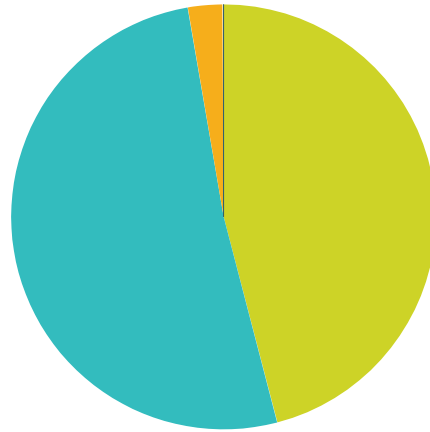


Advice on Gaelic Education: Feedback on the conference

9 June 2015, Inverness

Q2 Gaelic in the context of Scottish Education/*Advice on Gaelic Education*. How would you rate the usefulness of this session?

Answered: 37 Skipped: 2



Very useful Useful Average Of limited use Not at all useful

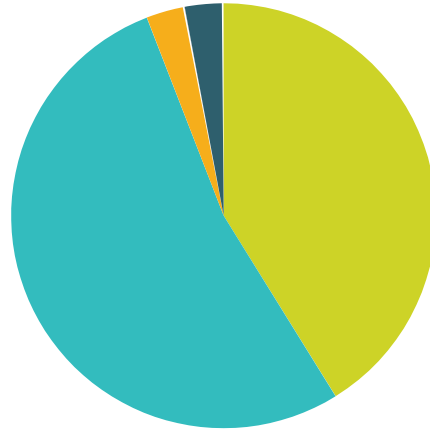
	Very useful	Useful	Average	Of limited use	Not at all useful	Total	Weighted Average
(no label)	45.95% 17	51.35% 19	2.70% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	37	1.57

Q3 Please add any comments on presentations by Education Scotland:

Responses
This gave me a really clear overview of the vision for Gaelic Education in Scotland.
Provided an effective means of sharing the key messages in the <i>Advice on Gaelic Education</i> amongst the range of partners.
Clear guidance provided on current initiatives and requirements for further advances in GME.
It provides useful information and practical guidance on effective teaching of Gaelic both within GME and for learners from early level onwards.
Excellent overall presentations by Education Scotland which clearly identified steps needed to develop Gaelic's future.
It was informative and worthwhile.
Mar sin dheth, bha e feumail dhuinn airson fios nas mionaidiche fhaighinn air dè mar a shuidhicheas sinn 'son a bhith cuideachadh ann an trèanadh agus tabhainn chothroman GLL. Cuideachd deagh chothrom a bh' ann 'son networking.
This is a very useful document to have and will be useful in auditing each school's practice.
Very useful. The document should prove to be very helpful to schools and LAs.
Was more useful from a management side of things rather than a class teacher (of which I am both!)
I thought presentations were fantastic! Both informative and interesting. I took loads of notes and will definitely try to listen to it again online. I felt the presenters had a really good handle on priorities for education generally, and could relate to Gaelic issues. The document, ' <i>Advice on Gaelic Education</i> ' is very welcome. The advice in it is sensible, logical and aspirational. I am delighted that this document has been issued to schools and agree with its contents. We have used this document in our school as a basis on which to make our school policy. I would welcome more opportunities to discuss further this document and the impact it will have on our schools.
To collectively, as a sector, hear from those with direct responsibility was informative.
This was a terrific platform for our Centre to perform at, and we were well-received by the delegates.
It was very educational for me with regard to highlighting issues with Gaelic Medium Education. Although not part of my own remit it highlighted a lot of issues and concerns.
Very clearly presented.

Q4 Scottish Government: Education (Scotland) Bill 2015. How would you rate the usefulness of this session?

