Language Co-ordinator's Report 2014

Tuarascáil an Chomhordaitheora Teanga 2014

Siobhán Ní Phiotáin

Comharchumann Forbartha Ionad Deirbhile Eachléim, Co. Mhaigh Eo



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Executive Summary

At the beginning of 2014 a language co-ordinator was appointed on a part-time basis to the Kilmore and Belmullet parishes. The primary aim of the language co-ordinator was to officially commence language planning in the area through a pilot scheme. This was the first time ever a person was appointed specifically with the task of co-ordinating and managing language planning in the area.

The following aims were agreed at the beginning of the project:

- To use the current Language Plan 'Recommendations for Language Plan for Ceantar na hEachléime', (Ní Dhúda, 2012) as a guideline to direct the work of the project.
- To use this pilot project to organise, test and improve language planning guidelines and strategies.
- To develop a series of language planning activities and event briefs that adhere to the necessary requirements set out in Acht na Gaeltachta 2012. These activity and event briefs will then be used as required documentation for Roinn na Gaeltachta.
- Identify all different organisations within the two parishes.
- To invite these organisations to participate in the project.
- To meet with them four times a year to discuss the progress of their language plan.
- Identify obstacles to the implementation of their language plan and to discuss their concerns.
- · Provide language training to organisations when required.
- To ensure all documents created for the project are tested, improved and published within the trial period.

The following targets have been reached:

- A voluntary language planning scheme for business and organisations in the designated area. By the end of 2014 there were 25 organisations participating in the pilot scheme.
- · A support structure was put in place for those businesses and organisations taking part in the scheme.
- A clear system of communication has been established between participating organisations and the language co-ordinator. A good working relationship has been established between the language leaders of each organisation/business and the language co-ordinator.
- The organisations and businesses of the scheme now have an increased awareness and understanding of the benefits and advantages of Irish to businesses/organisations of the area.
- A wide selection of resources has been created. Such resources will be of use to other regions in the future.
- A corpus of briefing sheets has been compiled. These briefing sheets contain detailed descriptions of how to organise, run and develop language planning initiatives in a Gaeltacht community. Such documentation could be used as a resource in other Gaeltacht areas.
- An evaluation system has been put in place to monitor the progress of the pilot scheme. Continuous research has been carried out also on how to best implement the pilot scheme.

There are three parts to this report:

- (i) The Report of the Language Co-ordinator 2014. Within this report there is a description of the work of the co-ordinator as well as the organisations that participated in the scheme. There is also a list of recommendations pertaining to the work of the co-ordinator.
- (ii) Guidelines and information sheets based on the following activities and target groups: (i) language scheme with local organisations (ii) Irish amongst the young (iii) continuation of the language from generation to generation (iv) Irish language events in the community.
- (iii) English translation of the report and guidelines.

In relation to the guidelines we must keep the following points in mind always:

- We are given a clear insight into the work of the language co-ordinator during 2014. Language planning co-ordinators or other areas could benefit from this work and valuable resource.
- In spite of the above every case is different and each group must examine its own circumstances before it starts to actively engage in language planning. The examination of the particulars of an area is essential so that the plan for the area is based upon the current status of language and the individual needs of that particular area.
- There is a necessity for advanced research into the current status of the language and the current language needs of the area. Each language planning group must plan in advance of work so that the aims, deadlines and monitoring system is laid out clearly.
- · It is recommended that current opportunities for the use of Irish in the community and opportunities for learning Irish are examined.
- At the same time it is necessary to create attractive incentives for the public to engage in Irish language learning and engage with the opportunities that are available to them. A resourceful approach is necessary to inspire the public and to entice them to avail of the opportunities (for example competitions, presentation of prizes etc)
- It is recommended not to accept that Irish will be spoken 'naturally' during any event/activity. Language facilitators and language leaders must be appointed to successfully manage the use of Irish during an occasion.

Introduction

Introduction

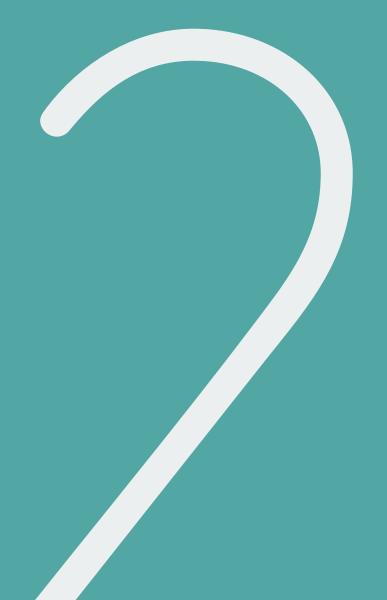
In February 2014, Comharchumann Forbartha Ionad Deirbhile Eachléim appointed a Language Co-ordinator as part of the ongoing language planning efforts being undertaken by the organisation in recent years. The project was funded by Fiontar Comhraic Teo. The Language Co-ordinator was employed three days a week from February to December 2014. The main brief of the co-ordinator was to implement an Irish language pilot scheme with local businesses and organisations in the parishes of Kilmore and Belmullet using the handbook An Ghaeilge: Cen fáth? (Ní Dhúda 2013).

In addition to this, it was agreed that the co-ordinator would focus on various goals set out in both the Eachléim Language Plan and CFID's yearly plan, in relation to increasing the use of Irish among various groups in the community. This report contains information on activities carried out throughout the duration of the scheme as well as observations and recommendations made by the co-ordinator regarding the fulfilment of CFID's goals in relation to the Irish language.

Overview of aims and objectives of the project

- 1. To increase the use of Irish among various organisations in the Parishes of Belmullet and Kilmore.
 - To begin implementing a pilot language scheme among the area's organisations that the co-ordinator would work as a mentor for the various organisations who wish to provide services through Irish and prepare a language plan of their own using the language planning handbook An Ghaeilge: Cén fáth?
- 2. To increase the use of informal Irish among younger generations
 - To strengthen links with local schools in order to support them in increasing the use of informal Irish
 - To examine possibilities with regard to hosting fun events and projects between schools e.g. competitions, concerts etc.
 - To carry out research into the use of Irish in the local youth club and to that end, examine ways in which to increase club membership; increase learning outcomes and ensure a high standard of Irish
- 3. To increase the use of informal Irish within the community
 - To create further opportunities to speak Irish within the community through organising various Irish language events
 - To give suggestions as to how to increase opportunities to speak Irish within the community
- 4. Transmission of the language from generation to generation
 - To add to efforts undertaken by CFID in recent years to preserve the local dialect by examining ways in which to collect and record folklore and language richness of local speakers
 - To examine ways in which to increase Irish language support services for families in the area

Description of Language Planning Initiatives



Description of language Planning Initiatives

1. To increase the use of Irish among organisations in the parishes of Belmullet and Kilmore

Based on various suggestions set out in the Eachléim Language Plan, a handbook was prepared in 2013 which would serve as a support tool for organisations wishing to prepare and implement their own language plan. Throughout the duration of the scheme, the coordinator began working with local organisations, both businesses and public institutions using the handbook as a tool in order to facilitate the language planning process. Information is given below on observations, outcomes and achievements during the period and recommendations for the scheme in the future.

Learning Outcomes and Recommendations

Throughout the period of February – December the coordinator visited a wide range of organisations in the areas of Belmullet and Eachléim. Explanatory sessions were conducted with the appointed language officers in these institutions and a proportion of them are now using the language planning diary. A relationship has been formed with the organisations and support has been provided for them. It is necessary to visit organisations on a quarterly basis in order to discuss the scheme's progress with them. A list of the organisations involved in the project has been provided for CFID by the co-ordinator and is available in the appendix of this report.

Language Resources

Language resources have been created in order to facilitate the use of Irish in organisations. This is only the first step however. It will be necessary to create further resources as time goes on e.g. Irish language courses. The language resources created thus far include useful phrases, vocabulary lists and sample conversations. Examples of those resources can be found in the appendix of this report.

Signage

Many of the scheme participants understand the value and importance of Irish language signage in the business environment. Some of the organisations which belong to a nationwide chain e.g. Eurospar, Gala, Bank of Ireland etc. have committed to providing bilingual signage in the very near future. Inquiries should always be made as to the possibility of providing signage thus making the language as visible as possible in the organisation. Translation services should be provided if necessary.

Bilingual printed materials

Bilingual printed materials e.g. menus, posters, information sheets have been created and are in use in the following organisations: Léim Siar, Brú Chlann Lir and Belmullet Library.

The manager of the Broadhaven Bay Hotel has said that the hotel will provide Irish language / bilingual menus in the future.

Training and mentoring for the Language Co-ordinator

It would greatly benefit the scheme were the Language Co-ordinator to receive training and mentoring from the beginning of the appointment. The following are suggestions for the future:

 Training sessions with a language planning advisor over a number of days on language planning and on providing mentoring for organisations. 8

- The setting of clear, realistic goals for the year with regard to the various areas of language planning within his/her remit
- Providing ongoing mentorship for the language coordinator – monthly meetings to assess the progress of the project and to overcome difficulties which may arise
- A clear concise plan should be agreed between the Co-ordinator, the Language Planning Advisor and the Comharchumann.

