GAELTACHT ACT 2012
LANGUAGE PLANNING GUIDELINES

published by
the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
in association with
Údarás na Gaeltachta and Foras na Gaeilge

Fourth Edition – January 2018
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1. **INTRODUCTION**

The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht aims, with the publication of these language planning guidelines, in association with Údarás na Gaeltachta and Foras na Gaeilge, to provide an overview of the language planning process as it relates to the implementation of the Gaeltacht Act 2012. These guidelines are aimed primarily at the community and organisations whose responsibility it will be to prepare and implement language plans under the Act. These guidelines will also be of assistance to the voluntary sector, the public sector and the private sector who will have a role in providing support, in as far as possible, to the language planning process.

The Gaeltacht Act 2012 provides the statutory framework for undertaking the language planning process on a coordinated basis. It is expected that the public, the voluntary sector, the public sector and the private sector will work together to support the Irish language in the various geographical areas to be recognised under the Act. The language will be supported as the community and family language of the Gaeltacht and of other areas outside of the Gaeltacht through the preparation and implementation of language plans at community level. The purpose of the language plans will be the strengthening of language usage in the context of family, community, education social, business and public affairs.

This fourth edition of the Language Planning Guidelines (the first of which was published in January 2014, the second in December 2015, and the third in May 2016) includes details of the latest iteration of the Geographical Information System (GIS) for the language planning process, which came into being in November 2017.

For an overview of the language planning process and its implementation see the Department's website:


An Roinn Cultúir, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta
January 2018
2. BACKGROUND

The 20-Year Strategy for the Irish Language 2010-2030 has as its objective to increase the number of daily Irish-language speakers outside of the education system to 250,000 people, the number of daily Irish-language speakers in the Gaeltacht by 25% and to increase the number of people with knowledge of the Irish language to 2 million over the lifetime of the Strategy. The need for the development and implementation of a language planning system at community level is recognised in the Strategy and was a recommendation made in the Comprehensive Linguistic Study of the Use of Irish in the Gaeltacht in 2007. It is through the language planning process that support will be provided in a systematic, integrated manner to the Irish language as the community and family language in the Gaeltacht and in other areas outside of the Gaeltacht, where there is community support for Irish.

A statutory footing for the language planning process is provided in the Gaeltacht Act 2012, which sets out the process by which communities in various areas can attain recognition as Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas, Gaeltacht Service Towns or Irish Language Networks.

- In line with the provisions of the Act, the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht has identified 26 Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas. Under the Act, the existing Gaeltacht will be redesignated as Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas provided that language plans are agreed by the communities in the various areas in accordance with the language planning criteria prescribed under the Act. Údarás na Gaeltachta is responsible under the Act for supporting organisations with regard to the preparation and implementation of the language plans in the Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas.
• **Gaeltacht Service Towns** are towns in, or adjacent to Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas which play a significant role in the delivery of public services and leisure, social and commercial amenities to those areas. Under the Act, a town must have a population of at least 1,000 people, according to the most recent census, to be considered as a Gaeltacht Service Town. Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge are responsible under the Act for supporting organisations in the preparation and implementation of language plans in the Gaeltacht Service Towns, depending on whether the town is situated within or outside Gaeltacht Language Planning Area.

• **Irish Language Networks** are areas which already have a basic critical mass of community and State support for the Irish language. Foras na Gaeilge is responsible under the Act for supporting organisations in the preparation and implementation of the language plans in the Irish Language Networks.

Under the Act, recognition is given to the Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas, the Gaeltacht Service Towns and the Irish Language Networks providing that language plans have been agreed with their communities in accordance with the language planning criteria. Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as may be appropriate, will provide support to the organisations selected by them to prepare and implement language plans in the various areas. The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht will be responsible for the approval of the language plans in accordance with the language planning criteria prescribed under the Act.

The language planning process will be implemented in the various areas in the context of the 20-Year Strategy for the Irish Language and the Gaeltacht Act. The language planning process will best be implemented by way of a partnership approach between the community and community organisations, in association with the voluntary sector, the public sector and the private sector.

It is envisaged that the language planning process will involve the following benefits:
• The public, through the community organisations, will be given an opportunity to play a central role in the language planning process on a local basis according to their own wishes and to their own specific context.

• The wide range of activities provided by community and public organisations which support the Irish language in the various areas to be recognised under the Act will be drawn together in a more effective manner.

• Learning opportunities will be enhanced by the sharing of best practice in language planning among the various areas to be recognised under the Act.

• As a result of the integrated approach under the language planning process, a greater demand for services through Irish will be created in the various areas to be recognised under the Act.
3. **Language Planning**

There are many definitions of language planning. In brief, language planning can be described as planning interventions which attempt to influence the language spoken in a particular community. It can also be described as a collection of ideas, laws, regulations and practices that exist to achieve a planned change in language usage in a particular community. The objective of language planning in this case is the increase in Irish-language speakers and the preservation of Irish-language use as a family and community language.

The application of language planning involves a range of activities at various levels, including:

- activities arising directly from State policies;
- activities which relate to the community and to the organisations operating on their behalf; and
- activities which relate to society in general in the public sector, private sector and voluntary sector.

Language planning is of particular importance in relation to the decisions made by the private citizen around the issue of language and its relationship to the family, community, educational, social, business and public affairs. Language planning also relates to the manner in which the public sector, private sector and voluntary sector all support the individual in facilitating those every day decisions. The following elements are central to the language planning process:

1. attitude towards the Irish language
2. competence in Irish
3. use of Irish
4. the fostering and preservation of language communities
5. intergenerational transmission of language
4. How to Prepare and Implement a Language Plan

The various stages associated with the preparation and implementation of a language plan can be summarised as follows:

- **STAGE 1.** Agreeing the objectives of the language plan
- **STAGE 2.** Research the current language situation.
- **STAGE 3.** Analysing the research and preparing a language plan
- **STAGE 4.** Implementing the language plan
- **STAGE 5.** Monitoring the implementation of the language plan

The following is a description of the 5 individual stages:

**Stage 1: Agreeing the objectives of the language plan**

The language planning process begins with a strategic aim for the language plan. The objectives of the plan will flow from the strategic aim and the particular activities specified in the plan will emerge from the objectives. While deciding on the strategic aim of the plan, make sure that the aim is specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and that it has a timeframe.

Above all, make sure from the outset that as large a proportion of the community as possible is willing to support the strategic aim of the language plan.

Awareness around the following matters is essential when preparing a language plan:
• **Public awareness and commitment:** The community should be clear about what's involved with the language planning process, as well as the importance of the process and the central role to be played by the community in that process. An awareness campaign will need to be organised on a local basis to foster public interest in the process and to ensure commitment to the process.

• **Ownership:** The community, and all other interested parties, should be given an opportunity to have ongoing input in the language planning process and to take ownership of that part of the plan which relates to them.

• **Clarity:** It should be clear what activities are proposed under the plan, who is responsible for every aspect of the plan and what resources will be available and necessary to deliver all aspects of the plan.

• **Competence:** The selected organisation should have the appropriate competence, experience and expertise to undertake language planning, or at the very least have access to the appropriate expertise, as necessary.

• **The process:** It should be clear that the language planning process is as important as the plan itself and the results of the plan.
Stage 2: Carrying out research to understand the current situation

The current state of the language in the Language Planning Area/Gaeltacht Service Town/Irish Language Network concerned should be clear. There will be a need therefore for appropriate research in order to establish:

- the community's attitude towards the Irish language;
- the community's ability to speak it;
- usage habits within the community;
- the community's wishes for the language and
- the various supports available for the language locally.

Both quantitative and qualitative research may be necessary:

- Quantitative research relates to statistical data - for example, the number of people who speak Irish in particular age groups. This information is usually collated by using the census of population and by the use of questionnaires.
- Qualitative research involves measuring people's attitude/behaviour. This kind of research is generally done by interviewing people, by organising focus groups and by circulating surveys or questionnaires.
- As part of the research, information should be collated on the various supports available for the Irish language locally and the strengths, weaknesses and shortcomings of those supports.

Before undertaking any research, the range of relevant research already available should be considered.

The language planning criteria set out under the Gaeltacht Act should be used appropriately as a reference point. The criteria are available at Appendix 1.
The following sets out the critical areas on which the criteria are based:

1. the education system, including early education services;
2. childcare, pre-school and family support services, including language support services;
3. services for young people and other age groups;
4. learning opportunities outside of the education system;
5. the business sector;
6. community organisations and cooperatives;
7. the media;
8. public services;
9. physical planning and development;
10. social and recreational services; and
11. use of Irish in the community, the community's attitude towards it and how much the community in general supports the language plan.

Stage 3: Analysing the research and preparing a language plan

Once the research has been completed, an analysis of the research will be needed to establish the measures necessary, as well as the priorities for the language. It is on this evidence-based foundation that a workable plan will be built. The objective of this process is to prepare a language plan:

- that will prioritise the role and wishes of the community and other stakeholders and
- will consist of measures that are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and timelines which set out the implementation over the lifetime of the plan.

A language plan model is available at Appendix 3, which consists of the various aspects which may be worth taking into account when preparing a language plan.
Stage 4: Implementing the language plan

The selected organisation will take the lead in effectively directing the implementation of the language plan and for ensuring that the various objectives are being achieved on a phased basis. This will be done in association with Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge and the other interested stakeholders, as appropriate.

The clearer every aspect of the plan is and how it will be implemented, the more effective it will be. The selected organisation should therefore maintain close oversight on the process on an ongoing basis in order to effectively implement the plan.