Answered: 34 Skipped: 5



Very useful Useful Average Of limited use Not at all useful

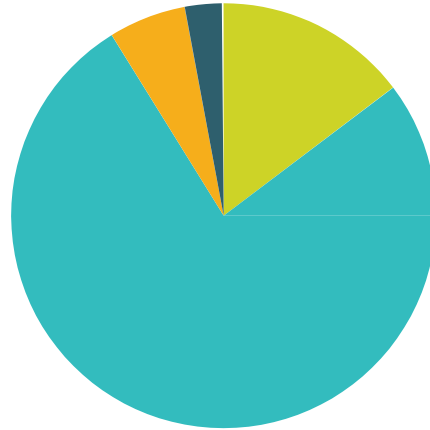
	Very useful	Useful	Average	Of limited use	Not at all useful	Total	Weighted Average
(no label)	41.18%	52.94%	2.94%	0.00%	2.94%	34	1.71
	14	18	1	0	1		

Q5 Please add any comments on presentation by Scottish Government:

Responses
As I had read the SPICe briefing note which was shared with contributors prior to the conference, I was already familiar with the proposals of the Bill.
There was an awful lot of focus on the 'process' of establishing GME, but little was discussed about the other aspects of the Bill.
More discussion around the Bill is needed and it needs more publicity to raise awareness.
Interesting session.
Always useful to have time to reflect on Government Policy.
More aware of the Bill, its content and its implications.
It was a good opportunity to raise the issue of amendments that will be required to strengthen the Bill.
Perhaps it would have been good to have had opportunity to submit written questions as well as the open floor - less intimidating!

Q6 Bòrd na Gàidhlig: Statutory Guidance on Gaelic. How would you rate the usefulness of this session?

Answered: 34 Skipped: 5



Very useful Useful Average Of limited use Not at all useful

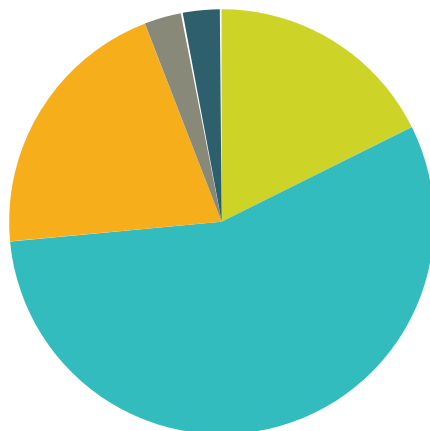
	Very useful	Useful	Average	Of limited use	Not at all useful	Total	Weighted Average
(no label)	14.71%	76.47%	5.88%	0.00%	2.94%	34	2.00
	5	26	2	0	1		

Q7 Please add any comments on presentation by BnG on Statutory Guidance:

Responses
It was interesting to get an overview of the groups currently planned and timescales for implementing the guidance.
More awareness raising of the guidance is required.
Good to hear how this guidance is to be produced and the timeline involved. Feel better informed.

Q8 Questions from the audience on the Bill and Guidance. How would you rate the usefulness of this session?