Publicity and Marketing of the scheme

- Publicity materials for the scheme should be designed and produced as soon as possible. This will indicate to the public that an organisation is participating in the scheme thereby increasing the chance that a customer will speak the language to a member of the organisation
- The scheme should be given a name e.g. 'Guth Iorrais' nó 'Iorras le Gaeilge'.
- The scheme should also have a slogan or a tagline e.g. An Ghaeilge 'Labhair linn i' nó 'Labhair Gaeilge Linn'.

A Facebook page and Twitter account should be created for the scheme when branding and publicity materials for the scheme have been decided. These should be updated on a regular basis.

Steering Committee

It is recommended that a steering committee be set up for the scheme which would meet on a quarterly basis. The following are suggestions as to possible representatives for the committee: A language planning expert, a representative from the chamber of commerce, a mentor from a similar organisation e.g. Gaillimh le Gaeilge or Gnó Mhaigh Eo, a representative from Comharchumann Forbartha Ionad Deirbhile and the Language Co-ordinator/ director of the scheme.

Funding

Funding is necessary in order to host events involving guest speakers and to employ language planning advisors and teachers / facilitators. It is necessary to have a budget for resources also e.g. badges, posters, handouts, balloons, flags, banners and bunting, stands, social events, seminars for scheme participants (including finger food and wine), competition prizes etc.

The Language Planning Handbook An Ghaeilge: Cén fáth?

The language planning diary is a very valuable resource – it gives focus to the scheme and keeps the attention of the participants focused on attaining set down goals. Though the diary is laid out very clearly with lots of examples and suggestions and although a thorough explanation is given

as to how to use the book, it has been observed that people are hesitant in using it in certain cases. It is recommended that a glossary be provided for the handbook as well as further examples of realistic goals which organisations could potentially draw upon gradually. An explanatory session of an hour or so should also be carried out with the language officer appointed in each organisation to clearly explain the use of the diary. If they understand the simple process of keeping the diary, they are more likely to benefit from it.

Cúrsaí Gaeilge

As the scheme progresses and develops, demand for Irish language training will possibly increase based on the needs of the participants. A course has been developed by the co-ordinator aimed at tourist organisations for example that would be suitable for staff of hotels, bed and breakfasts and tourist offices etc. If creating such a course in the future, it will be necessary to conduct a needs analysis with the organisation directors to ascertain, the level of Irish and specialised language on which the course will be based.

Lón le Gaeilge

An Irish language lunch was organised in the Western Strands Hotel in the month of September 2014. The aim of this event was for representatives from different organisations participating in the scheme to meet once a month. It is recommended that it be held once a month or so in the future. The event should be open to the public but staff of participating organisations in particular should be encouraged to attend. It will be an excellent opportunity to create a network among the scheme participants. It is necessary for a co-ordinator or another representative to be present at the event in order to welcome people and make sure they are at ease.

Attracting new businesses to the scheme

(i) Illustrating the importance of Irish in the context of cultural tourism.

There is much good will towards the Irish Language around the Belmullet area. Though many understand the value of the language, it is often difficult to inspire people to action. It has been observed that more concrete evidence is needed of Irish being a very important aspect of cultural tourism and of the worthwhileness of investing in it. It is recommended that such evidence be obtained through conducting surveys among visitors to the area or to Ireland in general. In this way, the marketing opportunities of having Irish as a part of a business are highlighted.

It would be worth organising a seminar or similar event a few times a year aimed at managers / directors of businesses in the area, both those already participating in the scheme as well as potential participants. A drinks / finger food reception could be provided as part of this. This opportunity could be taken to do a small presentation on the scheme or provide a lecture by a guest speaker from a similar campaign e.g. Gaillimh le Gaeilge, Gnó Mhaigh Eo, or Conradh na Gaeilge. An event like this could serve to maintain enthusiasm among participants in the scheme and encourage new organisations to participate in it. It would also be a good opportunity to disseminate information regarding scheme events and news e.g. competitions, as well as information on resources available which could facilitate use of Trish in businesses.

2. Increasing the use of Irish among the younger generations

A. Campaign with schools

Ionad Deirbhile recognises the importance of strengthening links with the primary and secondary schools in the area as part of the language planning process. Events and projects have been undertaken by the organisation in conjunction with local schools in the past number of years aimed at creating fun opportunities to speak the language as well as cultivating a sense of pride and identity around the language. Information is given below with regard to other events and projects which could be undertaken in the future.

As is the case in other Gaeltacht areas around the country, there are many challenges facing some schools around the two parishes in their efforts to retain their status as Gaeltacht schools. One of the challenges facing Gaeltacht schools, in many cases, is the lack of Irish being spoken in the home. It is vitally important to provide support for schools who wish to strengthen the use of Irish between the school and the home in order to cultivate a positive attitude towards the language as well as confidence and capability among parents in using it.

Learning outcomes and suggestions

Throughout the duration of the scheme the co-ordinator visited schools in the Parishes of Kilmore and Belmullet, both primary and secondary. The teachers in those schools spoke of achievements, the challenges and the possibilities with regard to increasing the use of informal Irish among children. The schools within the two parishes are, on the whole, very open to Irish language projects especially those relating to drama, writing and art. However as schools are under immense pressure currently with regard to time and human resources, it is vitally important that schools be given as much support as possible in undertaking projects / activities mentioned below and outlined in the briefing sheets accompanying this report.

Belmullet Library

Belmullet Library is committed to providing support for schools in relation to the Irish language. Throughout the duration of the scheme, the library hosted storytelling sessions and writing workshops through the medium of Irish. The library is currently using some Irish language resources such as a book review sheet through Irish and they will add to these resources over time. They welcome suggestions from schools with regard to events which could be conducted in the future. Schools should be encouraged to use this valuable resource in the future for events such as storytelling and creative writing through Irish.

Writing Project in conjunction with Erris Eye

Writing is undoubtedly a very important part of language development. To this end a project was initiated in conjunction with Erris Eye magazine with the aim of encouraging young people to write and publish material in Irish. Several pieces of writing by young people were published in the September and October issues of the magazine. This project could be easily continued into the future.

Games session with parents

One school suggested that board games sessions through Irish with parents be organised from time to time. This is a very good idea and one which could strengthen the Irish language link between school and home. It is recommended that a set of games be bought to initiate the scheme. The co-ordinator or another appointed person could possibly conduct a training session with parents with regard to playing the board games in the classroom and provide necessary language supports.

Irish Language concert

Another worthwhile endeavour which could help strengthen the Irish language link between school and home would be to organise a school concert conducted solely through the medium of Irish, as part of Seachtain na Gaeilge each year. Such a concert is organised by St Brendan's Primary School each year with a St. Patrick's Day theme. This template could be adopted in other schools with support from the Language Co-ordinator or another representative. Drama, poetry, dance, music, song and story through Irish could all form part of such an event.

Schools Drama Festival

It is widely accepted that drama is a very effective method of encouraging use of the language as well as in developing language richness and fluency.

As there is a first class facility available in Belmullet town i.e. Áras Inis Gluaire, this opportunity should be taken to host drama events through Irish at least once a year like that of An Fhéile Scoildrámaíochta- an event hosted nationwide on a yearly basis. The Cumann Scoildrámaíochta are committed to providing support for schools and organisations who wish to run festivals in the future.

Debating Competition

Some teachers suggested that a debating competition be organised between the schools involving the secondary school pupils and possibly the senior classes of primary schools. Debating is another very effective way of helping develop language skills as well as confidence in speaking.

B. Club Óige na Cille Móire

One of the main aims set out in the Eachléim Language Plan is to increase the use of daily informal Irish. Among the recommendations set out in the plan is to increase membership of the Kilmore Youth Club or Club Óige na Cille Móire.

The Kilmore Youth Club was founded in 2007 and is undoubtedly a very important part of promoting the Irish language outside the education system. Currently two evenings a week are assigned to children of the primary school age group and two evenings are assigned to teenagers. The club has a membership of 65.

The club is currently being run on a voluntary basis and the staff is made up of those participating in local employment schemes as well as UISCE staff members. Despite the fact that the club is being run on very few resources it provides a very good, much needed service for local children. The co-ordinator attended the club on a weekly basis during the period February – April to assess the needs and possibilities relating to the club.

Learning Outcomes and Recommendations

Increase the number of team leaders / supervisors. One factor that would greatly add to the effectiveness and smooth running of the club would be to make a greater number of team leaders, supervisors and parents available to run the club. To achieve this, it would be necessary to embark on a recruitment campaign by placing advertisements and posters in parish newsletters, on Facebook, websites etc.

Training for Youth Club Staff

Unquestionably, youth club staff should have a good standard of Irish but should be provided with a certain amount of training in order to facilitate effective communication with club members. A course like the one for cinnirí held in UISCE every year could be provided for club leaders. Such a training course should be specially designed towards the activities of the club and offered once a year to those interested in becoming volunteers.

Set down schedule of events

For the purposes of planning and preparation, it is highly recommended that a schedule of events be set down for the year. This would ensure not only a wide variety of activities but would also increase the standard learning outcomes of their members. There are various people in the area who could provide workshops through Irish for children such as drama, dance, art etc. It would be worthwhile inviting such people to give workshops from time to time.

Increasing the number of club members

It is recommended that a member of the club committee visit schools in the area at the beginning of term to give information to children about the club, its activities and schedule. Also posters and flyers with such information could be circulated as well as advertising on Facebook and Ionad Deirbhile's website.