Stage 5: Monitoring the implementation of the language plan

Language plans will involve an implementation period of 7 years and the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht will periodically review the implementation of the language plans during that time period. It is intended to carry out an interim review of each language plan which will usually be done in year 3 of its implementation. It is also intended to carry out a final review of each language plan and that will usually be undertaken in year 6. The Department can carry out a review at other times, or more frequently than the periods specified here, if considered necessary to do so. The language planning process is an iterative process that will be renewed at the end of each 7-year implementation cycle.
5. **ROLE OF THE STAKEHOLDERS**

An overview is given in this chapter of the specific role of the following stakeholders in the language planning process:

- the selected organisations and the community;
- the local voluntary organisations and the local business sector;
- the local public sector;
- Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as appropriate; and
- the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

The Gaeltacht Act provided the framework for undertaking the language planning process on a coordinated basis with the various sectors working together. Language plans therefore will be implemented on the basis of cooperation using available resources and in line with what the community’s wishes.
The selected organisations and the community

The organisations selected for language planning purposes under the Act will be responsible for the preparation and implementation of the language plans in association with the community. The organisations selected must be able to organise themselves in such a way as to ensure that the interests of the local community and stakeholders are maintained throughout the entire language planning process. To that end, the selected organisations will need to operate in a way that is representative of the local community throughout the language planning process. The selected organisations will be expected to appropriately manage whatever resources available to them in order to make best use of such resources throughout the process.

Given that the 'bottom up' principle is of particular importance to the language planning process, the selected organisations will need to work in tandem with the local community throughout the process. It will be the responsibility of the local community to actively support the process by:

- choosing Irish as the family and community language;
- advancing the use of Irish in the voluntary organisations of which the community is a part;
- demanding public and/or private services through Irish; and/or
- becoming active within organisation selected to prepare and implement the language plan.
The local voluntary organisations and the local business sector

It is anticipated that the local voluntary organisations will take an active part in the process by supporting the organisations chosen to undertake the process and by encouraging the strengthening of the Irish language within their organisations. The local voluntary organisations will also be actively involved in the preparation and implementation of the language plan particularly insofar as the plan concerns themselves.

As the language planning process assists in building the basic critical mass in favour of the Irish language locally, it is expected, that demand will grow from within the community for the provision of services in Irish from the local business sector. It is also expected that the Irish language will be more visible in the local community among both voluntary organisations and the local business sector.

The local public sector

As far as the ‘top down’ aspect of the process is concerned, local public sector support will form an important aspect of process. The availability of public services locally through Irish forms is specified in the language planning criteria prescribed in the Act, as well as the availability of a specific range of public services, including education, childcare, family support and planning services.

Relevant Government Departments have published implementation plans under the 20-Year Strategy for the Irish Language 2010-2030 setting out the particular measures they intend to implement under the Strategy. In addition, language schemes have been agreed with many public bodies under the Official Languages Act 2003 regarding the services they provide to the public in Irish. It is expected that the public sector will make the appropriate arrangements at local level to support the language planning process, within the available resources, in a way which both underpins the measures being implemented under the Strategy as well as the services provided by public bodies under the Languages Act.
Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as appropriate, will be responsible for selecting organisations to prepare and implement language plans in the various areas. Both organisations will be responsible for the development of a transparent process by which organisations with the appropriate experience and skills will be selected to prepare and implement language plans in the various areas.

They will also be obliged to support the selected organisations in preparing and implementing language plans. This support will primarily be in the form of expertise and advice. In addition, Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, may also provide funding to the selected organisations, providing such resources are available.

Both Údarás na Gaeltachta and Foras na Gaeilge, as appropriate, will be responsible for ensuring that the process is implemented in a coordinated manner in the areas, towns and language networks concerned and that best-practice is shared between the various areas.

The Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht will make the various notices and orders under the Act in the case of the Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas, the Gaeltacht Service Towns and the Irish Language Networks. The Minister is empowered to do this under section 3 of the Act contingent on resources being available and following consultation with other Ministers, as may be appropriate.

The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht will undertake a consultation process regarding the selection of the most appropriate towns to be recognised under the Act as Gaeltacht Service Towns. On foot of that process, the Minister will determine the selection of Gaeltacht Service Towns conditional on language plans having been agreed with the communities of the various towns in accordance with the prescribed language planning criteria.

The Department will assess all language plans submitted to the Minister in the case of the Areas, Towns and Networks in accordance with the language planning criteria prescribed.
under the Act. In addition, the Department will periodically review the implementation of the language plans throughout the process.

Although primary responsibility for assisting the selected organisations in the preparation and implementation of the language plans in the various areas will rest with Údarás na Gaeltachta and Foras na Gaeilge respectively, the Department will have an overarching supervisory role regarding the implementation of the language planning process under the Act.

The Department will also play a role in discussing with public sector stakeholders regarding appropriate arrangements to support the process at local level within available resources. This will be undertaken in the context of the Department’s coordinating role under the 20-Year Strategy for the Irish Language 2010-2030 and through the Department’s function in agreeing language schemes with public bodies under the Official Languages Act 2003.
6. **GAELTACHT ACT AND LANGUAGE PLANNING PROCESS**

The language planning process is set out in Section II of the Gaeltacht Act 2012. The following offers an overview of the proposed approach:

- Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as may be appropriate, will select organisations to prepare language plans in the Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas, in the Gaeltacht Service Towns and in the Irish Language Networks. This will happen over a period of time.
- The selected organisations will have up to 2 years to prepare language plans. Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as may be appropriate, will assist the organisations with the preparation of these plans.
- The purpose of the language plans will be the enhancement of Irish-language use in the areas to which they apply, in so far as it relates to family, community, educational, social, business and public matters.
- Following the assessment of the language plans by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, in line with the language planning criteria prescribed under the Act, the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht will approve the plans under the Act. The area concerned will be given recognition as a Gaeltacht Language Planning Area, as a Gaeltacht Service Town, or as an Irish Language Network, as the case may be.
- Selected organisations will have 7 years to deliver the language plans with assistance from Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as may be appropriate.
- The Department will periodically review the implementation of the plans during the 7-year period.
- The language planning process is an iterative process which will be renewed at the end of each 7-year implementation cycle.
A distinction is drawn under the Act between the range of functions of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and those of the agencies which act under its aegis i.e. Údarás na Gaeltachta and Foras na Gaeilge. The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht is responsible for the assessment, approval and review of language plans in accordance with the prescribed language planning criteria and for assigning official status to the various areas under the Act. Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as appropriate, are responsible under the Act for providing support to organisations in the preparation and implementation of language plans. Both Údarás na Gaeltachta and Foras na Gaeilge, as appropriate, will be responsible for ensuring that the language planning approach is being implemented in a coordinated manner in the areas, towns and networks and that best-practice is shared between the various areas.

It is recognised that the selected organisations will require support in the preparation and implementation of language plans in the various areas. Such support will be available to the selected organisations primarily in the form of expertise and advice from Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as may be appropriate. In addition, Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as may be appropriate, can provide funding to the selected organisations, provided that such resources are available.

The language planning criteria prescribed under section 12 of the Act are available at Appendix 1. These criteria will be used in assessing the preparation and implementation of the language plans in the various areas. Organisations selected to undertake the language planning process should therefore be aware of the criteria when preparing and implementing the language plans.
An overview of the language planning process under the Act as it relates to Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas, Gaeltacht Service Towns and Irish Language Networks is set out below.

**GAELTACHT LANGUAGE PLANNING AREAS**

The Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht has identified 26 Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas for the purposes of the Act. The complete list of areas and electoral divisions associated with them is set out at Appendix 2. Under the Act, the existing Gaeltacht will be redesignated as Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas providing that language plans have been agreed with the communities in the various areas in accordance with the prescribed language planning criteria prescribed. Údarás na Gaeltachta is responsible under the Act for supporting organisations with regard to the preparation and implementation of the language plans in the Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas.

The key steps of process in relation to Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas are set out below:

**Notices regarding the Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas**

- Under section 7 of the Act, the existing Gaeltacht will be redesignated as Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas providing that language plans have been agreed with the communities in the various areas in accordance with the prescribed language planning criteria.

- Under section 7(3) of the Act, the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht will publish a notice in the case of each area stating that it is his intention to designate that area by order as a Gaeltacht Language Planning Area. Specified in the notice will be the electoral divisions concerned, the period organisations will have to apply to Údarás na Gaeltachta to be selected as organisations to undertake the language planning process in the area and the period within which the language plan will be prepared and submitted to the Minister for approval.

- The notices will be published under the Act periodically when organisations in, or adjacent to, the various areas in question are ready to apply to Údarás na Gaeltachta and when Údarás na Gaeltachta in turn is ready to assist the selected organisations in undertaking the language planning process for the given area.
Selection of organisations to undertake the language planning process

- Údarás na Gaeltachta will be responsible for selecting organisations to prepare and implement language plans in Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas. The selected organisations will be based in, or adjacent to, the various areas concerned.
- Údarás na Gaeltachta will be responsible for the development of a transparent process by which organisations with the appropriate experience and skills will be selected to undertake the language planning process in the various areas.
- The organisations will be selected for the entire period of the language planning cycle, i.e. up to 2 years to prepare a plan and 7 years to implement a plan. At the end of that cycle, another application process will be initiated to select organisations for the next cycle.
- If no organisation applies to be selected by Údarás na Gaeltachta, the area concerned can be excluded from the Gaeltacht by Ministerial Order under section 7(5) of the Act.
- If a selected organisation fails to prepare a language plan and if the Minister is of the opinion that there is no reasonable prospect that the organisation can submit such a plan within a reasonable time, the Minister may request Údarás na Gaeltachta to select another organisation that made an application to the Údarás. If no such organisation has applied to the Údarás, the area concerned may be excluded from the Gaeltacht by Ministerial Order under section 7(10) of the Act.

