school. The class/classroom that makes the best effort to use Irish in the schoolyard during the school year wins the prize.

Action 4.4 – Secondary School's Table Quiz

This action proposes that an annual table quiz will be organised for Coláiste Ghobnatan and Scoil Mhuire. Each team will be made up of a mix of students from both schools. This is an excellent way to promote Irish amongst the students while having fun and strengthening the link between the students of both schools. The quiz venue would rotate between the 5 villages on an annual basis.

Action 4.5 - Language Awareness for Parents of Children in the Naíonraí

To compile an information leaflet that would give guidelines to parents regarding the level of Irish required throughout the school year. This will allow parents to play a more interactive role in their child's Irish language journey at home.

For parents with little or no Irish workshops will be developed around creative ways to introduce Irish into the home.

Action 4.6 – 3rd Level Students

To carry out workshops with 3rd level students from Gealtacht Mhúscraí to find out what they wish to contribute to the Language Plan and what the Language Plan can do for them.

5. Services for Young People & other age groups

Action 5.1 – Youth Clubs - Support

Youth Clubs play an important role in all communities as they are a way for young people to socialise outside of the school system through the medium of Irish.

- More Parents, adults and 3rd level students are required to lend support to the running of the local youth clubs.
- A firm Irish language Policy must be established and developed in each Youth Club.
- Establish a strong relationship between CFM and Óige na Gaeltachta/Muintearas.

Action 5.2 – Youth Clubs – Extra Activities

Broaden the range of activities in the local youth clubs. The members thoroughly enjoyed the 'Factóir X' competition but they have requested that the range of activities being organised be extended: Samples include:

- Tech space - Spelling Bee - Baking Competition - Irish language concerts - Trips to other Gaeltachts - Table quiz between Gaeltacht areas - Discos - Olympic Games between the Gaeltacht Youth Clubs - Orienteering as Gaeilge - On –Line Forum for Youth Club Members

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Action 5.3 - Resources & Publications

To produce information leaflets letting young people know what Irish language resources are available to them: For example: Books - www.litriocht.com - 100 first Irish Words, Danny Seaimpín an Domhain, An Sionnach Glic and an Chircín Rua. 'An Buntáiste Breise' by Marcas Mac Ruairí. Board Games www.siopa.ie - Scrabble as Gaeilge, Monopoly as Gaeilge, Crannóg. CD's www.siopagaeilge.ie

Action 5.4 - Technological Resources

- Keep all age groups informed about Irish language apps and games that are available.
- Create a campaign that would encourage companies to develop more apps and other technological products i.e. Whatsapp is due to be launched as Gaeilge very soon.

6. The Business Sector & Cultural Tourism

CULTURAL TOURISM

Action 6.1 - Cultural Tourism Strategy

To promote and develop a cultural tourism strategy for Gaeltacht Mhúscraí.

- Establish a committee & recruit a tourism advisor
- Develop a logo for Gaeltacht Mhúscraí
- Develop bilingual brochures similar to the Gaelsaioire literature.
- Promote our local events, local amenities – Whit Sunday Festival (Action 6.3), Music Festival (Action 6.4), Slí Ghaeltacht Mhúscraí etc.
- Develop a tourism app for the area

Action 6.2 - Develop local festivals & create new Gaeltacht festivals

To support and develop local Festivals:

- Baile Mhúirne/Cúil Aodha Agricultural Show
- Cruinniú na bhFliúit
- Éigse Dhiarmuid Uí Shúilleabháin
- Féile na Laoch
- Féile Damhsa agus Ceoil Corcaigh & Ciarraí
- IMBOLC
- St. Patrick's Day Parade, Béal Átha'n Ghaorthaidh
- 'Street Party' Cúil Aodha
- Seán Ó Síocháin Commemoration, Cill na Martra.
- Ceol an Gheimhridh, Cill na Martra

To create new festivals:

- Whit Sunday Festival (Action 6.3)
- Music Festival (Action 6.4) (Ghlór Cheoil, Chill na Martra)
- Big Céilí (Action 11.8)

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Action 6.3 – Whit Sunday Festival

To revive Whit Sunday and develop a festival around it that has a robust language policy at its core. This language will include:

- Visit to Cúil Aodha mass to experience Cór Chúil Aodha followed by a trip St. Gobnait's in Baile Bhúirne, Lámh Lachtaín in Cill na Martra, Tobair Lachtaín in Réidh na nDóirí, & Naomh Fhionbarra in Guagán Barra
- Diaspora – organise an event to bring them home over the weekend (similar to Gathering.ie)
- Local Food Products (9 White Deer, Macroom Mozzarella, Folláin, Cáis Chúil Aodha, MPH Foods, Bia gan Breise/Gookies.
- Arts & Craft products from the locality
- Dancing and music from the area
- Dáimhscoil Mhúscraí to be a part of the festival

Action 6.4 – Music Festival

Establish a new Music Festival. Begin with establishing a committee that will develop the format of the Music Festival as well as a decisive Language Policy. This festival will promote and celebrate Gaeltacht Mhúscraí's rich and talented pool of local musicians and music groups.

