Taigh Chearsabhagh Trust Gaelic Policy
Updated April 2024

Our vision is that through Taigh Chearsabhagh's ethos and activities, we celebrate and stimulate meaningful engagement with and appreciation of the Gaelic language, culture and history which is integral to Uist's identity.

Our aims are to
- Expand the respect for, and visibility, audibility and recognition of Gaelic in our building and through our programmed activities
- Promote the greater meaningful acquisition of speaking, reading and writing skills in Gaelic
- Enable the greater natural use of Gaelic in a range of social, formal and work settings

Background Gaelic language and culture should be absolutely integral to Taigh Chearsabhagh's identity and operations. Taigh Chearsabhagh is committed to the aims, objectives and delivery of Scotland's National Plan for Gaelic. With the creation of Taigh Chearsabhagh's first Gaelic Officer post in 2020, our organisation started to focus on the conception and delivery of events which celebrate Gaelic language and culture, in this way embedding both in our programme of activity, operations and, most importantly, the mindset of our organisation, our Board of Directors and staff.

Through 2024-2028, we now wish to build further on this progress. In practical terms, we aim to view everything Taigh Chearsabhagh does through the lens of Gaelic. Working in this way means firstly talking about Gaelic more consistently and with greater awareness of Taigh Chearsabhagh's direction of travel, as well as with a keener acuity about our strategies, aims and objectives. It means bringing it up in conversations within our organisation, with the artists and practitioners we work with, with all members of our islands' communities, with our local, national and international audiences and participants. It means asking: would you like to know more? it means asking *a' bheil Gàidhlig agad*?

With our Gaelic-tinted glasses on, we aim to inspire an open and holistic practice which fosters engagement, prioritises access and nurtures a tangible, valued presence of Gaelic woven throughout Taigh Chearsabhagh's sense of itself, its identity, its programmes and activities.

The fundamental focus of our Gaelic-essential posts remains the same: to identify, articulate and deliver practical initiatives and programmes which will further embed Taigh Chearsabhagh's core commitment to and advocacy of Gaelic language, arts, heritage and culture.