Recording club events

It is recommended that a website / Facebook page be set up for the club on which samples of its events could be illustrated e.g. football, art exhibitions etc. Written articles, podcasts, sound files, photos or videos of members speaking about events could be posted on the site. A record of the clubs events throughout the year should be kept i.e. photographs and or video.

The clubs equipment and resources

It is recommended that the clubs resources be increased gradually as funding becomes available. Here are some suggestions as to possible equipment which could be acquired:

- Technical equipment e.g. video camera, tripod, a camera and a sound recorder, a laptop
- · Sports equipment
- Art resources art materials, aprons etc.

Funding and finance

Many of the activities mentioned above are conditional on the availability of funds. It is necessary to appoint someone who would be happy to source funding for various projects, organise fundraising campaigns etc. Decisions should be made at the start of each club year in relation to the amount of funding available for various projects and make plans accordingly.

3. Increasing the use of informal Irish within the community

Ionad Deirbhile is committed to increasing the use of informal Irish locally among the various age groups, including adults. The heritage centre is available as a drop-in centre for adults three nights a week. Events are held as often as possible which provide the community with an opportunity to speak Irish socially. An insight is given below into the events which were held in the community throughout the duration of the scheme and suggestions as to other events which could be hosted on a trial basis in the future.

Learning outcomes and recommendations

Weekend Festival

The Tionóil Gaeltachta weekend festival was hosted by Ionad Deirbhile in conjunction with Áras Inis Gluaire in July 2014 and was a huge success. Many members of the local community came out to support the event and to welcome the Tionól's guests to the area. It showed that the area has the resources and the facilities to attract groups and events such as these to the area. Events like Tionól have a particular effect on the community in awakening people's interest in the language and in their own particular dialect. In addition to this, they serve to create a link with the

native community and speakers from other Gaeltacht regions/ Irish speaking communities. It would be worthwhile running another weekend festival like Tionól in the future. Such a weekend could be aimed at groups such as branches of Conradh na Gaeilge in Connaught as well as parent and child groups, Irish language societies and conversation circles etc. If running a festival such as this in the future every effort should be made to make sure the local community are involved in it as much as possible.

Conversation Circles

The conversation circle is a very simple, effective way of creating an opportunity to speak Irish in the community. A weekly conversation circle was held from mid-September in the Broad Haven Bay Hotel on Thursday nights from 8-9 p.m. The attendance was good initially but as the weeks progressed the attendance fell. It is understood that the circle was no longer in operation at the time of writing of this report. This is an indication of the importance of organising and managing the event on an ongoing basis. Although the event is meant to be informal and selfsustaining, a certain amount of planning is needed in order to ensure that the conversation circle takes place on an ongoing basis. It is recommended that the event be publicised on an ongoing basis in local publications and that a schedule be made out which would ensure that at least one person from CFID would attend the event on a weekly basis.

Sean-nós dancing workshop

A sean-nós dancing workshop through Irish was held during Féile na hEachléime. The event was well attended and positive feedback was received in relation to it. Sean-nós dancing has become very popular in recent years and is indeed a huge part of the Irish language culture in the country particularly at Irish language events. As a sean-nós dancing teacher is now living and working in the area, the opportunity should be taken to develop the tradition locally by offering sean-nós dancing workshops / classes on a regular basis.

Irish language drama

The Irish language drama group Aisteoirí Chorr na Móna came to Eachléim in October to do a short drama and two-hander dialogue. Seán ó Morónaigh, The Director of Chomhlachas Náisiúnta Drámaíochta was invited also to meet the members of the local drama group in order to encourage them to do a drama in the future. Kilmore Drama Group are very much in favour of such a project and Comhlachas have pledged their support to the group in staging an Irish language drama in the future. Below are events not held throughout the duration of the scheme but which could be held on a trial basis in the future.

Cards and Bingo through Irish

Events such as bingo and cards are very popular in the area. It is recommended that efforts be made to conduct such events through the medium of Irish or bilingually where possible. Many people who attend such events are fluent in Irish. Arrangements could potentially be made with these people for a card game or bingo to be held through Irish once a month / a few times a year / during Seachtain na Gaeilge.

Irish Language Book Club

It would be very easy to set up a book club – it is a project which could be undertaken at a relatively low cost. The website Club leabhar.com offer support and suggestions for setting up a book club and the site also recommends a 'Book of the Month'.

Irish language social club

Another potential for increasing the use of informal Irish would be to create a social club for those wishing to practise their Irish through fun activities through Irish on a regular basis e.g. bowling, workshops, walks, trips etc. The club would potentially meet on a monthly / fortnightly basis and suggestions for activities should come from the members themselves where possible.

4. Transmission of the language from generation to generation

A. Preservation of the dialect and language richness of the area

Ionad Deirbhile understand the importance of preserving the dialect, language richness and folklore of the area for future generations. Efforts have been made in recent years to foster an interest in the local dialect and folklore. To this end, efforts were made throughout the duration of the scheme to strengthen links between Ionad Deirbhile and people in the community who possess great dialectical richness, history and folklore and to encourage them to share and record it so that it will be available for future generations.

Learning outcomes and recommendations

Below information is given with regard to events held throughout the duration of the scheme as well as recommendations for future regarding collection of folklore and preservation of the local dialect.

Conversation Circle for older people - recording folklore

A conversation circle was held in April for older people in the area. A particular emphasis was placed on sharing local lore and traditions. The event was well attended and illustrated the richness of language possessed by people in the area. A recording was made of one person singing in the group. It would be worthwhile organising more events like this in the future or even to carry out a project in which a person from the area would facilitate a session on local lore and record contributions made by people. The facilitator would preferably be knowledgeable on the local dialect and have an interest in folklore, history and local traditions.

Evening of entertainment in Turas Siar during the Tionól Gaeltachta

This event which included traditional music, singing storytelling, poetry and dance was organised in conjunction with Áras Inis Gluaire. Many local people, both young and old, attended the event. Again, this event was a great insight into the rich tradition of song, poetry and story in Erris. Erris FM made a recording of the event and will make it available to CFID in the future. Events such as this should be held on a regular basis in the future.

Collecting folklore

Below are some suggestions regarding the collecting of folklore:

- A recording device should be available in the Heritage Centre at all times and used as often as possible. The public should be encouraged to share their lore with the community and to come to Ionad Deirbhile as often as possible or to make a recording from their home.
- Songs, stories and lore collected should be made available on Ionad Deibhile's website. This could possibly encourage others to share stories and make recordings.
- A person could be appointed to attend to the gathering and recording folklore in the area. The person should be fluent in Irish and have a good knowledge of the local dialect.

A course on the Irish of Eachléim

An course or workshop on the Irish of Eachléim should be developed and offered on a regular basis. This could awaken

an interest in the local dialect and encourage people to use the native dialect in speaking. When putting a course together, it is recommended that advice be sought from the Scoil Acla committee of Achill who offer a course on the Irish of Achill as part of its summer school each year.

B. Language Support Services for Families

One of Ionad Deirbhile's longterm aims is to increase the amount and standard of Irish language support services for families locally. Efforts are made to hold social events for families as often as possible e.g. Christmas Family Fun Day, Summer fun day etc. Information is given below with regard to the events held throughout the duration of the scheme as well as some suggestions with regard to activities which could be provided in the future to support families raising children with the Irish language.

Learning Outcomes and recommendations

Events for families

Throughout the duration of the scheme, various events were hosted aimed at families raising children with Irish e.g. An Phicnic Mhór during the month of May and a fun day for families during Féile na hEachléimé Festival in the month of August. Among the activities included in these events were face painting, circle games, treasure hunts, storytelling etc.

Storytelling session

A storytelling session was also held as part of the fun day during the Féile na hEachléimé Festival. The children who attended enjoyed the event immensely and very positive feedback was received from parents in relation to it. Such an event is an effective yet inexpensive and relatively easy to organise. It is recommended that further storytelling sessions be organised in the future.

Irish language Course for parents

An Irish language course for parents has been created by the Language Co-ordinator. It is a course aimed at those who have learned Irish in school but who are somewhat out of practice. In this course, there is a focus on language which is used with children throughout the course of the day. The aim of the course is to help give parents confidence in speaking more Irish to their children. This Irish language course could be held over a five week period or as a one-day course.

Parent's Club and Committee

Efforts should be made to set up a parents' group e.g.

Tuismitheoirí na hEachléime / na Cille Móire / Bhéal an Mhuirthead etc. in partnership with the network of parents in the area raising their children with Irish. Such a group could organise events like those mentioned above with support from the Language Co-ordinator. They could also create links with other similar groups outside of the area and help host weekend events through Irish for families.

Conclusion

From observations made throughout the duration of the Irish language pilot scheme involving local organisations, it is clear that there is a strong will to co-operate among participants. However, it is a scheme that will require investment of time and commitment from organisations and progress will be seen gradually. In order to increase the number of participants, it is extremely important to impress on managers and directors the advantages of having Irish as part of the business and to highlight how they will be assisted in their endeavours to do so by CFID.

Many suggestions are given with regard to the ways in which Irish be promoted among members of the community e.g. schools, families, young people, adults and older people. More often than not, human resources are what is required in order to initiate and operate projects. It is necessary to illustrate to different groups within the community that they can be part of the language planning process through supporting them in undertaking practical, inexpensive projects that would greatly add to the use of Irish in the area.