Action 6.5 – Community Archive / Museum

There is an abundance of old stories, history and traditions that need to be preserved and recorded. Establish a committee and carry out a feasibility study.

BUSINESS SECTOR

Local businesses have an extremely important role in the lives of our community. This is where we socialise and carry out our daily business.

Action 6.6 – Local Businesses – Language Awareness

- The local businesses must be supported by CFM in 'language awareness'. Workshops are required to assist businesses in developing language policies, to support staff training as well as setting clearer 'language choices' for themselves & for customers.
- To develop and establish a scheme based on '**Corca Dhuibhne ag Caint**'. **It involves a colour-coded system of badges. The colours represent the level of Irish spoken by the wearer. A similar system can be introduced locally.**
 - **Green – Fluent**
 - **Orange- Good**
 - **Red – A little**
- Simultaneously develop Green / Glas / Gaeilge Token Scheme – similar to the 'blue token' scheme that Tesco organise or Supervalu organise for the local football clubs, this would involve local stores and all of the proceeds would go to the 5 local national schools. Proportional Representation would be used based on the number of pupils in the schools:
 - Scoil Abán Naofa, Baile Mhúirne

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- Scoil Chúil Aodha-Barr d’Inse
 - Scoil Fhionnbarra, Béal Átha’n Ghaorthaidh
 - Scoil Lachtaín Naofa, Cill na Martra
 - Scoil Réidh na nDoirí
- Encourage Dunnes Stores, Lidl or Aldi in Macroom to become a part of this scheme? Corporate Responsibility / Philanthropic Responsibility.

Action 6.7 - Local Businesses – Scéim Tacaíochta Gnó (Business Support Scheme – Fóras na Gaeilge)

It is vital that this scheme is introduced and supported in the local businesses as part of the workshops in Action 6.6 and as part of the overall strategy of the language plan. ‘Gaillimh le Gaeilge’ is a wonderful example of how this scheme works

Action 6.8 Business Enterprise Centre

Carry out a feasibility study that would examine the prospect of establishing a business enterprise centre –with a strong Irish language policy. i.e. Macroom E-Park

Action 6.9 – Local Companies – Language Choice

Organise workshops with the management of local companies to see how they can contribute and be a part of the Language Plan and how the language plan can support them.

Action 6.10 – Social Committee

Establish a social committee made up of members from local companies and businesses. Their objectives would be to organise social activities that would promote the Irish language and strengthen their links with the local community.

Action 6.11 – Local Farmers

Farmers play a fundamental and important role in our community and they are integral to our future. A consultation process needs to be organised with local farmers to find out what their needs are, how the language plan can support them and how they can support the language plan.

7. COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Action 7.1 – Language Policies

To support all community organisations in developing language policies as well as fostering methods to give Irish a central role within all community groups. Language Awareness Workshops and support mechanisms need to be put in place in a variety of approaches:

- How to create a robust Language Policy
- Methods to increase the use of Irish at meetings
- Techniques to increase the use of Irish at local events and festivals
- Irish language support for all advertising and publicity
- Encouraging the adoption of ‘Language Plan’ as a part of each organisation’s ‘Meeting Agenda’ – each organisation can take one action per year to support the language plan.

Caibidil 10 - English Summary – Achoimre Béarla

- Refresher courses for those who have an existing Language Policy
- Examine the role of Irish Officers and how they are being supported within their committees.
- Provide support in translation services.
- Keeping community groups up to date regarding funding sources
- Examine the proposal to develop a ‘Recognition’ system? / Gradam for the group that makes the best efforts regarding the promotion of the Irish language.

Action 7.2 – Day Care Centres – Language Practices

To establish and develop definite ‘Language Policies’ in each of the Ionad Lae / Day Care Centres.

1. Organise workshops with the Day Care Centre staff to find out what their suggestions and needs are.
2. Run workshops with the Day Care Centre members to find out what their ideas and requirements are.

8. THE MEDIA

Action 8.1 - Raidió na Gaeltachta, RTÉ

To encourage Raidió na Gaeltachta to connect with the youth of Gaeltacht Mhúscraí by producing more programmes that involve them. This will raise young people’s awareness of this important national station.

Action 8.2 - Cúla 4, TG4 - Múscraí

Campaign for Cúla 4 to make more regular visits to the primary schools in Gaeltacht Mhúscraí. These programmes / visits will help young people to become more aware of TG4 which in turn will encourage them to watch more Irish language programmes.