Answered: 34 Skipped: 5



Very useful Useful Average Of limited use Not at all useful

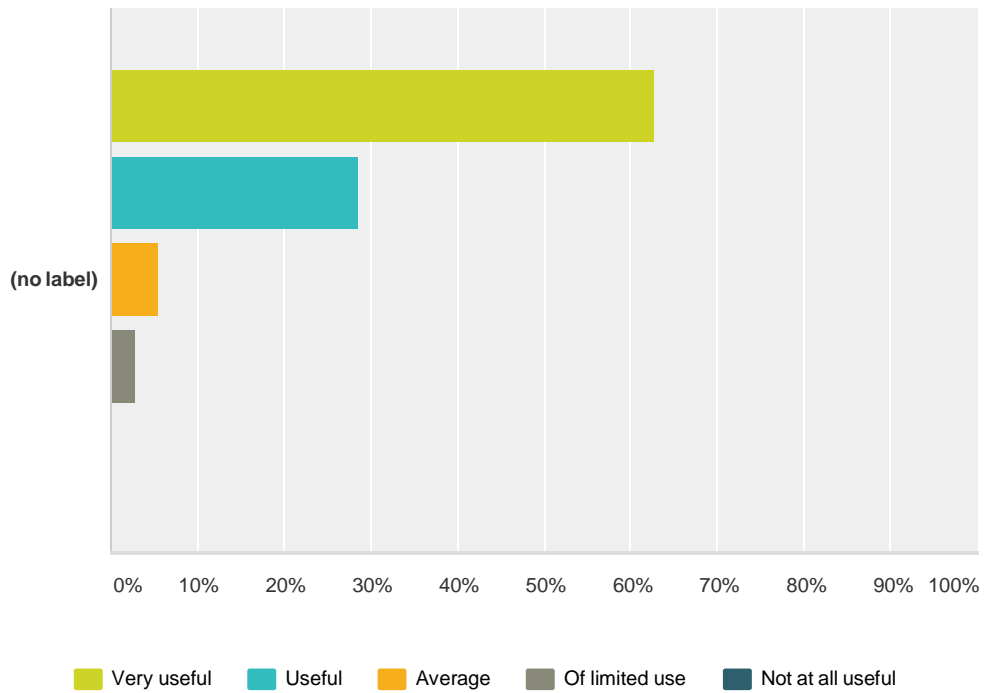
	Very useful	Useful	Average	Of limited use	Not at all useful	Total	Weighted Average
(no label)	17.65%	55.88%	20.59%	2.94%	2.94%	34	2.18
	6	19	7	1	1		

Q9 Please add any comments on the question and answer session on the Bill and the Guidance:

Responses
The concept was a very good one but answers?
Questions mainly around parental requests. It would be useful to have a clear vision of how to solve staffing problems within GME and also how Gaelic teachers will be supported in delivering 1+2 (Gaelic 2nd Language). Will the 1+2 have an impact on National Qualifications for Learners i.e Nat 5 and Higher Gaelic 6/7 years hence?
Opportunity to submit written questions prior to session would have been welcome! Less intimidating!
Some good publicity from the event. Was covered on BBC Alba News programme

Q10 Keynote address: Gaelic in a European context. How would you rate the usefulness of this session?

Answered: 35 Skipped: 4



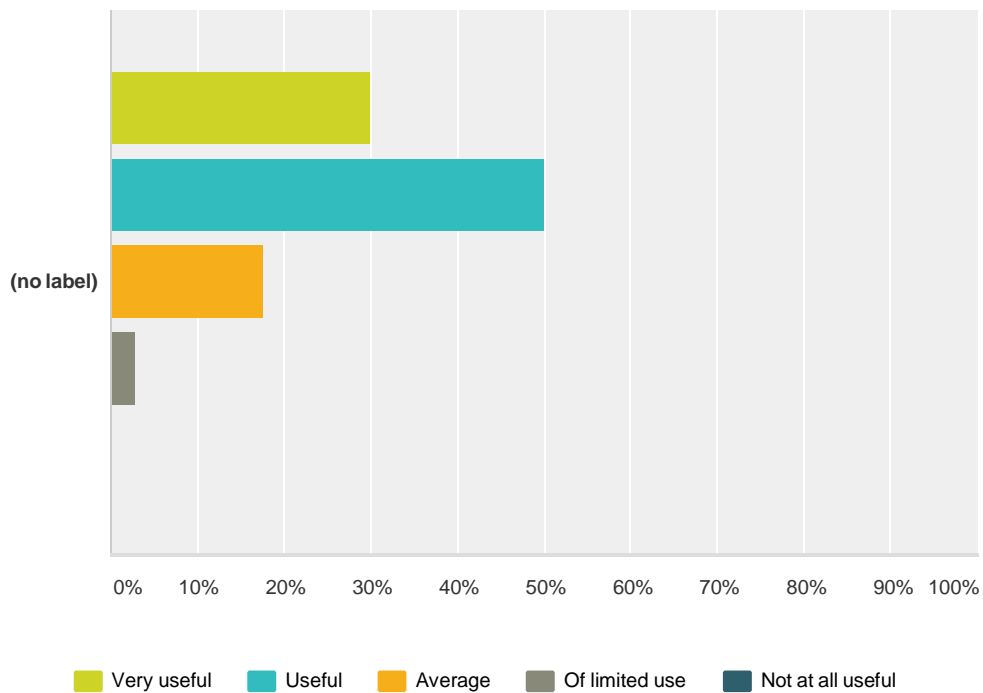
	Very useful	Useful	Average	Of limited use	Not at all useful	Total	Weighted Average
(no label)	62.86% 22	28.57% 10	5.71% 2	2.86% 1	0.00% 0	35	1.49