To that end, a number of practical briefing sheets have been prepared with regard to many suggestions made and are available in the appendix of this report. The instructions contained therein are set out in a clear, step-by step manner.

Overall, having a specially appointed person in the area whose responsibility is to promote the Irish language has proved a worthwhile endeavour. It is hoped that the work conducted throughout the duration of the scheme and the recommendations arising from it will benefit the language planning process in the two parishes in the future.

Sinhhán Patten

December 2014

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Appendix



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Appendix 1: List of organisations which took part in 2014

Seo iad na heagraíochtaí atá páirteach sa scéim go dtí seo:

Eachléim

- Ionad Deirbhile
- Úna's
- Léim Siar
- Brú Chlann Lir
- An Sean Siopa

- Oifig an Phoist
- Teach John Joe
- Garáiste Uí Mhaolábháil
- Club óige na Cille Móire

Béal an Mhuirthead

- Eurospar
- Gala
- An Leabharlann
- Teach Tábhairne O'D's
- Builín Blasta
- Gaol Siar
- An Banc (Banc na hÉireann)
- Oifig an Phoist

- Óstán Chuan an Inbhir
- Óstán an Western Strands
- T&T clothing
- Áras Inis Gluaire
- Erris Fruit and Veg
- Cois Cuan
- Erris Beo

Appendix 2: Briefing sheets

- 1. Language planning sheme with local organisations
- 2. Increasing the use of informal Irish among the younger generation
- 3. Transmitting the Irish language from generation to generation
- 4. Irish language events in the community

01. Language planning scheme with local organisations

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1.01 Attracting n	g new organisations to the scheme and the induction process		
Project title	Attracting new organisations to the scheme and the induction process		
Aim	• To increase the daily use of Irish in the Parishes of Kilmore and Belmullet in conjunction with members of the local community and local organisations.		
Objectives	 To attract new organisations to take part in the scheme To carry out an induction with new participants in the scheme 		
Participants	 The manager or Irish Language Officer in an organisation; organisation sta The Language Co-ordinator or an appointed representative 	ffmembers	
Organiser	Ionad Deirbhile		
To do	Preplanning	Person responsible:	
	 Prepare a bilingual information sheet or flyer outlining the main points of the scheme, the advantages relating to it, the ways in which organisations can use more Irish etc. This information sheet should be based on information contained in the booklet An Ghaeilge: Cén fáth? Information contained in the sheet should be as simple, accurate and clear as possible so that it may be read and understood without any difficulty. 		
	 Make an appointment to meet with the director or manager of the organisation. 		
	 Visit 1 Meet with the manager in order to give them some basic information about the scheme and the process involved. If the organisation is a business, emphasise the advantages relating to Irish in the context of marketing. Show them survey results or other evidence which illustrates the importance of Irish in the context of cultural tourism. Mention how many businesses are already participating in the scheme. If the organisation is community based, explain that the scheme is part of the language planning efforts underway in order to help develop Irish as a community language in Erris and the way in which these efforts will benefit the community as a whole. Leave a copy of the information sheet with the manager or director of the organistation, ask him/ her to read it and tell them that you will contact them within a week to discuss it further and to determine whether or not they are interested in taking part in it. Call the organisation after a week to determine whether or not they are 		
	 interested in taking part in the scheme. If so, organise a date and a time for the induction session. The session will take approximately an hour and fifteen minutes. Inform them that you will be sending them a language planning handbook / diary and that you would like those attending the meeting to have read the diary before the induction session. Ask the manager to make a decision as to who will be the language officer i.e. the person who will be filling in the diary and giving feedback to the Co-ordinator every three months. Give permission for other staff members to attend the session if they wish to do so. 		
	 Send a copy of the handbook An Ghaeilge: Cén fáth? and it's accompanying glossary to the organisation and explain that this document will serve as a planning tool. 		
	 Request that the document be read and a note be made of any words or terms that are not understood. Inform them that everything will be explained in full at the induction session. 		
	Visit 2: Induction with the language officer		
	 Prepare the following before the session a list of sample goals for the organisation, a list of useful phrases for the organisation any other supports that will assist them in filling in the diary from month to month 		

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To do	Preplanning	Person responsible:
	 Preplanning Prepare a PowerPoint Presentation on the scheme. Include the following: – the advantages relating to participating in the scheme – the ways in which the organisation can increase the amount of Irish used – the roles of different people in the organisation can play in the process – the supports which will be available to them as part of the process – the social opportunities involved e.g. seminars, Irish language lunch meetings etc. Explain the necessity of an Irish language plan for the organisation in order to ensure a structured, organised, participative process. As part of the presentation, illustrate the way in which the language diary should be used. Go through the handbook carefully. Show the marketing resources available e.g. stickers, posters etc. and the ways in which to best use them. Draw their attention towards the handbook glossary and the sample goals and the sample goals outlined for the organisation. Show them sample written materials that could be used in the organisation e.g. signs, posters etc. Ask them to consider some realistic goals for the organisation for the first three months. Set out the goals with them for the term (Months 1, 2 and 3) Discuss the goals with them and the responsibilities of various individuals, the resources needed etc. Ask them to record those details in the diary. When the goals have been set for the term or month, help the participants choose suitable phrases and allow them to write them in the diary The planning process (i.e filling in the diary) in general should only take a short amount of time e.g. 30 minutes each month. The person filling in the diary should agree the goals with other staff members beforehand. When the goals for the month have been decided and the useful phrases chosen they should be copied and placed in a location in which they will be seen by all staff members. Draw the participant's attention to the feedback section in the ent	Person responsible:
Resources needed	Item	To be organised by:
	 A flyer or information sheet which illustrates the main points of the scheme. A laptop A PowerPoint presentation which provides information on the scheme, the language planning diary, roles of various individuals with regards to the scheme etc. The language planning handbook, an accompanying handbook, a list sample goals for the organisation A list of useful phrases for the organisation, sample printed materials in Irish e.g. signs, labels, flyers, headed paper, information sheets for hotel rooms etc. 	
Costs	Item	Amount
	Printing & design costs	
Funding sources	Item	Amount
Notes		
Results and feedback		

1.02 Providing continuous support for scheme participants			
Project title	Providing continuous support for scheme participants		
Aim	To help an organisation prepare a language plan		
Objectives	 To visit an organisation and see progress made by it with regard to the language plan, to receive feedback with regard to plan implementation, solve problems and make suggestions To collect information with regard to progress of the scheme in different organisations 		
Particpants	 The Manager / Language officer in the organisation The Language Co-ordinator The Language Planning Advisor Translator 		
Organiser	Ionad Deirbhile		
To do	Steps	Person responsible:	
	 Contact the language officer in the organisation and organise a time and place for the meeting Prepare a list of questions to ask of the language officer with regard to the scheme - achievements, challenges etc. Meet with officer and get an update from them regarding the implementation of the scheme in the organisation. Make a note of this feedback Discuss resources, materials or supports needed e.g. signs, flyers, phrase lists, training for staff etc. Discuss the feedback received from the language officer with the Langauge Planning Advisor. Address any issues which may have arisen. Provide any resources, training etc. which may be needed by the organisation. Distribute feedback survey through Survey Monkey to obtain opinions on implementation of the scheme. 		
Resources and services needed	Item	To be organised by:	
	 Language resources for the organisation as needed Translation services if required 		
Moltaí maidir le haistritheoirí	Name	Contact	
Costais	Item	Amount	
	Printing costsTranslators fees (for language resources)		
Sources of Funding	Item	Amount	
Notes			
Results and feedback			

1.03 Information se	minar for scheme participants		
Project title	Information seminar for scheme participants		
Aims	 To strengthen the network of organisations involved in the scheme and encourage new organisations to take part in it Increase language awareness among scheme participants To remind organisation managers the value of bilingualism as a unique selling point. To provide information with regard to effective methods of promoting Irish in an organisation To keep organisations informed with regard to scheme events e.g. competitions, resources, opportunities to speak Irish, classes etc. 		
Objectives	 To organise an event twice a year which will give scheme participants a cha To organise a lecture or lecture as part of the occasion 	ance to meet socially	
Participants	Representatives (e.g. managers, language officers, staff members) from va The Language Co-ordinator, The Language Planning Advisor, language plann		
Organiser	Ionad Deirbhile		
Advertising	 Facebook Page and Ionad Deirbhile website Erris Eye (by 15th of each month) The Western People Local Parish Newsletters Email to (a) organisations participating in the scheme (b) organisations who 	are not already participating	
To do	Steps	Person responsible:	
	 Choose a venue for the event e.g. Áras Inis Gluaire Speak to the venue manager and confirm a date for the event Make arrangements for insurance for the event Organise a guest speaker to make a presentation with regard to the benefits of having Irish as part of a business and part of the community Advertise the event a month or six weeks beforehand and send a message to those on the list of participants Try to determine the number of people who will be attending a week or two before the event At the event itself give a short presentation on the benefits of Irish for business, a reminder as to how to keep a language diary, ways in which to promote Irish in the organisation etc. Encourage participants to ask questions Give Language Co-ordinator's contact details out at the end of the event Gather information with regard to schemes in various organisations 		
Resources or services needed	Item	To be organised by:	
	 Posters to advertise the event Wine and glasses Finger food Equipment for presentation PA system 		
Suggestions with regard to guest speakers	Name	Contact Details	
Costs	Item	Amount	
	Travel costs and fees of guestspeakers Wine, glasses and refreshments Printing, flyers and posters Rent and insurance for the venue		
Sources of funding	Item	Amount	
Notes			
Results and feedback			