Preparation of language plans

- A period of up to 2 years, from the date on which Údarás na Gaeltachta selects the organisations, will be given to submit language plans to the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht for assessment in accordance with the prescribed language planning criteria.
- Údarás na Gaeltachta will be responsible for providing support to the selected organisations in preparing language plans. When the language plans have been prepared to a standard that is satisfactory to the organisations and Údarás na Gaeltachta, they will be submitted to the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht for approval.
- Under section 7(9) of the Act, the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht may extend the period within which the language plan will be submitted to him for approval.
Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas designated by order

- The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht will assess the language plans submitted to the Minister in accordance with the language planning criteria prescribed under the Act.
- If the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht is satisfied with the standard of the plan submitted to him for approval, the Minister shall make an order under section 7(2) of the Act designating the specified area as a Gaeltacht Language Planning Area.
- If the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht does not approve a language plan submitted to him, and if the Minister is of the opinion that there is no reasonable prospect that an acceptable plan will be submitted, the Minister may request Údarás na Gaeltachta to select another organisation that made an application to the Údarás or if no such organisation has applied to the Údarás, the area concerned may be excluded from the Gaeltacht by Ministerial Order under section 7(13) of the Act.

Implementing language plans

- Following the approval by the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht Affairs of the language plans, the selected organisations will have 7 years to implement the language plans with assistance from Údarás na Gaeltachta.
- Support will be available to the selected organisations primarily in the form of expertise and advice from Údarás na Gaeltachta. In addition, Údarás na Gaeltachta may provide funding to the selected organisations, provided that such resources are available.

Monitoring the implementation of the language plans

- The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht will periodically review the implementation of the plans during the 7 year period. It is intended to carry out an interim review of each language plan and that will usually be done in year 3 of implementation. It is also intended to carry out a final review of each language plan and that will usually be undertaken in year 6 of implementation. The Department retains the right to carry out a review at various periods, or more frequently than the periods specified here, if a need for such is recognised.
- The language planning process is an iterative process which will be renewed at the end of each 7-year implementation cycle. If the language plan is being implemented to
the satisfaction of the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, the language planning process and the application process to Údarás na Gaeltachta to select organisations for the next cycle will recommence.

- If a language plan is not being implemented to the satisfaction of the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, the Minister will formally ask the selected organisation to remedy identified shortcomings in the plan within a specified period of time under section 8(4) of the Act. The Minister may extend the period within which the shortcomings in the plan are remedied under section 8(5) of the Act.

- If the Minister is of the opinion that there is no reasonable prospect that the language plan will be implemented or implemented adequately, the Minister may by order exclude the area concerned from the Gaeltacht, having consulted with Údarás na Gaeltachta under section 8(7) of the Act.
**GAELTACHT SERVICE TOWNS**

Gaeltacht Service Towns are towns in, or adjacent to, Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas which play a significant role in the delivery of public services and leisure, social and commercial amenities to the community of those areas. Under the Act, a town must have a population of at least 1,000, according to the most recent census, to be included as a Gaeltacht Service Town. Recognition under the Act will be given to Gaeltacht Service towns providing that language plans have been agreed with the communities of the various towns in accordance with the prescribed language planning criteria.

Depending on whether the town is situated within a Gaeltacht Language Planning Area or outside of it, Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge are responsible under the Act for supporting organisations in the preparation and implementation of language plans in the Gaeltacht Service Towns. It may be the case that a particular town may be included as part of a Gaeltacht Language Planning Area and also as a Gaeltacht Service Town on its own. In such a case, a language plan would have to be prepared and implemented in the case of the area, including the town, to attain recognition as a Gaeltacht Language Planning Area. In addition, a language plan would have to be prepared and implemented in the case of the town in order to attain recognition as a Gaeltacht Service Town.
Consultation Process
On foot of a consultation process conducted in 2014 the following towns have been selected as possible Gaeltacht Service Towns provided language plans are agreed with the communities of the various towns in accordance with the prescribed language planning criteria under Acht na Gaeltachta.

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<td>Dún Garbhán/Dungarvan</td>
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<tr>
<td>An Mhí</td>
<td>Baile Átha Buí/Athboy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>An Uaimh/Navan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It has been agreed with Údarás na Gaeltachta and Foras na Gaeilge to commence the process with the towns of Letterkenny, Galway City and Daingean Uí Chúis.

The various steps under the language planning process in the case of the Gaeltacht Service Towns are set out below:

**Notices regarding the Gaeltacht Service Towns**
- Under section 9(2) of the Act, the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht will publish a notice in the case of the selected towns stating that it is his intention to designate them by order as Gaeltacht Service Towns. Such notices will specify the period within which organisations may apply to Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as appropriate, to be selected as organisations to undertake the language planning process in the towns concerned, and the period within which language plans will be prepared and submitted to the Minister for approval.
• Under section 9(4) of the Act, the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht may publish a further notice if no organisation has applied under section 9(2) of the Act.

• Notices will be published periodically when organisations are ready to apply to Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as may be appropriate, and when Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge are ready to assist the selected organisations in undertaking the language planning process in the various towns.

Selection of organisations to undertake the language planning process

• Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge will be responsible for selecting organisations to prepare and implement language plans in the Gaeltacht Service Towns, depending on whether the town is situated within a Gaeltacht Language Planning Area or outside of it. The selected organisations will be based in the various towns concerned.

• Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as appropriate, will be responsible for the development of a transparent application process under which organisations with the appropriate experience and skills will be selected to prepare and implement language plans in the various towns.

• The organisations will be selected for the entire period of the language planning cycle, i.e. up to 2 years to prepare a plan and 7 years to implement a plan. At the end of that cycle, another application process will be announced to select organisations for the next cycle.

• If a selected organisation fails to prepare a language plan and if the Minister is of the opinion that there is no reasonable prospect that the organisation can prepare such a plan within a reasonable time, the Minister may request Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as may be appropriate, to select another organisation that made an application to the Údarás or to the Foras or the Minister may publish another notice under section 9(10) of the Act.

Preparation of language plans

• A period of up to 2 years, from the date on which Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as may be appropriate, select the organisations, will be given to submit language plans to the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht for assessment in accordance with the prescribed language planning criteria.
• Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as may be appropriate, will be responsible for supporting the selected organisations in preparing language plans. When the language plans have been prepared to a standard that is satisfactory to the organisations and Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as appropriate, they will be submitted to the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht Affairs for approval.

• Under section 9(9) of the Act, the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht can extend the period within which the language plan will be submitted to him for approval.

Designating Gaeltacht Service Towns by order

• The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht will assess the language plans submitted to the Minister in accordance with the language planning criteria prescribed under the Act.

• If the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht is satisfied with the standard of the plan submitted to him for approval, the Minister shall make an order under section 9(1) of the Act designating the specified town as a Gaeltacht Service Town.

• If the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht does not approve the language plan submitted to him, and if the Minister is of the opinion that there is no reasonable prospect that an acceptable plan will be submitted to him, the Minister may request Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge to select another organisation that made an application to the Údarás or to the Foras or he may publish another notice under section 9(13) of the Act.

Implementing language plans

• Following the approval by the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht of the language plans, the selected organisations will have 7 years to implement the language plans with the assistance of Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as appropriate.

• Support will be available to the selected organisations primarily in the form of expertise and advice from Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as may be appropriate. In addition, Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as may be appropriate, may provide funding to the selected organisations, subject to available resources.
Monitoring the implementation of the language plans

- The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht will periodically review the implementation of the plans during the 7 year period. It is intended to carry out an interim review of each language plan and that will usually be done in year 3 of implementation. It is also intended to carry out a final review of each language plan and that will usually be done in year 6 of implementation. The Department retains the right to carry out a review at various periods, or more frequently than the periods specified here, if a need for such is recognised.

- The language planning process is an iterative process which will be renewed at the end of each 7-year implementation cycle. If the language plan is being implemented to the satisfaction of the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, the language planning process and the application process to Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as may be appropriate, to select organisations for the next cycle of the process will recommence.

- If a language plan is not being implemented to the satisfaction of the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, the Minister will formally ask the selected organisation to remedy identified shortcomings within a specified period of time under section 10(4) of the Act. The Minister may extend the period within which the shortcomings in the plan are remedied under section 10(5) of the Act.

- If the Minister is of the opinion that there is no reasonable prospect that the language plan will be implemented or implemented adequately, the Minister may by order revoke the designation of the town concerned as a Gaeltacht Service Town, having consulted with Údarás na Gaeltachta or Foras na Gaeilge, as may be appropriate, under section 10(7) of the Act.
IRISH LANGUAGE NETWORKS

Irish-Language Networks are areas which have achieved a basic critical mass of community and State support for the Irish language. Recognition under the Act will be given to Irish Language Networks providing that language plans have been agreed with the communities of the various networks in accordance with the prescribed language planning criteria. Foras na Gaeilge is responsible under the Act for supporting organisations with regard to the preparation and implementation of the language plans in the Irish Language Networks.