Action 8.3 – Gaeltacht Campaign - The Late Late Toy Show

Start a national campaign to introduce an ‘Irish language’ section into the Late Late Toy Show.

9. PUBLIC SERVICES

Action 9.1 – The Church – Language Practices

To create a link between CFM, the local Priests and Local Church committees in order to find out how they can be supported by the language plan and how they can play their part in the language plan.

Action 9.2 – Irish Language Service – Macroom Credit Union

As part of a pilot scheme it would be worthwhile to examine the suggestion for Macroom’s Credit Union to provide services ‘as Gaeilge’.

10. PLANNING & PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Action 10.1 – Irish Language Visibility

Establish a focus group to develop a strategy to increase the visibility of Irish in Gaeltacht Múscraí.

Plean Teanga Mhúscraí

Caibidil 10 - English Summary – Achoimre Béarla

- This applies to road signs, long-term signs, and temporary signs.
- It also applies to new types of signage – bilingual, symbols only etc.

Action 10.2 - Coláiste na Mumhan - Language Sanctuary

Establish a committee in Béal Átha'n Ghaorthaidh that will create a link between the local community and Coláiste na Mumhan. This committee will develop a strategy to strengthen the reputation of Coláiste na Mumhan and Béal Átha'n Ghaorthaidh as an Irish language sanctuary.

Action 10.3 - Coláiste Samhraidh – Gael Linn, Baile Bhúirne

To involve the community of Baile Bhúirne regarding ways that they can lend support to the Coláiste Samhraidh 'Support Committee' in Baile Bhúirne' and make Baile Bhúirne a more viable option for Coláiste Samhraidh students.

Action 10.4 – Playground – Cill na Martra

There has been a call from the Cill na Martra community for a Playground. A playground is an important facility in any community. A local committee needs to be established. The committee will develop a plan of action for the playground starting with a feasibility study and an Irish language Policy. This playground and which would give children and parents an opportunity to meet and speak Irish in a social context.

Beart / Action 10.5 – Footpath & Greenway - Cúil Aodha

This is a two-tiered action - Establish a committee in conjunction with the local tidy towns committee. Develop a plan of action starting with a feasibility study and an Irish language Policy.

A: To have a footpath running from Cúil Aodha village to Baile Bhúirne where people can cycle and walk safely.

B: To create a greenway in Cúil Aodha. This walkway / greenway would provide a very important amenity for local children and parents as a way to meet and speak Irish in a social context.

Action 10.6 – AstroTurf in Gaeltacht Mhúscraí

To carry out a feasibility study to find the most suitable location for an astro-turf field. A robust language policy must be created for the amenity.

Action 10.7 – Men & Women's Sheds - Béal Átha'n Ghaorthaidh

To establish a committee to further explore the demand for a Men's Shed and a Women's Shed in Béal Átha'n Ghaorthaidh. This is a great opportunity to improve and maintain the health and well being of the participants while creating a great social space to speak Irish.

Actions 10.8 - Ionad Áise, Réidh na nDóirí.

The Ionad Áise is a modern & centrally located facility. The language plan must continue taking steps to ensure the use of this facility on an on-going basis.

Plean Teanga Mhúscraí
Caibidil 10 - English Summary – Achoimre Béarla

Action 10.9 – Post Office, Réidh na nDóirí.

To create a publicity campaign to encourage the community to continue using this Post Office. This business is in the heart of the village and is very important for Reidh na nDóirí on a social level and as a way of allowing people to meet one another and speak Irish.

Action 10.10 - Mullach na Réidh Site, Réidh na nDóirí.

To carry out a feasibility study on the Mullach na Réidh site. What would be suitable there? A Zip Line Centre, tourism centre, astro turf, child care centre?

Action 10.11 – Baile Mhúirne Development Committee

Establish a cohesive committee to put together a strategy plan for Baile Mhúirne. This would include a plan for public toilets, parking facilities, public space for local festivals, becoming a part of the Public Participation Network, identifying funding sources, making village renewal plans.

11. SOCIAL & RECREATIONAL SERVICES

Action 11.1 – Summer Camps – Pre-school children

To organise a series of Summer Camps – focused on arts, crafts, singing, dancing – for pre-school children during Easter & Summer utilising the ‘Facilitators’ that have been recruited and trained as part of Action 1.4.

Action 11.2 – Summer Camps – Primary School Students

To organise a series of Summer Camps – focused on arts, crafts, singing, dancing – for primary school children during Easter & Summer utilising ‘Facilitators’ that have been recruited and trained as part of Action 1.4

Action 11.3 – Saturday Story time ☺

A large number of people proposed the idea for interactive ‘Story time’ workshops to be organised every Saturday for children between 3-5 years of age. These can be organised by the ‘facilitators’ from Action 1.4 in An Leabharlann i mBaile Bhúirne, Ionad Áise i Réidh na nDóirí & Spraoi na Laoi in Béal Átha’n Ghaorthaidh.