1.04 Irish Language	Lunch		
Project title	Irish Language Lunch		
Aim	To provide an opportunity for local organisations to speak Irish on a monthly basis in a central location in Belmullet.		
Objectives	To host a lunch through Irish once a month in the Western Strands Hotel or a	another central venue.	
Participants	Representatives of various local businesses and organisations The Language Co-ordinator or a representative appointed by him / her		
Organiser	Ionad Deirbhile		
Advertising	 Ionad Deirbhile's website and Facebook page Erris Eye (ad to be in by 15 of each month) Newsletters of the various parishes Emails to various people on the list of scheme participants Texts to people where possible 		
To do	Steps	Person responsible:	
	 Decide on most suitable day to host the lunch e.g. the first Friday of every month Speak to the manager of the hotel / restaurant and discuss arrangements for the event - Will there be a waiter available who speaks Irish? Could there be a special deal available for the occasion e.g. a soup and sandwich for €5? Could an Irish language or bilingual menu be used for the occasion? There should not be too much emphasis placed on the above points - the most important thing is that people attend the event to speak Irish. Make a poster for the event and post on Facebook, Ionad Deirbhile's website etc. A list of phrases on a small card could be distributed among attendees if necessary to help put them at ease speaking the language Speak to the manager and confirm that the event will be taking place. Advertise the event a month beforehand and send messages to people on the list Ensure always that the Language Co-ordinator (or an appointed representative) is in attendance at the event 		
Resources needed	Item	To be arranged by:	
Suggestions with regard to	 Posters to advertise the event An Irish language /Bilingual menu A phrase card to distribute before the event Venue and name of manager	Contact Details	
venue		Contact Details	
Notes	There will be no costs relating to this event		
Results and feedback			

1.05 Preparing Lang	uage Resources for organisations participating in	the language scheme		
Project title	Preparing Language Resources for organisations participating in the language scheme			
Aims	 To support scheme participants in using Irish when dealing with the public To facilitate the use of Irish in an organisation 			
Objectives	To put together language resources e.g. phrase lists and sample conversations which staff in organisations will be able to draw upon easily			
	To translate printed materials in use in organisations to Irish.			
	The organisation itself Ionad Deirbhile			
Participants	The language Co-ordinator			
	A translator			
Organiser	Ionad Deirbhile			
To do	Language resources for organisation staff	Person Responsible:		
	 Make a list in English of the most frequently used vocabulary and phrases used in the organisation. If necessary, spend a few hours observing interactions of public with the organisation staff and do some research online as to the services provided by the organisation Translate the vocabulary and phrases / simple conversations to Irish. If necessary, classify the phrases according to the transaction. In a supermarket for example there would be different phrases relating to the deli counter, the checkout, the newsstand etc. Design a coloured poster for the phrases to which can be hung behind the counters, in the staff room, in offices etc. In this way the staff will be able to look at them and learn incidentally. If possible design small vocabulary and phrase cards similar to the posters e.g. useful phrases for the supermarket, for the post office etc. Make the cards available for the public to pick up e.g. at the counter / checkout so that they may be encouraged to conduct their business through Irish. Obtain information from participating organisations on a regular basis as to the effectiveness of the resources Printed Materials of an organisation Discuss possibilities with regard to making the organisations printed materials available in Irish or bilingually e.g. a bilingual menu, a pub pricelist, a bilingual welcome sheet for hotel rooms, ads in the paper, flyers, Christmas cards etc. Obtain an example of materials in use in Word / PDF / Photoshop format Translate the resources or bice a translator / grounf reader to do the work 			
Resources and services	Translate the resources or hire a translator / proof reader to do the work Item	To be organised by:		
needed	An English version of the vocabulary and phrases most frequently used in the organisation Printed materials in Word / PDF / Photoshop format Translation and design services if necessary			
Suggestions with regard to translators and designers	Name	Contact Details		
Costs	Item	Amount		
	 Graphic design of the posters and language cards Printing costs Translators fees			
Notes				
Results and feedback				

02. Increasing the use of informal Irish among the younger generation

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2.01 Writing project	in conjunction with a local publication	
Project title	Writing project in conjunction with a local publication	
To encourage children to write in Irish To provide regular reading material in Irish for the community		
Objectives	 To publish work of children of various schools in the monthly magazine Erris To draw attention to the published articles by posting them on Facebook 	Eye
Participants	 Pupils in schools of Kilmore and Belmullet parishes Teachers in above mentioned schools Erris Eye (T&T clothing) The Language Co-ordinator 	
Organiser	Ionad Deirbhile i gcomhar leis an Erris Eye	
Advertising	Placing the ads on the Facebook page and on Ionad Deirbhile's website.	
To do	Steps	Person responsible:
	 Send an email to various schools reminding them of the deadline for articles. (The deadline for sending articles to Erris Eye is the 15th of each month so the person in charge of the project should receive the articles no later than the 10th of each month.) Collect the articles in one folder Edit the articles or send to an editor Send the articles to Erris Eye Post the published articles on the Facebook page each month Erris Eye could present a prize e.g. a T-Shirt for the best article for the best article at the end of each school year- this should be organised beforehand 	
Resources or Services needed		To be organised by:
	Prizes for the winners of the projectEditing services	
Suggestions with regard to editors	Name	Contact details
Costs	There will be no cost relating to this project apart from editors fees- should the	ney be required.
Notes		

2.02 Schools drama	festival		
Project title	Schools drama festival		
Aims	 To foster a love of Irish through drama To develop an interest in Irish language drama and literature To promote self-confidence To promote language richness and fluency 		
Objectives	To host a school's drama festival in conjunction with the Cumann Scoildrám Áras Inis Gluaire	aíochta, the schools of Erris and	
Participants	 Teacher Pupils Parents of Pupils The Language Co-ordinator 		
Organiser	 Ionad Deirbhile An Cumann Scoildrámaíochta Áras Inis Gluaire Local schools 		
 School newletters Ionad Deirbhile's website and Facebook page The Erris Eye Western People 			
To do	Steps	Person responsible:	
	 If it's intended that the festival be part of the National Festival An Fhéile Scoildrámaíochta, it is necessary to begin it's organisation in September every year. Read the information available at www.scoildramaiocht.ie The Cumann Scoildrámaíochta hold workshops for teachers who wish to stage a play. It is advised to find out when they are to host workshops and inform teachers accordingly. Discuss the project with the Áras Inis Gluaire staff. Discuss the potential dates with them. Find out how many schools could be accommodated in one day. Discuss a plan for the day as well as logistics, insurance etc. Send a letter to the various schools explaining the project and suggest a date for the event. Inform the schools that they will be given support in preparing a drama. Call the school principals and find out if they are interested in participating in the festival and if so, how many dramas they would like to stage. Perhaps in the first year it would be advisable to do only one drama. Ask the school to nominate a staff member as a contact for the project. Discuss the project with Áras Inis Gluaire again and make a plan for the day e.g. how many schools will be taking part, number of staff needed on the day, logistics and insurance. Inform the Cumann Scoildrámaíochta with regard to the plans, dates etc. by the end of October. Discuss arrangements with regard to the number of plays, application forms etc. Appoint people to assist schools in preparation of plays e.g. practising lines with pupils, sourcing costumes and props etc. Put together a team of parents from various schools who will help on the day of the festival. Organise a meeting with teachers and parents closer to the date of the event to discuss arrangements for the day e.g. schedule, travel arrangements etc. Advertise the event in local papers, parish newsletters etc. 		

2.03 Organising an	Irish language concert in schools		
Project title	Organising an Irish language concert in schools		
Aims	 To foster a love of Irish through performance To strengthen the Irish Language link between home and school 		
Objectives	To hold an Irish Language Concert for parents and school community including the following aspects: Song, Rhymes, Poetry, Irish Music, Irish Dance, Story, Drama, Art – children speaking about their works of art		
Participants	School pupilsTeachersParentsThe language Co-ordinator		
Organiser	Ionad Deirbhile		
Advertising	Inform parents by sending notes home etc.		
To do		Person responsible:	
	 Meeting 1: Discuss the project with various principals and find out if they are interested in holding an Irish language concert once a year in their respective schools. Arrange to meet principals individually. Meeting 2: Decide on a date which would be suitable to hold the event. The concert could coincide with a particular theme or feast e.g. St.Patrick's Day, Halloween etc. Send them suggestions with regard to poems, stories, songs etc. if necessary. Meet with the various teachers / principals to find out what they will be doing and find out if they need help with the project. Arrange a schedule for each concert. Get the name and details of one teacher in the school as a contact who can inform of progress. Obtain feedback continuously from teachers with regard to things needed. Get parents and teachers permission to record the concert so that the children can watch it afterwards. 		
Resources needed	Item	To be organised by:	
	 List of props, costumes, set materials needed Suggestions with regard to poems, songs etc. Sweets etc. for the children on the day Refreshments for parents A video camera and tripod 		
List of contact for the project	Name	Contact details	
Costs	Item	Amount	
	RefreshmentsProps, costumes etc.		
Sources of Funding	Item	Amount	
Notes			
Results and feedback			

