



SCOTS LEID POLICIE
SCOTS LANGUAGE POLICY

CREATIVE

LAND

SCOT

ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL

HAMISH HENDERSON, THE FLYTIN 'O LIFE AND DAITH

**“QUO LIFE, THE WARLD IS MINE.
THE FLOO'ERS AND TREES,
THEY'RE A' MY AIN.
I AM THE DAY, AND THE SUNSHINE
QUO LIFE, THE WARLD IS MINE.”**

Front cover image: Scott Monument and ferris wheel, Edinburgh.

This page: Children take part in the 'Poetry Olympics', part of the Carry a Poem campaign from Edinburgh UNESCO City of Literature Trust. (Photo Chris Scott).

R.L.
STEVENSON

RON
'MAKAR'
BUTLIN

SCOTS LANGUAGE POLICY

Creative Scotland values and appreciates the important role that Scots language has played, and continues to play, in shaping the cultural landscape of Scotland.

Scots is part of our history and our cultural heritage, with rich oral and written traditions that are still very much alive today in our song, drama, storytelling, filmmaking, broadcasting and literature.

We support the status of Scots, alongside Gaelic and English, as one of the three indigenous languages of Scotland, something that is further strengthened by the Scottish Government's commitment to:

"Develop a national Scots language policy, with increased support for Scots in education, encouragement of a greater profile for Scots in the media, and the establishment of a network of Scots co-ordinators."

Through use of, and engagement with, Scots we not only develop a greater appreciation of Scotland's vibrant linguistic heritage but we also learn to value all the languages of our country; to value diversity; and, ultimately, to enrich our lives and our cultural experiences.

In our 10-year plan, *Unlocking Potential, Embracing Ambition*, we set out our ambition for Scotland's indigenous languages as follows:

- Scotland's diversity and distinctiveness, reflected in our indigenous languages, Gaelic and Scots, and strengthened by an increasing range of other cultural influences, will be visible to the rest of the world.
- People of all ages and from different types of communities from all parts of the country, including language communities such as Gaelic and Scots, can have deep and meaningful engagement with arts and creativity.
- Scotland's national culture in its broad sense is better understood, spanning contemporary practice,

traditional arts in Gaelic and Scots and work inspired by Scotland's languages.

- We will also fulfil our statutory requirements to support and promote the value of indigenous culture and language, such as Gaelic and Scots.

We recognise that Scots language is an integral part of Scotland's identity and cultural life.

There is, however, a need to ensure ambitious and sustainable development of Scots language across the arts, screen and creative industries and Creative Scotland is committed to working with partners in order to:

- Enhance the status of Scots language among people and communities across Scotland.
- Promote the acquisition and development of Scots.
- Encourage the increased use of Scots as a valid and visible means of communication.

SCOTS LEID POLICIE

Creative Scotlan values an appreciates the heid role that the Scots language has played, an gans oan tae pley, in shapin the cultural lanscape o Scotlan.

Scots is pairt o oor historie an oor cultural heritage, wi rich oral an scribevin tradeetions that ur still gey weel alive theday in oor sang, drama, storytellin, the makin o fulms, braidcastin an leeterature.

We uphaud the standin o Scots, alongside Gaelic an English, as wan o the thrie hamewart languages o Scotlan, somethin that is mair heized up bi the Scottish Government's commitment tae:

"Grove a naitional Scots language policie, wi mair support fir Scots in education, gie a lift tae a mair heich profile fir Scots in the media, an the settin up o a network o Scots co-ordinators."

Throu the yuiss o Scots, an wurkin mair closely wi it, we dinnae jist develop mair appreciation o Scotlan's livelie language heritage bit we learn an aw tae value aw the languages o oor kintra; tae gie warth tae diversitie; an in the en, tae mak richer oor wurld an oor cultural lives.

In oor 10-year plan, *Unlocking Potential, Embracing Ambition*, we set oot oor ambition fir Scotlan's hamewart languages as ablow:

- Scotlan's sindry an kenspecklt naitur, reflectit in oor native languages, Gaelic an Scots, an gien mair smeddum bi a growin reenge o ither cultural influences, will be seen bi aw the wurld ower.
- Folk o aw ages an fae different kins o communities fae aw pairts o the kintra, as weel as language communities lik Gaelic an Scots, can hae deep an mensefu tryst wi airts an creativitie.