These steps are to be taken in the following order under the language planning process in the case of the Irish Language Networks:

Selection of organisations to undertake the language planning process

- Foras na Gaeilge will be responsible for selecting organisations to prepare and implement language plans in the Irish Language Networks. The selected organisations will be based in the various networks concerned.
- Foras na Gaeilge will be responsible for the development of a transparent application process under which organisations with the appropriate experience and skills will be selected to undertake the language planning process in the various networks.
- The organisations will be selected for the entire period of the language planning cycle, i.e. up to 2 years to prepare a plan and 7 years to implement a plan. At the end of that cycle, another application process will be announced to select organisations for the next cycle.

Preparation of language plans

- A period of up to 2 years, from the date on which Foras na Gaeilge selects the organisations, will be given to submit language plans to the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht for assessment in accordance with the prescribed language planning criteria.
- Foras na Gaeilge will be responsible for providing support to the selected organisations in preparing language plans. When the language plans have been prepared to a standard that is satisfactory to the organisations and Foras na Gaeilge, they will be submitted to the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht for approval.
Designating Irish Language Networks by order

- The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht will assess the language plans submitted to the Minister in accordance with the language planning criteria prescribed under the Act.
- If the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht is satisfied with the standard of the plan submitted to him for approval, the Minister shall make an order under section 11(1) of the Act designating the specified network as an Irish Language Network.

Implementing language plans

- Following the approval by the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht of the language plans, the selected organisations will have 7 years to implement the language plans with assistance from Foras na Gaeilge.
- Support will be available to the selected organisations primarily in the form of expertise and advice from Foras na Gaeilge. In addition, Foras na Gaeilge may provide funding to the selected organisations, provided that such resources are available.
Monitoring the implementation of the language plans

- The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht will periodically review the implementation of the plans during the 7 year period. It is intended to carry out an interim review of each language plan and that will usually be done in year 3 of implementation. It is also intended to carry out a final review of each language plan and that will usually be done in year 6 of implementation. The Department retains the right to carry out a review at various periods, or more frequently than the periods specified here, if a need for such is recognised.

- The language planning process is an iterative process which will be renewed at the end of each 7-year implementation cycle. If the language plan is being implemented to the satisfaction of the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, the language planning process and the application process to Foras na Gaeilge to select organisations for the next cycle will recommence.

- If a language plan is not being implemented to the satisfaction of the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, the Minister will formally ask the selected organisation to remedy identified shortcomings within a specified period of time under section 11(6) of the Act. The Minister may extend the period within which the shortcomings in the plan are remedied under section 11(7) of the Act.

- If the Minister is of the opinion that there is no reasonable prospect that the language plan will be implemented or implemented adequately, the Minister may by order revoke the designation of the network concerned as an Irish Language Network, having consulted with Foras na Gaeilge under section 11(9) of the Act.
7. Geographic Information System (GIS) – Language Planning Viewer

In order to further support the implementation of the language planning process in the Gaeltacht, the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht have developed a Geographic Information system (GIS) for the Language Planning Process.

The map viewer is available at the below link:
https://dahg.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7090794ee2ca4b53bb785b84c2bd9ad8

With this viewer, information is presented regarding Irish language usage by Gaeltacht Language Planning Area, Gaeltacht Service Town, and Irish Language Network using maps. The data are based on the census results for 2011 and 2016. Provisional information provided by the Department of Education and Skills, and Pobal regarding the location and enrolment of primary schools, secondary schools and early education services in respect of the school year 2016/17 is also presented in map format.

Guidelines on how to use the map viewer are available at the following link:

The census data provided in the viewer are based on the Small Area Population Statistics (SAPS) which are available from the Central Statistics Office at:

1 in co-operation with Údarás na Gaeltachta the Central Statistics Office (CSO), the Department of Education and Skills and Pobal.
Before using this map viewer, it is worth ensuring that you understand Question 14 of the national census form:

http://census.ie/the-census-and-you/each-question-in-detail

The answers given to this series of Irish language questions in the census are used in this map viewer. An overview is given below of the method used to present the answers given to question 14 of the census in SAPS and the Language Planning Viewer.

To answer the question ‘can you speak Irish?’ the respondent had the choice to mark box 1 and/or a box from 2–5.

In SAPS 2016 the answers were sorted into 10 categories (including those who did not answer).

The language Planning Viewer focuses on 5 categories:

- Speaks Irish daily only outside the education system
  - Only Box ‘2’ marked
- Speaks Irish daily within and daily outside the education system.
  - Boxes ‘1’ and ‘2’ marked
- Speaks Irish daily only within the education system.
  - Only box ‘1’ marked, or boxes ‘1’ and ‘5’ marked
- Speaks Irish daily within and occasionally (weekly or less often) outside the education system
  - Box ‘1’ and box ‘3’ or ‘4’ marked
- Speaks Irish weekly only outside the education system
  - Only box ‘3’ marked
8. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND USEFUL LINKS

Contact Details

- The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
  Na Forbacha
  Co. Galway
  ☏ 091 503700
  www.chg.gov.ie

- Údarás na Gaeltachta
  Na Forbacha
  Co. Galway
  ☏ 091 503100
  www.udaras.ie

- Foras na Gaeilge
  63-66 Amiens Street
  Dublin 1
  ☏ 01 6398400
  www.forasnagaelige.ie

Useful links

- Gaeltacht Act 2012

- 20 Year strategy for the Irish Language

- Update Report to the Comprehensive Linguistic Study on the Usage of Irish in the Gaeltacht: 2006-2011

- Central Statistics Office – Census Home Page
  http://www.cso.ie/en/census/

Other Relevant Research


Appendix 1: Language Planning Criteria

Language Planning Criteria for Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas

1. The existence of an organisation, selected by Údarás na Gaeltachta under subsection (6), (10)(a) or (13)(a), as appropriate, of section 7 of the Act of 2012, to prepare and implement the language plan in the relevant area.
2. The proportion of the population for which Irish is the spoken language in the relevant area, having regard to the impact of demographic, economic and social factors on the relevant area.
3. The arrangements specified for the provision of Irish-medium services in the relevant area.
4. The provisions of the Act of 1998 being used, as appropriate, to support the Irish language in the relevant area, having regard in particular to paragraphs (i) and (j) of section 6 of that Act.
5. The availability of Irish-medium primary and post-primary education in the relevant area, in accordance with the policy of the Department of Education and Skills, including the availability of Irish-medium streams in English-medium schools and the teaching of a number of subjects through the Irish language in English-medium schools, as appropriate.
6. The existence of appropriate language policies within the school environment which support the use of the Irish language as a spoken language outside of the education system in the relevant area.
7. The availability of appropriate Irish-medium childcare, pre-school and family support services, including language support services, in the relevant area.
8. The existence of appropriate arrangements in the relevant area to support the use of the Irish language by children from families where Irish is not the spoken language of the home.
9. The existence of appropriate arrangements in the relevant area to support the learning of Irish by pre-school children, with a view to supporting enrolment in Irish-medium primary schools.
10. The availability of appropriate Irish-medium social activities for young people and for other age groups and the existence of appropriate language policies with regard to those activities in the relevant area.
11. The availability of appropriate opportunities in the relevant area to learn and use the Irish language outside of the education system.
12. The degree of usage of the Irish language socially and recreationally in the relevant area.
13. The existence of companies and businesses providing Irish-medium services to the community in the relevant area.
14. The existence of employment and recruitment policies being implemented by companies and businesses in the relevant area in a manner that ensures that they are capable of providing Irish-medium services.
15. The degree of usage of the Irish language by community organisations and co-operatives in the relevant area.
16. The degree of usage of the Irish language by local media in the relevant area.
17. The relevant provisions of the Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2013 being used to support the Irish language in the relevant area.
18. The availability of Irish-medium public services in the relevant area.
19. The degree of support from the public in general in the relevant area for the language plan.
Language Planning Criteria for Gaeltacht Service Towns

1. The existence of an organisation, selected by Údarás na Gaeltachta or by Foras na Gaeilge, as the case may be, under subsection (5), (6), (10)(a) or (13)(a), as appropriate, of section 9 of the Act of 2012 to prepare and implement the language plan in the relevant town.

2. The proportion of the population for which Irish is the spoken language in the relevant town, having regard to the impact of demographic, economic and social factors on the relevant town.

3. The arrangements specified for the provision of Irish-medium services in the relevant town.

4. The provisions of the Act of 1998 being used, as appropriate, to support the Irish language in the relevant town, having regard in particular to paragraphs (i) and (j) of section 6 of that Act.

5. The availability of Irish-medium primary and post-primary education in the relevant town, in accordance with the policy of the Department of Education and Skills, including the availability of Irish-medium streams in English-medium schools and the teaching of a number of subjects through the Irish language in English-medium schools, as appropriate.

6. The existence of appropriate language policies within the school environment which support the use of the Irish language as a spoken language outside of the education system in the relevant town.

7. The availability of appropriate Irish-medium childcare, pre-school and family support services, including language support services, in the relevant town.

8. The availability of appropriate Irish-medium social activities for young people and for other age groups and the existence of appropriate language policies with regard to those activities in the relevant town.

9. The availability of appropriate opportunities in the relevant town to learn and use the Irish language outside of the education system.

10. The degree of usage of the Irish language socially and recreationally in the relevant town.

11. The degree of usage of the Irish language in the business sector in the relevant town.

12. The degree of usage of the Irish language by local media in the relevant town.

13. The relevant provisions of the Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2013 being used to support the Irish language in the relevant town.