2.04 Boardgame ses	sions with parents in schools		
Project title	Boardgame sessions with parents in schools		
Aims	 To help nurture a love of Irish among pupils by playing games through Irish To strengthen the Irish language link between school and home 		
Objectives	To hold a forty minutes board games session once a month with pupils and parents in primary schools		
Participants	 Teachers in various schools Pupils Parents of pupils The Language Co-ordinator or an appointed representative 		
Organiser	Ionad Deirbhile		
Advertising	A note in the schools newsletterInformation from teachers		
To do		Person responsible:	
	 Buy Irish language games suitable for various boardgames - infants, 1&2 class, 3&4 class, 5&6 class Contact various school principals to find out if they would like to participate in the project. If so, discuss with them the best way to implement it in their school e.g. the day on which to hold the session, layout of the room, the parents who will be involved with the various age groups- their level of Irish etc. Decide on the above details and make contact with parents who will be taking part Organise a training session with parents before sessions commence to show them how to play the games, go through the language they will need etc. Distribute a support sheet with instructions phrases and vocabulary. Attend the games session in order to help the teachers and parents. 		
Resources needed	Item	To be organised by:	
	 Irish language games Jigsaws Irish language games by Smarty Cat Games Alphabet game Réalta an Ranga by Gaelchultúr Dominoes Junior Scrabble as Gaeilge League Leader - Irish language hurling game Irish language charades Crannóg by Ghlór na nGael Irish language Scrabble ArdRí Féach ar na suímh seo a leanas i gcomhair tuilleadh moltaí: www.udarie; www.siopa.ie www.cnagsiopa.com www.glórnangael.ie www.cogg.ie www.smartycatgames.ie Other games which can be played in any language Connect 4 Guess who A list of various games Games instructions for parents and a list of simple phrases for playing games e.g. 'You take your go now'; 'Throw the die'; 'One point for you' etc A lesson plan for the training session with parents 		

2.05 Irish language	youth club	
Project title	Club Óige na Cille Móire	
Aims	To increase the use of Irish among younger generations	
Objectives	 To increase the number of club leaders To increase the number of club members To ensure the standard of Irish in the club To increase club learning outcomes 	
Participants	 The club team or committee The Language Co-ordinator or an appointed representative Facilitators for various activities 	
Organiser	 The youth club Ionad Deirbhile	
Advertising	Recruitment Campaign • MWR FM • Western People • Facebook • Local newsletter	
To do		Person responsible:
	 Recruit a larger team - through a recruitment campaign involving the media looking for Irish speakers who would like to become leaders on a voluntary basis. Provide a training course on a yearly basis in Irish for those who are appointed as leaders so that they may be confident in giving instructions, playing games, communicating with club members Hang posters of club rules or policies on the walls together with useful phrases and vocabulary for activites. Organise meetings quarterly meetings for club committee to discuss financial matters, programme of events, organising staff, address issues and problems etc. Provide a wider programme of events for the club - ask local facilitators - drama, art, sport etc. who speak Irish to provide services for the club. Set up a Facebook page / website for the club to which photos, soundfiles and videos of the club could be uploaded. Organise an exhibition of events for the club - art, dance, sport etc. once a year in St. Brendan's Hall and invite parents to attend the event. Go on tours / excursions with other youth clubs in the region e.g. Ceathrú Thaidhg Youth Club. 	
Resources and services needed	Item	To be organised by:
	 Human resources - individuals who have a reasonable level of Irish to function as team leaders. A person to update Facebook page Facilitators to organise workshops A recording device a camera and a laptop to record and edit club events, interviews etc. 	

Suggestions with regard to facilitators	Name	Contact details
	 Barbara Heneghan (ealaíon is ceirdeanna, sealgaireacht etc.) Dáithí ó Gallachóír Breandán Murray 	
Costs	Item	Amount
	 Tours e.g. buses, entry fees, etc. Facilitators e.g. art and drama Technology equipment Social nights for the staff Electricity and heating costs 	
Sources of Funding	Item	Amount
Notes		
Results and feedback		

03. Transmitting the Irish language from generation to generation

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3.01 Collecting folkl	ore		
Project title	Collecting folklore		
Aims	 To give local older people in the area a chance to meet and speak Irish socially To give them a chance to share and record folklore 		
Objectives	To hold a conversation circle aimed at older people once a month or so to give them a chance to share and record folklore		
Participants	 Older people in the area The Language Co-ordinator or an appointed representative A facilitator to direct the session: a person who has a good understanding of the local dialect and a keen interest in Lore. 		
Organiser	Ionad Deirbhile		
Advertising	 Advertise on MWR and RnaG. Advertise the event in parish newsletters, give contact details. 		
To do	Steps	Person responsible:	
	 Speak to older people in the area to find out what would be the best time to hold the conversation circle. Contact the potential participants and explain to them what will be involved. If there will be a particular theme involved e.g. Sea lore and stories, inform them of that theme a month or a fortnight beforehand so that they have time to reflect on it. Organise a bud to collect people to bring them to Ionad Deirbhile. Organise refreshment for the participants e.g. sandwiches, cakes, biscuits etc. Ensure that a member of CFID is present so as to assist with the recording, add to the conversation etc. If people who wish to participate in the project cannot attend the session or if they would prefer to record a conversation piece from their own homes , make arrangements to facilitate this. Edit the material collected and upload to Ionad Deirbhiles website. Transcribe material if necessary. 		
Resources and services needed	Steps	To be organised by:	
	 Faciltator or lore collector's fees A good recording device A video camera Refreshments for participants Technical training in sound editing etc. Transcription services 		
Suggestions with regard to facilitators /folklore collectors	Name	Contact details	
	 Seán Ó hÉalaí (Castlebar) Máirtín Mac Donnchadha (Westport) John Mhaidhcí Ó Gallachóir (Westport) Tomás Mac Sheáin (Acaill) Mary John Tom Bhreathnach (Glais) Tomás Bán Ó Rathailligh (Ballina) P.J. Mac Fhionntaigh (Tonn na hUlltaigh) Paddy Harry Ó Catháin. (An Fál Mór) 		

Costs	Item	Amount
	 Fees and costs of the facilitator Refreshments for the participants Bus for the participants Technical training in sound editing etc. Recording equipment e.g. a voice recorder 	
Sources of Funding	Item	Amount
Notes		
Results and feedback		

3.02 Setting up a pa	arents and children's club and committee		
Project title	Setting up a parents and children's club and committee		
Aims	 To promote Irish among families in the community To provide support for families raising children through Irish To create a social Irish Language network for families in the area 		
Objectives	To set up a parents committee which will be able to organise events for families in the area on a regular basis, to provide support for them in their efforts to raise their children with the Irish language		
Participants	 Parents in the area The Language Co-ordinator The Language Planning Advisor A representative from Glór na nGael 		
Organiser	Ionad DeirbhileLocal ParentsGlór na nGael		
Advertising	 Advertise in parish newsletters that efforts are being made to set up a parent's committee dedicated to the Irish language Advertise the project in various schools. Advertise on Facebook etc. 		
To do	Steps	Person responsible:	
	 Speak to parents in the area raising their children with Irish to find out if they would be interested in setting up a new club for parents Design a poster which illustrates that a new club is soon to be founded. Organise bilingual meetings to gauge interest in the club. Discuss the reasons and the benefits of setting up such a club in the area. It would be worthwhile for the Language Planning Advisor to attend one of these meetings. Ask a representative from Gael Linn to attend one of the meetings to give advice and information to the group and to make a link with the organisation Elect a committee if possible after a few meetings and give the club a name. Set down aims and objectives, an ethos and a mission statement etc. Discuss the needs and possibilities with regard to events, providing services etc. Discuss sources of funding for events in the future 		
Resources and services needed	Steps	To be organised by:	
	 A list of names and contact details of parents in the area raising their children with Irish A venue for the meetings Advice from similar groups around the country Advice from Glór na nGael 		
Costs	There should not be any costs involved in setting up the club / committee		
Notes			
Results and feedback			

3.03 Organising a fu	n day for families		
Project title	Organising a fun day for families		
Aims	 To promote Irish among families in the community To provide support for local families raising children with Irish To create an Irish Language social network for families in the community 		
Objectives	• To hold a quarterly family fun day e.g. at Christmas time, On St. Patricks Day,/ At Easter, A Summer Fun day, Halloween Night etc. lasting 2 hours at least		
Participants	 Parents Children Facilitators: e.g. a facepainter, an arts and crafts facilitator, a storyteller, a clown, a puppetshow etc. The Language Co-ordinator 		
Organiser	 Ionad Deirbhile The Parents Committee or a group of interested parents in the area 		
Advertising	 Ionad Deirbhile Facebook Page and website Parish newsletters Posters in schools Erris Eye and The Western People 		
To do	Steps	Person responsible:	
	 Speak to the Parents Committee or potentially interested parents and decide on a date for the event and a plan for the day Ensure that the venue is insured for such an event both inside and outside Decide on the various duties people will have on the day e.g. one person in charge of games, another person in charge of refreshments etc. Contact facilitators who will be required on the day e.g. arts and crafts facilitator, face painter, storyteller, Seasonal characters e.g. Santa, Winnie the Witch, The Easter Bunny etc. Book their services and source costumes if necessary Ensure the facilitators speak Irish. If a particular facilitator doesn't speak Irish fluently discuss with them the language (vocab and phrases they will require for the event) If the person involved is not a professional ensure that the person is fully aware of the job he or she will be undertaking for the day. Design a poster and advertise the event beforehand Place posters around the area, on the website, the Facebook page etc. Buy prizes and if necessary, materials needed by facilitators Obtain various equipment / materials for games and activities e.g. treasure hunt, book corner, circle games, novelty races etc. Send parents a text reminding them of the event 		
Resources and services needed	Item	To be organised by:	
	 Facilitators for the day e.g. face painter, storyteller, artist etc. Spot prizes Costumes - witch, Santa, Easter Bunny, Clown, Face paints A bouncy castle A list of games (including instructions) for inside A list of games (including instructions) and equipment for outside A treasure hunt Music for the day Refreshments for parents and children Balloons and decorations List of names of parents in the area raising their children with Irish and contact details Toys 		