Action 11.4 – Chat & Tea Group – Pilot Scheme

To develop ‘Chat & Tea Groups’ for after Mass on Sunday. This novel idea came from both Cúil Aodha and Béal Átha’n Ghaorthaidh. It is necessary to set up a committee in both villages so they can explore and develop this wonderful concept. It is a fantastic way to enable young people and adults to meet on a social basis and chat in Irish.

Action 11.5 – Book Clubs for adults.

To establish Irish language book clubs for adults. The clubs will depend on the demand in each village. This can be explored further through the Language Plan.

Caibidil 10 - English Summary – Achoimre Béarla

Action 11.6 – Informal Music Clubs

Both young people and adults proposed this idea. They want to establish a place where people can get together, in an informal environment, to play music together – but not the pub.

Action 11.7 – ‘Show & Share Your Pet at the Baile Bhúirne/Cúil Aodha Agricultural Show

There are two ideas:

1 – The primary school children would love an outlet to bring their pets to the show and share a story about them ‘as Gaeilge’ for 60 seconds. Prizes will be awarded for the best presentations.

2 – To expand and develop the show into ‘Múscraí Agricultural Show’ as well as expanding the role of the Irish language within the show.

Action 11.8 – Big Céilí – Easter Gathering

This Big Céilí will be organised during Easter. A fun idea that will cater for all age groups. It would be really great if one section of the Céilí focuses on pre-school children and primary school children so they can showcase the skills they learned throughout the year as part of Actions 2.2 & 4.1. It is vital that the Céilí has a vigorous language policy.

Action 11.9 - Family Easter Egg Hunt

An exciting annual event for families as Gaeilge.

12. STATUS OF IRISH LANGUAGE IN THE AREA

Action 12.1 - Awareness Campaign

This is an awareness campaign based around some of the old customs/attitudes relating to Irish that exist in Gaeltacht Mhúscraí and are difficult to change. For example:

- Why do we lack self-confidence when speaking Irish?
- Why do fluent speakers feel that they are putting not so fluent people under pressure if they speak Irish to them?
- Why do we speak English to people as a default?
- Why do people feel that fluent speakers can be ‘snobby’ about their Irish?

Action 12.2 – Campaign for Bilingual Meetings

There is a habit of defaulting to English at local meetings even when Irish speakers are in the majority. How can we reverse this habit? How can non-Irish speakers be facilitated at meetings? How can we introduce practices that work in other European Countries?

Action 12.3 – Welcome Packages for Newcomers

There isn’t any system in place for welcoming ‘new people’ who move into Gaeltacht Mhúscraí:

- This package would be full of information about Gaeltacht Mhúscraí; what being a Gaeltacht means, a list the local facilities, a list of the various community organisations, a list of the Irish Classes available etc.....

Caibidil 10 - English Summary – Achoimre Béarla

- It is necessary to recruit and train Advocacy Facilitators as part of this action. The Advocacy Facilitators will welcome ‘new people’ to the neighbourhood and present the ‘welcome package’ to them in a warm and informative manner.

Action 12.4 – Package for Expectant Parents

This support package will be made available to expectant parents. The package will contain literature about the advantages of raising your children through the medium of Irish as well as supports that exist for parents who are taking this route.

Action 12.5 - Paraphernalia

Various paraphernalia can make it fun to show and promote our identity. Bracelets, The Fáinne, Pencils, Stickers, Umbrellas, Cups etc....

CFM can create local competitions to come up with new ways to promote Irish with fun objects and catchy phrases.

Action 12.6 – Irish Language Ambassadors

Recruit Irish Language Ambassadors for each village. The idea has been floated to recruit ambassadors who are fluent in Irish and some with very little or no Irish. Those with little or no Irish could start their language journey with the community.

10.5 Summary of Chapters 7-9

Chapter 7: Costs and Funding

This chapter presents the total estimated costs related to the implementation of general measures and initiatives outlined in Chapter 6.

€900,475.00	Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
€314,475.00	Other funding sources
€ 81,875.00	Fees
€1,296,825.00	Total
€ 64,841.25	+ 5% Contingency
€1,361,666.25	Total over the 7 years

Chapter 8: Publicity and Language Awareness

This Chapter shows how public interest in, and awareness of the language planning process have been fostered in the course of preparation of the plan and how they are integral to the success of the 7 year plan.

Chapter 9: Implementing and Monitoring

This Chapter explains how the implementation and monitoring process will be carried out over the course of the 7 years. It describes the role of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Comharchumann Forbartha Mhuscraí, Údarás na Gaeltachta, Fóram Pleanála Teanga Mhúscraí, Comhordaitheoirí Pleanála Teanga Mhúscraí and the public in the monitoring and implementation process.