14. The availability of Irish-medium public services in the relevant town.

15. The degree of support from the public in general in the relevant town for the language plan.
Language Planning Criteria for Irish Language Networks

1. The existence of an organisation, which Foras na Gaeilge considers to be representative of the community under section 11(3) of the Act of 2012, to prepare and implement the language plan in the relevant community.
2. The proportion of the population for which Irish is the spoken language in the relevant community, having regard to the impact of demographic, economic and social factors on the relevant community.
3. The arrangements specified for the provision of Irish-medium services in the relevant community.
4. The provisions of the Act of 1998 being used, as appropriate, to support the Irish language in the relevant community, having regard in particular to paragraphs (i) and (j) of section 6 of that Act.
5. The availability of Irish-medium primary and post-primary education in the relevant community, in accordance with the policy of the Department of Education and Skills, including the availability of Irish-medium streams in English-medium schools and the teaching of a number of subjects through the Irish language in English-medium schools, as appropriate.
6. The existence of appropriate language policies within the school environment which support the use of the Irish language as a spoken language outside of the education system in the relevant community.
7. The availability of appropriate Irish-medium childcare, pre-school and family support services, including language support services, in the relevant community.
8. The availability of appropriate Irish-medium social activities for young people and for other age groups and the existence of appropriate language policies with regard to those activities in the relevant community.
9. The availability of appropriate opportunities in the relevant community to learn and use the Irish language outside of the education system.
10. The degree of usage of the Irish language socially and recreationally in the relevant community.
11. The degree of usage of the Irish language in the business sector in the relevant community.
12. The degree of usage of the Irish language by local media in the relevant community.
13. The relevant provisions of the Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2013 being used to support the Irish language in the relevant community.
14. The availability of Irish-medium public services in the relevant community.
15. The degree of support from the public in general in the relevant community for the language plan.
## Appendix 2: Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas

List of Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas:

**Co. Donegal**
- 1. North Donegal
- 2. Gaoth Dobhair, Rann na Feirste, Anagaire and Loch an Iúir
- 3. Cloich Chionnaola, Gort an Choice, An Fál Carrach and Machaire Rabhartaigh
- 4. Na Rosa
- 5. Árainn Mhór
- 6. An Ghaeltacht Láir
- 7. South Donegal
- 8. Toraigh

**Co. Mayo.**
- 1. North Mayo
- 2. West Mayo

**Co. Galway**
- 1. Oileáin Árann
- 2. Ceantar na nOileán
- 3. An Cheathrú Rua
- 4. Conamara Láir
- 5. Dúiche Sheoigheach and Tuar Mhic Éadaigh
- 6. Cois Fharraige
- 7. Maigh Cuilinn
- 8. Béarna and Cnoc na Cathrach
- 9. Galway City East
- 10. An tEachréidh

**Co. Kerry**
- 1. West Kerry
- 2. South Kerry

**Co. Cork.**
- 1. Múscraí
- 2. Cléire

**Co. Waterford**
- 1. Na Déise

**Co. Meath**
- 1. Raith Chairn and Baile Ghib
Geographical makeup of the Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas:

**County Donegal**

**North Donegal**

1. The following electoral division areas: Ros Goill.

2. That part of the electoral division area of Caisleán na dTuath which consists of the following townlands: Doire Fada, Droim na Coilleadh and Droim Miasan.

3. That part of the electoral division area of Carraig Airt which consists of the following townlands: Carraig Airt, Gleann Cheo and Gort na Brád.

4. That part of the electoral division area of Na Ceathrú Caoile which consists of the following townlands: Na Mínte.

5. That part of the electoral division area of Cnoc Colbha which consists of the following townlands: Bun na Toinne, An Cheathrú Riabhach, An Leargain Bhreac, Na Mínte Móra and Tír Leadáin.

6. That part of the electoral division area of An Craoslach which consists of the following townlands: Críonaire, Droim na Coradh, Droim Liafala and Droim na Rátha.

7. That part of the electoral division area of Creamhghort which consists of the following townlands: An Charraig, Droim Mhic an Leadra, Duibhleann Mór, Duibhleann Riach and Tulach.

8. That part of the electoral division area of Críoch na Sméar which consists of the following townlands: An Ghlaic and Glasán.

9. That part of the electoral division area of Grianfort which consists of the following townlands: Cionn Droma and Cúl Baic.

10. That part of the electoral division area of Fánaid Thiar which consists of the following townlands: Baile Úi Fhuaruisce, An Caiseal, Dumhaigh Mhór, Fál Aonaosa, An Glaidhbh, Gort na Trá, An Seisioch, An Tonn Bhán, Tulaigh Chonaill and Islands in Bá na Maoile Rua.

11. That part of the electoral division area of Fánaid Thuidh which consists of the following townlands: Baile an Chnoic agus Baile na Brocaí, Baile na Loiste, Baile Mhicheáil, Baile Thiamánín, An Baile Úr, Cionn an Loch, Cúl an Doire, Dumhaigh Bhig, Earra Thíre na Binne, Fán an Bhualtaigh, Machaire Dromann, Machaire Leacht, An Mhoirinn, Pollaid, An Rinn Bhuí, An Rinn Mhóir, Seannach Dubh, Sliabh Chúil an Doire, Tuaim, Tulaigh na Dála and eight small offshore islands.

12. That part of the electoral division area of Loch Caol which consists of the following townlands: An Ghabhail.

13. That part of the electoral division area of An Tearmann which consists of the following townlands: Baile Bun an Abair, An Bearnas lochtarach, An Bearnas
14. That part of the electoral division area of Gartán which consists of the following townland: Allt na dTadgh.

15. That part of the electoral division area of Mín an Lábáin which consists of the following townlands: Ard an Chrainn, Baile an Scáile, Carraig an Tiompáin, Cnoc an Stualaire, Corr na gCuileann, Loch Beara nó An Cruaichín, Droim na bhFuath, Droim Salach, Droim na Searrach, Gleann Domhain Beag, Ionascaíl, Mín an Ghainimh, Na Polláin Dhubha, An Srath Mór and An Srath Mór Uachtarach.

**Gaith Dobhair, Rann na Feirste, Anagaire and Loch an lúir**

1. The following electoral division areas: Machaire Chlochair, Cró Bheithe.

2. That part of the electoral division area of Anagaire which consists of the following townlands: Anagaire, An Coillín Darach, Doire na Mainséar, Sliabh Dhroim na Ceárt, Loch an lúir, Mín Doire na Slua, Mín na Leice and Rann na Feirste.

3. That part of the electoral division area of Dún Lúiche which consists of the following townlands: Alltán, Na Beanna Gorma, Dún Lúiche Íochtarach, Dún Lúiche Uachtarach, Muine Beag, Muine Mór, Sliabh na Cloigne Thuaidh, Mín na gCopóg, Sliabh Dhroim na Luifearnaí, Cró an Lochán and Cró na gCaorach.

4. That part of the electoral division area of Mín an Chladaigh which consists of the following townlands: An Charraig, Bun na Leaca, Cnoc Fola, An Chormhín, An Ghlaisigh, Inis Meáin, Mín an Chladaigh and Inis Oirthir (not including Toraigh).

5. That part of the electoral division area of Gort an Choirce which consists of the following townlands: Glaise Chú.

**Cloich Chionnaola, Gort an Choirce, An Fál Carrach and Machaire Rabhartaigh**

1. That part of the electoral division area of Gort an Choirce which consists of the following townlands: An Ardaidh Bheag, An Ardaidh Mhóir, Baile na Creige, Caoldroim Íochtarach, Caoldroim Uachtarach, Doire Chonaire, Fána Bhuí, Gort an Choirce, Inis Beag, Inis Bó Finne, Machaire Úi Rabhartaigh, Mín Lárach, Oileán Dúiche, Sliabh Mhachaide Úi Rabhartaigh, Sliabh na hArdaidh Móire.

2. That part of the electoral division area of Dún Lúiche which consists of the following townlands: An Bhealtaine Íochtarach, An Bhealtaine Uachtarach, Sliabh na Bealtaine, Calhaem, An Caiseal, Caiseal na gCorr, Prochlaís, An Sruthán Riach and Tulacha Beigile Thiar.

3. That part of the electoral division area of Na Croisbhealaí which consists of the following townlands: Béal an Átha, Baile na Bó, Baile Chonaill, Baile naCreige Thoir, Baile an Easa, Baile an Teampaill, Bun na dTrí Sruthán, An Cheathrú Cheanainn, Cill Ulta, Cluain Báire, DoireÚi Fhríl, Droim na Tine, Barr Dhroim na Tine, Duibhlinn nó Barr Bhaile Chonaill, An Dún Mór, An Fál Carrach, An Glaidhb,
Maigh Ráithe, Mín Chúil an tSeascainn, Ráith, Sliabh Bhaile na Bó, Sliabh Bhaile an Easa, Tulacha Beigile Thoir and offshore islands.

4. That part of the electoral division area of Dún Fionnachaidh which consists of the following townlands: Oirear Dhumhai Beag and Oirear Dhumhai Mór.

Na Rosa

1. The following electoral division areas: Inis Mhic an Doirn, An Clochán Liath, Leitir Mhic an Bhaírd and An Machaire.

2. That part of the electoral division area of Anagaire which consists of the following townlands: An Bhráid, Droim na Ceártá, An Dún Mór, An Carn Buí, An Charraig Fhinn, Gort Lios Saighdean, Mín Doire Ghabhann, Mullach Dearg, Sliabh Mhullach Dearg, Mullach Dubh Thuaidh and Mullach Dubh Théas.