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3.04 It isn tongooge	weekend festival for families		
Project title	Irish language weekend festival for families		
Aims	 To awaken pride and interest among the local people in their language and dialect through organising an Irish language festival locally To provide support for families raising their children with Irish 		
Objectives	 To hold an Irish language weekend festival in Eachléim once a year To attract Irish language speakers from different parts of the country to Eachléim 		
Participants	 Various Irish language groups e.g. Branches of Conradh na Gaeilge Families from around the country 		
Organiser	 Ionad Deirbhile Local Irish Language Organisations e.g. Údarás na Gaeltachta, UISCE, Erris Beo, Áras Inis Gluaire etc. Various National Irish language organisations e.g. Glór na nGael, Conradh na Gaeilge etc. 		
Advertising	 Ionad Deirbhile's Website and Facebook page Websites of various Irish language organisations e.g Conradh na Gaeilge, Glór na nGael etc. Erris Eye agus The Western People Newsletters of Various Parishes 		
To do		Person responsible:	
	 Preplanning Discuss the event with various groups who could potentially take part e.g. Áras Inis Gluaire, UISCE, Erris Beo, Mayo branch of Conradh na Gaeilge, Údarás na Gaeltachta, Glór na nGael etc. Decide on the number of visitors who could be accommodated in the area Make a list of those who could be involved - provide services etc. Discuss costs and funding for the event Put together an organising committee for the event and assign duties to 		
To do	committee members	Person responsible:	
	 Planning Decide on a date for the festival. It would be preferable to choose a date on which the houses of local mná tí would be unoccupied by Irish College students e.g. April or September The festival's programme of events should cater for both visitors and the community in general. Where possible avoid events which are focused on tourists only. Discuss the programme of events and facilitators needed e.g. Irish language classes Arts and crafts Foraging Lectures on the Irish of Eachléim, local history etc. Watersports through Irish Events for children Sean-nós dancing workshop Sean-nós singing workshop Talent competition Drama Music sessions Discuss arrangements with regard to insurance for each event Discuss the event with local mná tí, make a list of houses which would be suitable as hosts for the weekend. Agree on a rate with hosts Decide on a fee to be charged of attendees for the weekend Contact facilitators, musicians, lecturers etc. Put together a programme of events for the weekend Advertise the event on various websites e.g. Conradh na Gaeilge, Glór na 		

Resources and services

List of Contacts

needed

Item

Name

To be decided

Local OrganisationsFacilitators

To be organised by:

Contact details

3.05 Storytelling se	ssion for children		
Project title	Storytelling session for children		
Aims	 To foster a love of Irish language storytelling and literature in children To enhance children's language skills 		
Objectives	 To organise a forty minute story telling session on a monthly basis for the children of the area To do an art or a support activity with the children after the storytelling 		
Participants	Children and their parentsStorytellerThe Language Co-ordinator		
Organiser	Ionad Deirbhile		
Advertising	 Ionad Deirbhile's Facebook page and website The various parish newsletters Posters in the library A text to parents 		
To do	Steps	Person responsible:	
	 Buy a collection of books at the beginning of the year which are suitable for various age groups based on various themes. See www.udar.ie Find a storyteller - a person who is fluent in Irish - a person who is fluent in Irish and has experience of dealing with children. Make a decision with regard to the age group at which the session will be focused e.g. infant classes- second class, 3-6 class etc. Find stories suitable for the age group which will be present Confirm the venue and the time e.g. Ionad Deribhile Heiritage Centre between 3.30 and 4.30 on a schoolday Choose stories and loan a copy of the stories to the storyteller Source colouring pages / activities for the end of the story Design a poster for the event Advertise the event The Language Co-ordinator or an appointed representative should attend the event to provide assistance for the storyteller and to carry out the support activity if necessary 		
Resources needed	Item	To be organised by:	
	 Storyteller A wide range of books suitable for the various age groups Props if appropriate e.g. a wig, a hat etc. Support activity e.g. colouring pages, review of the story (copy available on the server) Chairs or cushions for children 		
Suggestions with regard to storytellers	Name	Contact details	
Costs	Item	Amount	
	 Books Box of props Crayons marker and mixed media for art after storytelling Storyteller's fee and travel costs (if any) 		
Sources of Funding	Item	Amount	
Notes			
Results and feedback			

04. Irish language events in the community

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4.01 Conversation Ci	ircle			
Project title	Conversation Circle			
Aims	To provide an opportunity for people to speak Irish in an informal setting and to help build an Irish language network.			
Objectives	To hold a Conversation Circle one night a week in a central location in Belmullet e.g. The Broadhaven Bay Hotel for one hour or so from 8.00 0 9.00 p.m.			
Participants	 Members of the public The Language Co-ordinator or an appointed representative 			
Organiser	Ionad Deirbhile			
Advertising	A poster (jpeg) for Facebook together with a small message			
To do	Steps Person responsible			
	 Make a decision with regard to the most suitable day for the conversation circle to take place e.g. Thursday from 8.00-9.00p.m. Though it is preferred that the event be an informal one, in order for the conversation circle to last and attract new speakers, it is necessary that a certain minimum number of speakers (even 2!) be present every week. Speak to the manager of the centre and discuss arrangements for the event. Design a poster for the event and post on Facebook. Ensure that it's clear from the poster that all will be welcome, regardless of their level of Irish. Ensure that there will be a representative from the organising body present at the event. If there are people present on the evening who are not quite fluent or confident in speaking Irish, offer them a language card with useful phrases to help encourage them. 			
Resources needed		To be organised by:		
	A small language card of useful phrases to send to potential participants beforehand or to distribute on the night.			
Costs	There should be no cost involved in organising this event.			
Notes				
Results and feedback				

4.02 Staging an Irish	n language play		
Project title	Staging an Irish language play		
Aims	 To promote Irish in the community through the medium of drama To increase language richness and pride in the local dialect among members of the community 		
Objectives	To stage an Irish language play in partnership with the local drama society		
Participants	 The actors and stage crew of The Kilmore Drama Society An Comhlachas Náisiúnta Drámaíochta The Language Co-ordinator Ionad Deirbhile 		
Organiser	The Kilmore Drama Society An Comhlachas Náisiúnta Drámaíochta		
To do	Steps	Person responsible	
	 Speak to members of the Kilmore Drama Society about the project and discuss a date for the play, a venue, a cast and crew etc. A cast and crew who will be happy to produce a drama through Irish should be put together If necessary place an ad on Facebook or in the newsletter stating that actors and crew are sought for an Irish language drama When the cast has been decided upon (between 4-6 people at least) contact Seán Ó Morónaigh from An Comhlachas Náisiúnta Drámaíochta. Discuss plans for the play including actors, the set etc. and organise a meeting with him, the Language Co-ordinator, the director and producer of the play. Discuss the various possibilities with regard to the drama When the drama has been chosen, let the director / producer decide on an evening and time to practise the drama Provide support and advice for the director of the play if necessary and sit in on a few rehearsals before the play is staged If the play is a short one, try to organise local musicians and singers for the evening to add to the entertainment Publicise the event on the website and on Facebook, in the local parish newsletters, in the Erris Eye etc. Discuss arrangements for the night itself e.g. staff, entry fee, refreshments etc. Organise a raffle for the evening Record the play on the night Make enquiries with regard to further opportunities to stage the drama in other areas in the county or around the country. 		
Resources and Services needed	Item	To be organised by:	
Suggestions with regard to	Scripts for Irish language dramas Director, producer and team of actors for the play Prizes for the raffle Refreshments after the event		
actors and directors in the area	Name	Contact details	
Costs	Item	Amount	
	Item Travel costs Props Costumes Set		
Sources of funding	Item	Amount	
Results and Feedback			