Q11 Please add any comments on the presentation on Gaelic within in a European context:

Responses
This was an outstanding talk and very much addressed the need to look out with our own context and at the wider issues.
Interesting comparison of minority European languages and appreciation of the challenges we still face.
Very inspiring. I felt ashamed of my growing cynicism and have been put back in my place with a rekindled passion for my language and culture.
Very informative and passionate presentation.
Very clear and motivating speech. This information needs to filter to all schools/educationalists.
Fior dheagh òraidiche a th' ann am Mata, agus math 'son beagan co-theacs nas fharsaing thoirt dhuinn.
This was a really interesting and thought provoking session on minority languages and the place Gaelic has in Scotland.
This was certainly the best presentation I have experienced on this subject.
An excellent presentation which very much set Gaelic within the European context and highlighted the huge challenges which lie ahead.
This was fabulous! I could listen to this again as the presenter was so interesting and it was great to hear about the European context. Real food for thought.
It was a good speech and interesting European context.
An excellent insight into minority languages in Europe and comparison with Scottish Gaelic. Very inspiring/encouraging!
Interesting to hear perspective from other European countries.

Q12 The voice of parents and learners. How would you rate the usefulness of this session?

Answered: 34 Skipped: 5



	Very useful	Useful	Average	Of limited use	Not at all useful	Total	Weighted Average
(no label)	29.41% 10	50.00% 17	17.65% 6	2.94% 1	0.00% 0	34	1.94

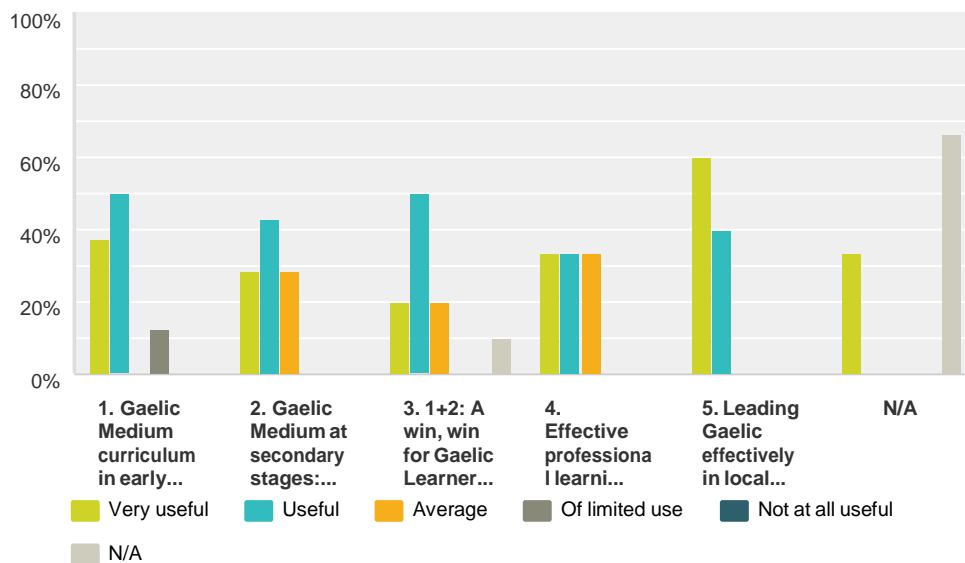
Q13 Please add any comments on the presentations representing the voice of parents and learners:

Answered: 10 Skipped: 29

Responses
Statistics about the destinations of learners into Gaelic jobs would have added to this session. Concerned that level of parental involvement is not increasing in line with the increase in numbers going into GM education.
It was really good to hear from various groups involved in GME, especially from pupils that had gone through GME and could comment on their experiences.
There is a slight feeling of negativity from parents and not always measured however it's important that issues such as staffing, support for learners, sound gaelic teaching are being addressed in local authorities.
Interesting, in particular to hear from the students present and their pertinent points on class numbers, sharing resources, etc.
Parental demand is what drives Gaelic Medium Education yet their views are seldom heard. This was a welcome session.
Good to get the views of this focus group.
Very useful to hear the Parent Voice at a national conference as this is not often the case.
An interesting and engaging speaker whose commitment to her particular aspect of Gaelic was evident.
Important to be reminded of the role of parents in delivery of Gaelic Medium Education.

Q14 Please select your focus group choice, and rate how useful you found the session.

Answered: 36 Skipped: 3



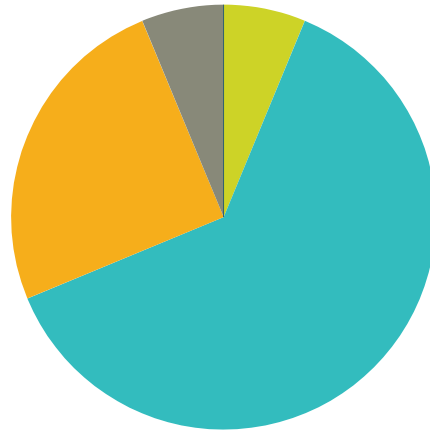
	Very useful	Useful	Average	Of limited use	Not at all useful	N/A	Total
1. Gaelic Medium curriculum in early learning/childcare settings & primary stages	37.50% 3	50.00% 4	0.00% 0	12.50% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	8
2. Gaelic Medium at secondary stages: building a continuum of learning	28.57% 2	42.86% 3	28.57% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	7
3. 1+2: A win, win for Gaelic Learner Education	20.00% 2	50.00% 5	20.00% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	10.00% 1	10
4. Effective professional learning for teachers of Gaelic	33.33% 1	33.33% 1	33.33% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	3
5. Leading Gaelic effectively in local authorities	60.00% 3	40.00% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	5
	1	0	0	0	0	2	

Q15 Please add any comments on the focus groups:

Responses
The opportunity to hear from other LAs was very helpful.
Very useful discussions, especially around developing GM around all four contexts of the curriculum, linking this to SQA and possible certification of achievements and also linking this with skills development/employability and DYW.
For me this was the best part of the conference. The workshop was hosted well and hearing the views of others in the same sphere and sharing practice, discussing common challenges, etc was most helpful.
I found this smaller group setting to be an excellent forum through which to learn more about the development of 1 + 2 in a Gaelic context and the various ways in which teaching professionals are implementing it.
The focus group setting allowed participants to discuss issues relating to Gaelic Education and the Advice published and was a very good opportunity to meet others working with Gaelic. It would have been beneficial had there been time for two focus group sessions - one in the morning and one in the afternoon, they are a really important way of allowing Gaelic practitioners to meet colleagues working in other sectors.
Although useful to be sharing observations and concerns not much was gained at a practical level.
Due to the time constraints, there was very little time for any group discussion and while this could have been a useful session, it was limited because of the above.
I think more time could have been given to this part of the agenda as it is vital that teachers across authorities and sectors are able to come together and discuss current practice and how this impacts on our learners. The people leading the group gave clear direction as to the necessary topics to be addressed and this was also important to ensure the discussion remained focused on issues central to GME in the primary school.
I would have liked more discussion time. More examples of sound practice from a variety of clusters. Very useful information from the rep from Storrann and the programme currently being developed.
Felt that some of the problems being highlighted were historical and perhaps not the most current issues affecting teachers/Gaelic pupils now. Also felt it was very rushed and would have appreciated significantly longer for discussion given the size of the group.