Árainn Mhór

1. The following electoral division areas: Árainn Mhór.

An Ghaeltacht Láir

1. The following electoral division areas: Baile na Finne, An Dúchóraidh, Gleann Léithín and An Ghrafaidh.


3. That part of the electoral division area of An Bhinn Bhán which consists of the following townlands: Cró na Slíabh, Cró an Chaorthainn, Luach na mBróg, Mín Chloiche Sparra and Mín an Ghideis Mhór.


5. That part of the electoral division area of Na Gleannata which consists of the following townlands: Bun Crúbóige, Corra nGriollach, Doire Luacháin, Droim an Locha, Dúbinn, Dúrian, Mín an Fháil, Mín an Leargáin, An Mullán Mór, An Sealgán Beag, An Srath Buí, An Srath Salach and Tulaigh na gCloigeann.

6. That part of the electoral division area of Loch Lascaigh which consists of the following townlands: An tSruthail.
7. That part of the electoral division area of Mín Charraigeach which consists of the following townlands: Carraig an Langáin and An Chomaírce.

8. That part of the electoral division area of Suí Corr which consists of the following townlands: Mín na bPoll and Mín an tSionnaigh.

**South Donegal**

1. The following electoral division areas: Cill Charthaigh, Cill Ghabhlaigh, Cró Chaorach, Gleann Cholm Cille, Inis Caoil and Málainn Bhig.

2. That part of the electoral division area of Ard an Rátha which consists of the following townlands: Carraig an tSléibhe and An Srath Uachtair.

3. That part of the electoral division area of Gleann Gheis which consists of the following townlands: Áighe, Gleann Gheis, Mín na Coilleadh, Mín na Gualanna, Mín na bPoll, Mín na Téighe, Mínte Seisce and Sceadamán.

4. That part of the electoral division area of An Leargaidh Mhór which consists of the following townlands: Baile Mún, Cró na Saileach, An Chruach Bheag, Droim na Fiongaile, Gort Sháile, Leirg an Dachtáin, Leitir, Mín Uí Chanann, Mínte Caoracháin, Mucros, An Rualach, Srath Bruithne Iochtarach, Srath Bruithne Uachtarach, An Tamhnaigh and Iomascan.

5. That part of the electoral division area of Maol Mosóg which consists of the following townlands: Allt na gCapall, An Caiseal, Cnoc na gCapall, Cró an Chaorthainn, Mín an Bhealaigh, Mín Ghiolla Charraighe and Maol Mosóg.

**Toraigh**

1. That part of the electoral division area of Mín an Chladaigh which consists of the following townlands: Toraigh.
County Mayo

North Mayo

1. The following electoral division areas: Béal an Mhuirthead, Cnoc na Lobhar, Cnoc na Ráithe, An Geata Mór Theas, An Geata Mór Thuaidh, Gleann Chaisil, Na Monga, Barr Rúscáí, Béal Deirg Mór, Cnoc an Daimh, Gleann na Muaidhe and Moing na Bó.

2. That part of the electoral division area of Guala Mór in County Mayo which consists of the following townlands: Troiste.

West Mayo

1. The following electoral division areas: Acaill, An Corrán and Dumha Éige.

County Galway

Oileáin Árann

1. The following electoral division area: Árainn.

Ceantar na nOileán

1. The following electoral division areas: Garmna and Leitir Móir.

An Cheathrú Rua

1. The following electoral division areas: An Crompán.

Conamara Láir

1. The following electoral division areas: Camas, Cill Chuimín (Uachtar Ard), An Turlach, Abhainn Ghabhla, An Cnoc Buí and Scainimh.

2. That part of the electoral division area of Maíros in County Galway which consists of the following townlands: Dún Riacháin, An Gharmain, Leitheanach Theas, Lios Uachtair and An Tamhnach Mhór.

3. That part of the electoral division area of Cloch na Rón in County Galway which consists of the following townlands: Inis Ní, Iorras Beag Thiar and Iorras Beag Thoir.

2. That part of the electoral division area of Binn an Choire in County Galway which consists of the following townlands: Bearn na nEang, Barr na nÓrán, Doire Thiar, Doire na bhFlann, Imleach Dhá Rú, Fionasclainn, Gleann Eadhneach, Gleann Chóchan, Leitir Seithe, Leitrí and Log an Tairbh.

3. That part of the electoral division area of Leitir Breacáin in County Galway which consists of the following townlands: Bun an Mheascáin, Cartrún an Phóna, Na Cnocán Bhána, An Doirín, Na Grigíneacha, Na Lí, Muintir Eoghan Lár, Muintir Eoghan Thiar and Muintir Eoghan Thoir.

4. That part of the electoral division area of Partraí in County Mayo which consists of the following townlands: An tSraith.

5. That part of the electoral division area of Tamhnaigh na Graí in County Mayo which consists of the following townlands: Coimín Dhoire an Daimh, Doire an Daimh and Doirín na Scuailbe.

6. That part of the electoral division area of Maigh Cuilinn which consists of the following townlands: Baile Dóite, Ceathrú an Loistreáin, Cluain na Binne, Cnoc an tSeanbhaile, Cill Ráine, Droma Bheag, Gort an Chalaidh, Gort Uí Lochlainn, Liagán and Tulaigh Mhic Aodháin.

1. The following electoral division areas: Cill Chuimín (Gaillimh), Sailearna, Cill Aithnín, An Spidéal and Na Forbacha.

1. The following electoral division areas: Maigh Cuilinn and Sliabh an Aonaigh.

2. That part of the electoral division area of Tulaigh Mhic Aodháin in County Galway which consists of the following townlands: Baile Dóite, Ceathrú an Loistreáin, Cluain na Binne, Cnoc an tSeanbhaile, Cill Ráine, Droma Bheag, Gort an Chalaidh, Gort Uí Lochlainn, Liagán and Tulaigh Mhic Aodháin.


2. That part of the electoral division area of Bearna in urban Galway which consists of the following townlands: An Cheapach, Baile na hAbhann, Baile na mBúrcach, An Léana Bodhar, An Coimín Mór, Baile an Mhóinín Thoir, Cluain na nGabhar (part), Gort na Leice, An Seanbhaile Dubh (part), Seanghorth (part), Bearna (part) and Baile an Mhóinín Thiar.

3. That part of the electoral division area of Cnoc na Cathrach in urban Galway which consists of the following townlands: Cluain na nGabhar (part), An Seanbhaile Dubh (part), Seanghorth (part), Bearna (part) and An Roisín.

**Galway City East**

1. That part of the electoral division area of Baile an Bhriotaigh in urban Galway which consists of the following townlands: An Caisleán Gearr (part) and An Pháirc Mhóir.

2. That part of the electoral division area of An Caisleán Gearr in urban Galway which consists of the following townlands: An Chaisleáin Ghearr (part), Baile an Dúlaigh (part) and Baile an Póill (part).

3. That part of the electoral division area of Mionlach in urban Galway which consists of the following townlands: An Caisleán Gearr (part), Baile an Dúlaigh (part), Baile an Póill (part), Cúil Each, Mionlach and Tír Oileán (part).

4. That part of the electoral division area of San Nioclás in urban Galway which consists of the following townlands: Tír Oileán (part).

**An tEachréidh**

1. The following electoral division areas: Baile Chláir, An Carn Mór and Eanach Dhúin (Galway).

2. That part of the electoral division area of Baile an Teampaill in County Galway which consists of the following townlands: Baile an Gharráin and An Poll Caoin.

3. That part of the electoral division area of Ceathrú an Bhrúnaigh in County Galway which consists of the following townlands: Ceathrú an Bhruúnaigh, An Chluain, Cluain Mhic Céainn (Dún Coillín), Cluain Mhic Céainn (Gaillimh), Coill Uachtar, Gort an Chalaidh, An Pollach Riabhach, An Saighleán and Sceach Liag.

4. That part of the electoral division area of Leacach Beag in County Galway which consists of the following townlands: Cill Torróg and Na Croisíní.

5. That part of the electoral division area of Lisín an Bhéalaigh in County Galway which consists of the following townlands: An Carn Mór Thoir.
County Kerry

West Kerry


2. That part of the electoral division area of An tSráidbhaile in County Kerry which consists of the following townlands: Fearann Dealúigh, Formaoil and An Scragán.

South Kerry

1. The following electoral division areas: Baile an Sceilg, Doire Ianna, Toghroinn Fhíonáin and Máistir Gaoithe.

2. That part of the electoral division area of An Baile Breac which consists of the following townlands: Na Cáintíní, Gort na Meacanaí, Na Grága, Inse Fhearann na gCléireach, Íochtar Cua, An Seanchnoc, Na Tuairínc and Tuairín Uí Dhuinnín.

3. That part of the electoral division area of Na Beathacha in County Kerry which consists of the following townlands: An tOileán Buí

4. That part of the electoral division area of Cathair Dónall in County Kerry which consists of the following townlands: Com na hEorna Thiar, Com na hEorna Thoir, An Gleann Beag, Gort na Cille and An Rath.

5. That part of the electoral division area of Ceannúch in County Kerry which consists of the following townlands: Bun an Doirín, Caol an Phréacháin Thiar, Caol an Phréacháin Thoir, Ceannúch, Cill Mhíc Iarainn Thiar, Cill Mhíc Iarainn Thoir, Cois Chomárach, Com Dhá Stogha, Drom Oireach, An Fhaill Dronnach, An Inse Bhuí and Málainn.

6. That part of the electoral division area of Doire Fhíonáin in County Kerry which consists of the following townlands: Baile Fhinn, Cathair na Gaoithe, Com an tSleabhcaín, Doire Fhíonáin Beag, Doire Fhíonáin Mór, An Fearann Iarthach, An Lóthar, An Rinn Iarthach, An Rinnín and Teamhair.