4.03 Irish Language	Social Club for Adults		
Project title	Irish Language Social Club for Adults		
Aims	 To provide the opportunity for adults to speak Irish in an informal, fun setting. To promote a positive attitude towards the language 		
Objectives	To organise a fun event once a month or so e.g. bowling, badminton, currach racing, hillwalking / siúlóid sléibhe threoraith, f sean-nós dancing workshop, sean-nós singing workshop, arts and crafts wo photography		
Participants	Members of the community		
Organiser	Ionad DeirbhileThe Social Club		
Advertising	 Ionad Deibhile's website and Facebook page Erris Eye and The Western People MWR FM Various Irish language organisations www.meetup.com 		
To do	Steps	Person responsible	
	 Organise a meeting with potentially interested people in the community and discuss possibilities with them Choose an activity and decide on a date, time and place. Discuss arrangements regarding travel to the venue if necessary - will people be driving to the location? Will a bus be required? What will the event cost per person? If a facilitator is required; make contact with the relevant person and ensure that they are available. Ensure that the facilitator has a good standard of Irish. Discuss the fee, resources and arrangements for the event Design a poster for the event and post on Facebook Ensure that the Language Co-ordinator or an appointed representative is always present at club events Sit down with participants at the end of each event and discuss their opinions on future club events Obtain contact details for new club attendees and add them to the mailing / contact list 		
Resources needed	Item	To be organised by:	
	 A poster to organise the event A list of suggestions for events to circulate among members or potential members A list of facilitators for various facilitators 		
Costs	Item	Amount	
	Fees and travel costs of the facilitatorsCost of the event (payable by participant)Other travel costs		
Suggestions with regard to local facilitators		Contact details	
Notes			
Results and feedback			

4.04 Airneán (Evenin	g of entertainment)	
Project title	Airneán (Evening of entertainment)	
Aims	 To provide the community with an opportunity to speak Irish To promote Irish language culture and language richness through the traditional arts To awaken interest of the community in the traditional arts including storytelling, singing, traditional dance etc. 	
Objectives	To organise a cultural evening which includes the following: Conversation, Music, Storytelling, Poetry, Singing, Dancing	
Participants	Members of the community Singers, storytellers, dancers etc.	
Organiser	Ionad Deirbhile	
Advertising	Ionad Deirbhile's website and Facebook page Newsletters of various parishes	
To do	Steps	Person responsible
	 Make contact with local people who are interested in music and traditional arts and find out if they are interested in organising an airneán evening particularly in the winter. The airneán could be organised as part of a local festival or as a standalone event Organise a meeting with those interested and discuss possibilities and a theme for the evening e.g. The Sea, the Islands, Emigration, Fairy stories etc. It is not essential however that there be a theme for the event Advertise that input is sought from people in the parish who would be willing to tell a story, recite a poem, dance, or perform an Irish dialogue (agallamh beirte), ditty etc. Tell participants that some of the event will be recorded if they are in agreement Arrange a venue for the airneán - the community centre or pub for example. Ensure there is insurance for the venue. Organise an MC for the evening Find stories, songs, poems etc. related to the theme Put together a running order for the event 	
Resources and Services needed	Item	To be organised by:
	 Traditional Songs A PA system for the evening (if necessary) Guests: musicians, dancers, etc. 	
Costs	Item	Amount
	Travel costs of certain guests Refreshments for the event	
Suggestions with regard to actors and directors in the area	Name	Contact details
Notes		
Results and feedback		

4.05 Holding local so	cial events through Irish or bilingually	
Project title	Holding local social events through Irish or bilingually	
Aims	 To increase opportunities to speak Irish in the area To promote a positive attitude with regard to the language 	
Objectives	 To hold local club and society events through Irish or bilingually regularly To help increase the use of Irish in the club or society on a permanent basis 	5
Participants	 Organisers of various local events Members of the community The language Co-ordinator 	
Organiser	Ionad DeirbhileLocal club and society committees	
Advertising	Ionad Deirbhile's website and Facebook page Seachtain na Gaeilge's website The local newspapers and newsletters e.g. Erris Eye (by the 15th of each mon Posters in public places	th), Erris Notes etc.
To do	Steps	Person responsible
	 Contact the organisers of various events e.g. the cards, bingo, pool and darts clubs and discuss the possibilities with regard to holding events in Irish or bilingually during Seachtain na Gaeilge or during local festivals Visit an event as research and make notes as to how to the event could adopt more Irish Discuss the language which will be needed to hold the event and make a little card containing useful phrases and vocabulary If the committee and members are interested in creating an Irish language plan go through the process with them i.e. keeping a language diary etc. Discuss with the committee the possibilities for increasing the 	
Resources	levels of Irish in the club.	To be organised by:
	A language card dedicated to the club	
Costs	Item	Amount
	• Prizes	
Recommendations	Name	Contact details
with regard to local clubs and societies		
Notes		
esults and feedback		

Appendix 3: Resources

Comhrá 1: Ag an chuntar		
Cúntóir:	Cén chaoi a bhfuil tú?	How are you
Custaiméir:	Go maith, go raibh maith agat, agus tú féin?	Good thanks and yourself?
Cúntóir:	Ó go breá anois, ag stróiceadh liom. Tá sé fuar amuigh ansin inniu nach bhfuil?	Oh fine, tipping away. It's cold out there isn't it?
Custaiméir:	Tá ach tá sé geallta níos fearr don lá amárach, chuala mé.	Yes but it's supposed to be better tomorrow I heard.
Cúntóir:	Sin go maith. Anois, an bhfuil mála uait?	That's good. Now do you need a bag?
Custaiméir:	Tá, ceann amháin más é do thoil é.	Yes one, please
Cúntóir:	Cinnte. Agus an bhfuil cárta dílseachta agat?	Sure and do you have a loyalty tag?
Custaiméir:	Níl.	No.
Cúntóir:	Sin go breá, sin €32.60 más é do thoil é.	
Custaiméir:	Cinnte, an féidir liom íoc le cárta?	
	Is féidir cinnte, cuir isteach do chárta ansin. An bhfuil airgead tirim a fháil ar ais? Anois, cuir do uimhir Pin isteach ansin. Anois seo duit d'admháil, go raibh míle maith agat.	
Custaiméir:	Iontach, go raibh maith agat féin.	
Cúntóir:	Slán anois, tabhair aire.	
Custaiméir:	Slán.	

Comhrá 2: Rudaí a aimsiú sa siopa		
Cúntóir:	An féidir liom cuidiú leat?	
Custaiméir:	Tá mé ag lorg le do thoil, an bhfuil siad agaibh?	
Cúntóir:	Tá cinnte, síos an tríú phasáiste ansin ar an taobh chlé, tá siad ag an mbarr. Taispeánfaidh mé duit é.	
Custaiméir:	An bhfuil agaibh?	
Cúntóir:	Níl faoi láthair, tá brón orm, tá muid ag fanacht ar ordú.	
Custaiméir:	Cathain a bheidh siad isteach?	
Cúntóir:	Amárach nó Dé Luain ar a dhéanaí.	
Custaiméir:	Maith go leor, go raibh maith agat.	

Comhrá 3: Ag an deli	
Cúntóir:	Céard ba mhaith leat?
Custaiméir:	Beidh rollóg agam le do thoil.
Cúntóir:	An mbeidh im nó maonáis agat?
Custaiméir:	Bláisín den dá rud, le do thoil.
Cúntóir:	Anois cad ba mhaith leat ar an rollóg?
Custaiméir:	Liamhás, cáis, agus píosa beag cálslá más é do thoil é.
Cúntóir:	Cinnte. Anois an ngearrfaidh mé in dhá leath duit é?
Custaiméir:	Le do thoil.
Cúntóir:	Anois, seo duit.
Custaiméir:	Iontach Go raibh míle maith agat.
Cúntóir:	Go ndéana a mhaith duit

Appendix 4: Annual Calendar

Month	Event
January	New Years Day Swim, St. Bridgets Cross Workshop
February	
March	Seachtain na Gaeilge , Family Fun Day, St. Patricks Day Parade, Oscail do Bhéal
April	Easter Programme - Dawn mass
May	Mayo Day, An Picnic Mór - Family fun day, Clann Lir Festival, Youth Club finishes, Church gate collection
June	Erris Beo Festival, 10K Road Race
July	Gnóthaí as Gaeilge, Campaí Samhraidh Iorrais, Race Night, Féile Iorras
August	Féile na hEachléime, Campaí Samhraidh Iorrais
September	Youth Club commences, Adults Sports Club commence
October	Hallow'een Activities
November	
December	Christmas family fun day, Seniors Christmas dinner

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In February 2014, Comharchumann Forbartha Ionad Deirbhile appointed a Language Co-ordinator as part of the ongoing language planning efforts being undertaken by the organisation. The main brief of the co-ordinator was to implement an Irish language pilot scheme with local businesses and organisations in the parishes of Kilmore and Belmullet using the handbook An Ghaeilge: Cen fáth? (Ní Dhúda 2013). This report contains information on activities carried out throughout the duration of the scheme as well as observations and recommendations made by the co-ordinator.

Cheap Comharchumann Forbartha Ionad Deirbhile Eachléim Teo. comhordaitheoir teanga i mí Feabhra 2014 mar chuid de na hiarrachtaí pleanála teanga Gaeilge atá ar siúl go leanúnach ag an gComharchumann. Ba é an príomhchúram a bhí ar an gcomhordaitheoir ná scéim phíolótach Ghaeilge a chur i bhfeidhm le gnólachtaí agus eagraíochtaí áitiúla i bParóiste na Cille Móire agus i bParóiste Bhéal an Mhuirthead, ag baint úsáide as an lámhleabhar An Ghaeilge: Cen Fáth? (Ní Dhúda, 2013). Tugtar eolas sa tuarascáil seo maidir le gníomhaíochtaí a tugadh fúthu le linn thréimhse an cheapacháin chomh maith le nithe a tugadh faoi deara agus moltaí atá déanta ag an gcomhordaitheoir.

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Bród d'ár nOidhreacht