- Scotlan's naitional culture in its braid mense is mair kent, spannin modrin weys, tradeetional airts in Gaelic an Scots an wurk inspirt bi Scotlan's languages.
- We will fulfil oor statutory requirements an aw tae heize up an push forrit the value o oor hame culture an language, sic as Gaelic an Scots.

We tak tent that the Scots language is an innermaist pairt o Scotlan's identitie an culture.

Howanivver, thir is a need tae ensure forrit-thinkin an ongaun development o Scots language athort the airts, screen an creative industries an Creative Scotlan is commitit tae wurkin wi pairtners tae:

- Heize up the status o Scots language amang folk an toons athort Scotlan.
- Push forrit the taen up an developin o Scots.
- Encourage mair yuiss o Scots as a worthie an weel seen wey tae communicate.

Bonnie PEELY
WALLY

Och Bletter



Books on a bike – Tam Dean Burn taking
Julia Donaldson's storybook collection, including
the Gruffalo in Scots, on a marathon tour of Scotland.
(Photo Johnny MacIauchlan).

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

We will shape our work to support and develop Scots language, to reflect our four key functions of Funding, Advocacy, Development and Influence:

- **Funding:**

Activity in Scots will be encouraged in the work of the individuals and organisations that we fund (including the portfolio of Regularly Funded Organisations and those supported through Open Project Funding and Targeted Funding).

- **Advocacy:**

Scots language will be increasingly represented in Creative Scotland communications. Scots work that we fund will be showcased and promoted through our website, digital communications, Government communications, media engagement, promotional materials and events.

- **Development:**

We will create effective platforms to grow awareness of the value of Scots including activity with our staff, funded organisations and individuals (e.g. Scots awareness sessions; online support materials; case studies; etc.)

- **Influence**

We will work with partner organisations to take every opportunity to raise awareness, understanding and use of Scots both nationally and internationally and to highlight opportunities for further development.

WHIT DIS THIS AW MEAN?

Wi the abuin in mind, we will forder oor wurk tae heize up an develop Scots language, tae show the yuiss o oor fower foremaist functions o Funding, Advocacy Development an Influence:

- **Funding:**

Activitie in Scots will be encouragit in the wurk o the individual folk an organisations that we gie siller tae (includin the portfolio o Regularly Funded Organisations and thae organisations supportit throu Open Project Funding and Targeted Funding).

- **Advocacy:**

Scots language will be mair an mair representit in Creative Scotlan communications, Scots wurk that we gie siller tae will be pit oan view an promotit throu oor wabsite, digital communications, as weel as communications fae the Government, the yuiss o the media, promotional leeterature an events nationallie an internationallie.

- **Development:**

We will bring intae bein feckfu stertin pynts tae mak folk ken mair about the value o Scots includin activitie wi oor staff, fundit organisations an folk (eg. wurkshoaps tae mak folk mair awaur o Scots; oan-line support leeterature; learnin fae examples; etc.)

- **Influence**

We will wurk wi pairtner bodies tae tak ilka opportunitie tae heize up awaurness, kennin about an yaisin Scots baith naitionallie an internationallie an tae highlight opportunities fur mair development.



The KELPIES, Falkirk



Tam O Shanter by Communicado Theatre.
(Photo Colin Hattersley).

SCOTS LANGUAGE POLICY

– ACTION IN 2015/16

Our work to support Scots language will continue to develop in 2015/16 through the expansion of activity aimed at raising awareness, understanding and use of the language.

We will continue to support creative work and projects that in turn support Scots language through our funding programmes.

We currently support many organisations and projects that include a Scots focus such as Celtic Connections, the Scottish Storytelling Centre, TRACS (Traditional Arts & Culture Scotland), Scottish Book Trust, the Scottish Poetry Library and a broad range of individual artists and projects working with Scots including the [Scots Language Centre](#), [Scots Hoose](#) and [Scots Language Radio](#).

In addition to this support, in 2015/16 we will introduce the following initiatives to further enhance our support for Scots:

- **Scots Scriever:**
In partnership with the National Libraries of Scotland, we will jointly fund the creation of the first Scots Scriever – a highly visible individual, rooted in Scots, who will be responsible for working with the cultural sector, communities, and – in particular – schools across Scotland to enhance awareness, understanding and use of Scots. This post will also complement the Scots language policy efforts of Education Scotland, working with their Scots language co-ordinators.
- **Scots language awareness and training:**
We will develop a Scots awareness and training programme for our staff, for organisations that we support and for broader partners across the culture sector. This will be developed in partnership with the Scots Scriever, once they are appointed.