7. That part of the electoral division area of An tImleach in County Kerry which consists of the following townlands: Ceann Eich, An Chluain, Fearann na hAbhann, An Garraí Glas, Imleach Draighneach, Imleach Lao, An tImleach Mór Thiar, An tImleach Mór Thoir, Imleach na Muc, An Mhaoilinn, Meall na hÓn, Moing Úi Dhúda, An Mhuirióch, An Rinn Rua and An Tulaigh.

8. That part of the electoral division area of Loch Luíoch in County Kerry which consists of the following townlands: An Chathair Bhearnach, Clochbhuaile, Na Comáin and An Gleann Beag.

9. That part of the electoral division area of Trian Iarthach in County Kerry which consists of the following townlands: Formaoil and Sosadh.

County Cork
Múscraí

1. The following electoral division areas: Doire Fhínín, Gort na Tiobratan, An Sliabh Riabhach, Na hUáin and Ceann Droma.

2. That part of the electoral division area of Béal Átha an Ghaorthaidh (Ceantar Tuaithe Dhún Mánmhaí) in County Cork which consists of the following townlands: An Barr Garbh, Caolmhaigh Beag, Caolmhaigh Mór, Carraig na Muc, An Chlochbhuaille, Cornaire, Doire Mhic Coirnín, Doire Úi Riordáin Thuaidh, Doirín na Coise, Doirín Dún Aodha, Gaorthadh na Péice, An Inse Bheag, Inse an Osaidh, Inse idir Dhá Aill, An Inse Mhór, Oileán Eidhneach Thiar, Oileán Eidhneach Thoir and An Tuairín Dubh.


4. That part of the electoral division area of Cill na Martra in County Cork which consists of the following townlands: Baile Úi Bhuaigh, Cathair Céirín, Coill Fuinseann, Inse na hAmhraí, Pruchas, Brachán, Cluain Clod, An Chuil Cham, Drom an Gharraí, Drom Óinigh, An Drom Réidh, Dún Dea-radhairc, An Seantóir, An Cnoc Ruá, Páirc an Oileáin and Seanbhaile Sheáin.

5. That part of the electoral division area of Claonrátha in County Cork which consists of the following townlands: Cathair na Cáithe, Claonráth Theas, Claonráth Thuaidh, Com an Leadhbáin, Doire an Aonaigh, Doire Ghiolla fhithin, Eachros, Gort na Móna, Mill Mearáin and Ráth Ghaiscígh.

Cléire

1. That part of the electoral division area of Cléire in County Cork which consists of the following townlands: Ardghort, Baile Iarthach Theas, Baile Iarthach Thuaidh, Comálaín, Ceathrú na mBairneach, Cnocán an Chéimhthigh, Cill Leice Fórábháin, Coillín, Crathach Thiar, Crathach Thoir, Gleann Meánaigh, Gleann Iarach, Gleann Oirbeach, Gort na Lobhar and Lios Ó Móine.
County Waterford

Na Déise

1. That part of the electoral division area of Baile Mhic Airt in County Waterford which consists of the following townlands: Baile Mhac Airt Íochtarach, Baile na Móna Íochtarach, Baile na Móna Uachtarach, Baile Úi Churrain Theas, Baile Úi Churraoin Thuidh, Baile an tSléibhe Theas, Baile an tSléibhe Thuidh, Baile Threásnáin, An Cnocán Rua, Cruabhaile Íochtarach, Cruabhaile Uachtarach, Loiscréan, Áthán, Baile na hArda, Baile Mhac Airt Uachtarach, Baile an Aicéadaigh, Baile Mhic Giolla Mhuire, Baile an Róid, Cill Cholmáin, Cnoc na gCapall, Fearann an Lóintigh, An Gabhlán, Na Geataí, An Mhóin Fhiúnn, Móin an Ghiúmhais, Ráth Léad and Sliabh an Ghabhláin.


3. That part of the electoral division area of Aird Mhór in County Waterford which consists of the following townlands: An Carraigín, An Chúil Rua, Móin na mBráthar, Móin an Fhia, Móin na mBian, Ré na gCloichín, Ré na gCuilé, Na Roisíní, An Scardán and An Sceathan.

County Meath

Ráth Chairn and Baile Ghib

1. That part of the electoral division area of Cill Bhríde in County Meath which consists of the following townlands: Cill Bhríde and Tulach Chonóg.

2. That part of the electoral division area of Domhnach Phádraig in County Meath which consists of the following townlands: Baile Ghib, Diméin Bhaile Ghib, Ráth an Tancardaigh, Cluain an Ghaill and Domhnach Phádraig.

3. That part of the electoral division area of An Ráth Mhór in County Meath which consists of the following townlands: Ráth Chairn, Driseog, Doire Longáin and Tlachta.

4. That part of the electoral division area of Tailtean in County Meath which consists of the following townlands: Baile Órthaí and Tailtin.

5. That part of the electoral division area of Baile Átha Buí in County Meath which consists of Baile Mhistéil.
THE GAELTACHT ACT 2012

LANGUAGE PLAN MODEL

published by
Údarás na Gaeltachta
in conjunction with the
Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

January 2018
INTRODUCTION

This language plan model is presented in order to facilitate, clarify and simplify the duties associated with the preparation and implementation of a language plan. Although the lead organisations responsible for preparing and implementing language plans will use the model most, it will also be of assistance to each stakeholder - including each area's local community and the public and private sectors in clarifying their part in the process. The implementation of the language planning process will best be achieved through a partnership approach between the community itself and the community organisations - in cooperation with the voluntary, public and private sectors.

This model integrates the 5 steps involved in preparing and implementing a plan, as outlined in the Language Planning Guidelines:

1. STAGE 1. Agreeing the objectives of the language plan
2. STAGE 2. Research the current language situation
3. STAGE 3. Analysing the research and preparing a language plan
4. STAGE 4. Implementing the language plan
5. STAGE 5. Monitoring the implementation of the language plan

The steps outlined above are central to the process and therefore it will be expected that they will be at the centre of plans submitted to the Department for approval by the Minister.

The model includes the following items:

1. The background to the language planning process
2. Details of the lead organisation
3. Overview of the Language Planning Process
4. Overview of the plan’s preparation
5. Research results
6. Measures of the language plan
7. Costs and funding
8. Awareness raising and publicity
9. Application and monitoring

Following the Minister’s approval a period of 7 years will be allowed for the implementation of a language plan. The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht intends to carry out periodic reviews of the implementation of each plan in year 3 and year 6 of its life-cycle, or more often if deemed necessary. It will also be expected, however, that ongoing monitoring will be carried out by the lead organisations themselves on the implementation of their plans during that period.

As this process is implemented on a partnership basis, the approach outlined in this model may be developed further in the future, depending on feedback.

January 2018
ELEMENTS OF THE LANGUAGE PLAN

The expected layout of a language plan is as follows.

1. **THE BACKGROUND TO THE LANGUAGE PLANNING PROCESS**
   - In order to explain the context of the language plan, give an overview of the background to the process and the plan – i.e. The 20 Year Strategy for the Irish Language, The Gaeltacht Act 2012. Approximately half a page will suffice.

2. **DETAILS OF THE LEAD ORGANISATION**
   - Provide general information on the lead organisation and the steering committee dealing with the plan (background, members, experience)
   - Any other relevant information

3. **AN OVERVIEW OF THE LANGUAGE PLAN AREA**
   - Provide a general overview of the current status of the area, including the following fields in particular:
     - topography - for example, is there a mountain separating one part of the area from another, are there good road links between the various parts of the community;
     - population - size, density, details of the population’s age profile. The 2011 and 2016 censuses will suffice;
     - The education system including early education services;
     - childcare, pre-school and family support services, including language support services;
     - services for young people and other age groups;
     - learning opportunities outside of the education system;
     - the business sector;
     - community organisations and cooperatives;
     - the media;
     - public services;
     - planning and physical development;
     - social and recreation services;
     - the status of the Irish language in the area - the views, competence and customs of the community in relation to it.
   - Maps, tables and graphs should be used to help clarify the information being presented.

4. **AN OVERVIEW OF THE PLAN’S PREPARATION**
   - Give a brief description of the importance of the community’s participation in the process.
   - Describe what has been done to foster the community's awareness of, interest in and loyalty to the plan’s preparation to date.
   - Give a description of research carried out as part of the plan’s preparation; the use made of relevant research already available as well as any further research done.
   - Describe the ways in which the above-mentioned research was carried out - when it began and when it concluded, as well as any other relevant information.
   - It is expected that appropriate use will be made of relevant sources of information, including:
- The results of the Central Statistics Office’s 2011 and 2016 censuses;
- the Geographical Information System (GIS) for the language planning process, available on the Department’s website.

5. RESEARCH RESULTS
- The results of the research should be presented under the following headings/themes:
  - the community’s view of the Irish language;
  - the community’s competence in Irish;
  - the customs of the community in relation to using the language;
  - the community’s wishes in relation to it;
  - details of the various language supports available in the area;
  - other results as they relate to the above fields;
  - results and conclusions of the research including results relating to each field, A to K, mentioned in section 7 below.

6. THE MEASURES OF THE LANGUAGE PLAN
- It should be ensured that each measure set out in the plan is specific, measurable, realistic and relevant, and that a time period is specified for its implementation.