Q16 Bòrd na Gàidhlig: Concluding remarks & response to questions from focus groups. How would you rate the usefulness of this session?

Answered: 32 Skipped: 7



■ Very useful
 ■ Useful
 ■ Average
 ■ Of limited use
 ■ Not at all useful

	Very useful	Useful	Average	Of limited use	Not at all useful	Total	Weighted Average
(no label)	6.25% 2	62.50% 20	25.00% 8	6.25% 2	0.00% 0	32	2.31

**Q17 Please add any comments on cluding
remarks by BnG:**

Responses

Common concerns shared but finding solutions to staffing issues will continue to be a challenge.

Q18 Any other comments about aspects of the event?

Answered: 23 Skipped: 16

Responses

Very well-organised with a range of pertinent topics. Well done to Education Scotland for this work.

I thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated the whole event. I think that this now clearly sets the agenda for future events which could focus on showcasing examples of schools maximising the 4 contexts of learning, looking at resources and sharing good practice. There are also opportunities to look at developing examples of learner pathways in GME from 3-18+ to build on the very successful Q+A session with the two young people and to set this in the context of DYW.

I feel this should be an annual event. In the 7 years I have been involved in Gaelic teaching, the workshop on Gaelic and 1+2 I attended was probably the most relevant and helpful CLPL opportunity I have participated in.

Was a well-organised and worthwhile event. Would be good to ensure representatives from every authority are present at such future events.

An excellent event for teachers of secondary Gaelic. Very well-organised and professionally delivered. Found much of the content very encouraging and inspiring! Would be very keen to see this as an annual event on our calendar!

Well run and organised in a nice location with good facilities.

This should be an annual event - perhaps with the facilities to accommodate more people, interactive activities, sharing effective practice. Very well-organised and loved the music.

I feel as if I have more questions than answers now! That might be a good thing as it's certainly made me think. I would have liked more time to actually read and digest the document but I can do that in my own time (& should probably have read it before I attended!)

The event was well-organised and very well-attended. It was pleasing to see so many people involved in Gaelic Education meeting together in a forum such as this. It is important to the furtherance of Gaelic, our culture and heritage to continue in this vein. An annual gathering of this type is crucial and a good way of being informed and up to date with developments in Gaelic. It would have been good to have seen each school offering GME or GLE represented.

It was an enjoyable event and I hope the start of several that will allow issues such as rights and Guidance to be fully discussed.

I think it is good that people representing all Gaelic bodies are able to meet and discuss important issues. I would like a follow-up where we can discuss the way forward for schools as there are huge differences all across Scotland and it would be good if we all tried to work together to achieve the ideal represented in this Advice. Perhaps a Gaelic authority to represent GM across the whole of Scotland and tied directly to Stòrlann and teacher training providers as they should now consider serious resource implications.

There should be more opportunities for this type of conference. Would be useful on an annual basis, this would allow practitioners to review progress and address issues. It would be useful, for example, to be able to discuss the Guidance on Gaelic Education. Possibly allow more time for the focus groups, shorter lunch break and only one musical item.

The translation devices were noisy at first and interfered with listening to the speaker.

The event was very valuable both in terms of the information conveyed through the talks and the opportunities to talk to fellow delegates working in and connected to GME.

This was a very enjoyable, thought provoking and useful event with a variety of input and different contexts for conveying information. There was a lot to take in however the input from the musicians and the ex-pupils helped to maintain motivation - Bha iad cho math agus cho brosnachail! I would definitely be in favour of such an event being held on a regular basis (probably at around the same time each year) so that more teachers could have the opportunity to attend.

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