- **Scots language communications and promotion:**
We will increase the use of Scots in our communications, promotions and events and on our website and social media. We will showcase Scots language projects on our website and through other digital communications and events. We will work with partners to showcase the value of Scots in the arts, screen and creative industries, nationally and internationally. We will build support for Scots into our communications plan for 2015/16 and into our Arts Strategy, currently in development.
- **Scots in our operations:**
We will accept any communication, including applications for funding support, in Scots.

SCOTS LEID POLICIE

– PLOYS IN 2015/16

Oor wurk tae uphaud Scots language will gan oan tae develop mair in 2015/16 throu the growin activitie aimit at biggin up awaurness, kennin about an yaise o the language.

We will forder oan uphaudin creative wurk an projecks that gan oan tae uphaud Scots language throu oor fundin acteevities.

We support a wheen o organisations an projecks the nou that add a Scots focus sic as Celtic Connections, The Scottish Storytelling Centre, TRACS (Traditional Arts & Culture Scotland), Scottish Book Trust, the Scottish Poetry Library an a braid reenge o individual makars an projecks wurkin wi Scots includin the [Scots Language Centre](#), [Scots Hoose](#) an [Scots Language Radio](#).

As weel as this support, in 2015/16 we will bring in the followin new ploys tae bigg up mair oor support fur Scots:

- **Scots Scriever:**
In pairtnership wi the Naitional Library o Scotlan, we will fund thegither the foondin o the furst Scots Scriever – somebodie weelkent, rootit in Scots, wi the joab o wurkin wi the cultural sector, folk in toons, an – in parteeicular – the scuils athort Scotlan tae bigg up awaurness, kennin about an yaise o Scots. This joab will gan along wi the Scots language policie wurk o Education Scotlan an aw, in wurkin wi thir Scots language co-ordinators.
- **Scots language kennins an trainin:**
We will develop a Scots kennin an trainin programme for oor staff, for boadies that we support an for braider pairtners athrou the culture communitie. This will be developit in pairtnership wi the Scots Scriever, yince they ur in the joab.
- **Scots language communications an heizin up:**
We will mak mair yaise o Scots in oor communications, promotions an acteevities an oan oor wabsite an social media. We will pit oan view Scots language projecks oan oor website an throu ither digital communications an acteevities. We will wurk wi pairtners tae pit oan show the wurth o Scots in the airts, screen an creative industries, naitionallie an internationallie. We will bigg up support fur Scots intae oor communications ploy fur 2014/15 an intae oor Airts strategies, bein developit the nou.
- **Scots in oor operations:**
We will accep onie communication, as weel as applications fur siller support, in Scots.

For more information on Creative Scotland's Scots Language Policy and our work to support Scots and Gaelic, please contact:

Tae ken mair on Creative Scotlan's Scots Leid Policie an oor wurk tae support Scots an Gaelic, please contact:

Creative Scotland Enquiries Service

E: enquiries@creativescotland.com

T: 0845 603 6000 (phone lines are open from 10-12 noon and 2-4 pm, Monday - Friday, with voicemail outwith these hours).

A note on Scots dialects and the translation of this policy:

There are four main dialect regions of the Scots language, and many other sub-dialects within them, all of which are valid and acceptable means of communication in Scots.

Creative Scotland have chosen to translate and publish these materials in Central Scots, as it is the dialect of Scots spoken, read and/or understood by the largest number of speakers in Scotland, covering geographically the largest population base in Scotland. However, Scots has not been standardised, nor has it been used widely as the language of formal policy so there are many shared Scots/English vocabulary items that have been used by the translator in making this document as widely acceptable as possible.

For more information on the different dialects of Scots, visit the Scots Language Centre website (www.scotslanguage.com) and the Scottish Language Dictionaries website (www.scotsdictionaries.org.uk).

Scots translation by Liz Niven. ln@lizniven.com



Visitors at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery in front of Alexander Moffat's painting 'Poets' Pub' - depicting major Scottish poets and writers of the second half of the 20th century gathered around the central figure of Hugh MacDiarmid.

Copyright Alexander Moffat. (Photo Paul Raeburn).

Equal opportunities

Creative Scotland operates an equal opportunities policy. Our offices have disabled access. Certain publications can be made available in Gaelic, in large print, Braille or audio format. Contact Enquiries on 0845 603 6000. Tynetalk please prefix number with 18001.

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