- Specify the strategic aim of the plan
- **Measure:** describe the planned work
- **Fields:** Specify the fields – A to K below – which relate to the measure:
- **Specify the language planning criteria which relate to the measure** (see Appendix 1):
- **Further information on the measure:**
  - The aim of the measure:
  - The primary owner of the measure:
  - Stakeholders and their roles:
  - The life-cycle of the measure:
  - Total estimated cost:
  - Estimated annual cost:
  - Source(s) of funding:
  - Specify any challenges related to its implementation:
  - How will those challenges be overcome:
  - How will the implementation of the measure be monitored:
The following areas must be included in the measures, as appropriate:

A. the education system (including early education services);
B. childcare, pre-school and family support services, including language support services;
C. services for young people and other age groups;
D. learning opportunities outside of the education system;
E. the business sector;
F. community organisations and cooperatives;
G. the media;
H. public services;
I. planning and physical development;
J. social and recreation services;
K. The status of the Irish language in the area - the views, competence and customs of the community in relation to it

As an aid, the following is an example of a particular measure:

- **Measure**: establish a youth club
- **Area**: Specify the areas - A to K above - which relate to the measure: C
- **Specify the language planning criteria which relate to the measure**: 6 and 10
- **Further information on the measure**: Establish a youth club for children aged 7–11, as well as a club for children aged 12–14 and one for children aged 15–18. The club is to be run in the Community Hall and will meet weekly. To be registered with Óige na Gaeltachta and support to be sought from them for the training of youth workers and the setting out of an activity plan.
- **The aim of the measure**: To strengthen the Irish language among the young people of the area.
- **The primary owner of the measure**: the lead organisation
- **Stakeholders and their roles**: Muintearas–Óige na Gaeltachta, Foróige (advice on funding), An Comharchumann (meeting space), Gael Linn (various competitions for youth groups).
- **The life-cycle of the measure**: establish the youth club in Year 1, the 12–14 Club in Year 2 and the 15–18 Club in Year 3.
- **Total estimated cost**:
- **Estimated annual cost**:
- **Source(s) of funding**: state the organisation and/or the scheme/initiative, if any.
- **Specify any challenges related to its implementation**:
- **How will those challenges be overcome**:
- **How will the implementation of the measure be monitored**:
7. **COSTS AND FUNDING**
   - Although details must be provided under section 6 above in relation to the estimated cost of each specific measure in the plan as appropriate, the total estimated cost associated with the implementation of all measures should be refined here.
   - The fact that a wide range of schemes, initiatives and measures which may be of relevance are already being provided by the Department, Údarás and other organisations in certain cases should also be included.

8. **AWARENESS RAISING AND PUBLICITY**
   - Specify the ways in which interest in, awareness of and loyalty to the process and the plan will be fostered and shaped in the community over the plan’s life-cycle.

9. **APPLICATION AND MONITORING**
   - Show how the lead organisation will carry out its own monitoring of the plan’s implementation. There is an example of a monitoring model below as an aid.
REVIEW AND MONITORING TEMPLATE

This should be carried out on a regular basis in respect of each specific measure set out in section 6 above. The frequency of the reviews and monitoring will depend on the measure itself. In the case of a measure such as setting up a youth club or organising Irish classes, for instance, more frequent monitoring will be necessary (once per academic term) than for a lobbying measure, for example.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Indicator</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Result (to be filled in at year end)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Notes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SWOT analysis of club’s performance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opportunities</td>
<td>Threats</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Date:  
Signed:

Example of Monitoring Template

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Indicator</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Result (to be filled in at year end)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The number of children attending the youth club</td>
<td>20% of the community under 18 attending by end of year 1</td>
<td>15% of the 7-11 year-olds attending</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes</td>
<td>It is understood that an English-language youth club is operating outside the Gaeltacht and that young people from the area are attending. An amalgamation with the club which would allow their members to attend our events was discussed.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SWOT analysis of club’s performance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
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<tr>
<td>Opportunities</td>
<td>Threats</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Date:  
Signed:
How does the map viewer work?

The main toolbar in the map viewer application contains a number of icons, their purpose and functionality is described in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Icon</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Information" /></td>
<td>This is an information button that provides summary information on Language Planning and the statistical data contained in the map viewer application.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Legend" /></td>
<td>This icon displays a map legend for any active map data layers that are ticked and visible in the main map window.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Layer List" /></td>
<td>This Layer List icon displays the list of available map data layers that can be displayed in the main map window. The available map data layers appear in the side-pane after a user clicks on this tool. Individual data layers can be switched on or off by ticking the box beside the layer name in the side-pane. You can change the transparency of the layer, or move layers up/down the list, by clicking on the three dots after the layer name.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Bookmark" /></td>
<td>The Bookmark icon allows a user to zoom to a pre-defined area of interest. The map viewer is provided with ready-made bookmarks for the individual Gaeltacht areas. Users may also add their own bookmarks for any chosen area defined by the current extent of the main map window.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image" alt="Base Map" /></td>
<td>This is the Base map gallery icon. It allows a user to change the underlying map to a number of Ordnance Survey of Ireland map and aerial photography layer options. The default map is an Ordnance Survey of Ireland Irish language map layer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. What information is presented in the map data layers?

The main map data layers displayed in the map viewer visualise the data collected by the Central Statistics office (CSO) through the national censuses in 2011 and 2016. The statistical data on the level of usage of Irish is presented here in the map data layers by Gaeltacht Language Planning Area, Gaeltacht Service Town, and Irish Language Network.

There are also six data map layers showing location and population information for early education services, primary and post-primary schools, which is provided by Pobal and the Department for Education and Skills and is provisional data for the 2014/2015 school year.

Before using this map viewer, users may find it useful to familiarise themselves with Question 14 on the national census form: http://census.ie/the-census-and-you/each-question-in-detail/.

It is the answers to this set of Irish Language census questions that were visualised in this map viewer. The table below describes the contents and meaning of each of the map data layers displayed in the Language Planning map viewer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Layer Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seirbhísí luathoideachais 2017</td>
<td>Locations of early education services around the country marked as points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seirbhísí luathoideachais 2017- Ceantair Phleanála Teanga</td>
<td>Locations of early education services in the Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas, Gaeltacht Service Towns and Irish Language Networks marked as points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bunscoil 2016/2017 - Ceantair Phleanála Teanga</td>
<td>Locations of primary schools in the Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas, Gaeltacht Service Towns and Irish Language Networks marked as points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bunscoil - Rollú don scoilbhliain 2016/2017</td>
<td>Locations of primary schools around the country marked according to number of students enrolled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iar-bhunscoil 2016/2017 - Ceantair Phleanála Teanga</td>
<td>Locations of post-primary schools in the Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas, Gaeltacht Service Towns and Irish Language Networks marked as points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iar-bhunscoil - Rollú don scoilbhliain 2016/2017</td>
<td>Locations of post-primary schools around the country marked according to number of students enrolled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bailte Seirbhíse Gaeltachta – Cainteoirí Laethúla 2016 (%)</td>
<td>Figures regarding ability and use of Irish in the Gaeltacht Service Towns, colour-coded by percentage of Daily Speakers 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lionraí Gaeilge – Cainteoirí Laethúla 2016 (%)</td>
<td>Figures regarding ability and use of Irish in the Irish Language Networks, colour-coded by percentage of Daily Speakers 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limistéir Phleanála – Cainteoirí Laethúla 2016 (%)</td>
<td>Figures regarding ability and use of Irish in the Gaeltacht Language Planning Areas, colour-coded by percentage of Daily Speakers 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. **How do I navigate the data layers?**

The following method is advised for navigating through the map data layers and querying them.

1. **Turn on the required map data layer**

Click the check box icon next to the required map data layer in the side-pane. This map data layer will now appear in the main map window. (It is recommended that first-time users should uncheck all layers except the one of interest as per the screen shot below. This will mean that there is only one visible and active layer in the map window.)
2. Query the active map data layer

This is done by clicking on the relevant area in the main map window. This will result in a pop-up window appearing with the related census statistical data.

More detailed information is available by clicking on ‘Tuilleadh eolais’ or ‘Íoslódáil tábla le gach eolas’ at the bottom of the pop-up window.
The ‘Tuilleadh eolais’ link opens a new window with a more detailed breakdown of the population by Irish speaking ability and frequency.

A spreadsheet providing a full breakdown of the population of the LPTs, Service Towns or Networks by Irish speaking ability and frequency can be downloaded by clicking on ‘Íoslódáil tábla le gach eolas’.
3. Information regarding schools and early education services

Pobal and the Department of Education and Skills have provided information regarding early education services, primary schools, and post-primary schools.

Information is provided in relation to enrolment, language of instruction, and ethos of the schools, as well as the schools’ email address and a link to the Department of Education’s website.
4. Adjusting the transparency of a layer.

The transparency of any layer can be adjusted. When a layer is made more transparent, the basemap, and the names of towns and villages can be seen underneath.

The transparency of the layers is adjusted as follows:

1. Click on the three dots next to the layer name.
2. Click ‘Transparency’ on the dropdown menu.
3. Move the slider until the geographical features of the basemap are visible.
4. What software was used and why are some words in English?

The software used is ArcGIS Desktop (v. 10.3) and ArcGIS Online. As an out-of-the-box application was used to create the viewer there are certain items of text that are hardcoded into the application and cannot be edited. The reason for some words appearing in English could also have to do with the source of the data in question.

Useful Links


Interactive Mapping Tool (SAPMAP) http://census.cso.ie/sapmap/

Ordnance Survey of Ireland:  http://www.osi.ie

Logainm.ie: http://www.logainm.ie/ga/

An Roinn Cultúir, Oidhreachtta agus Gaeltachta

Eanáir 2018