

## News release

### For immediate use

## Bòrd na Gàidhlig addresses leadership and governance weaknesses

**The public body responsible for promoting Gaelic in Scotland has tackled weaknesses in its leadership and governance. It now needs to monitor the impact of these changes in the years to come.**

A new report from the Auditor General for Scotland follows up a 2019 report on Bòrd na Gàidhlig that identified multiple failings in the oversight and senior management of the organisation.

In the two years since, the Bòrd has taken a number of actions, including:

- restructuring its leadership and management
- significantly improving openness and transparency
- clarifying roles and responsibilities
- reducing the number of non-executive Board members
- and addressing skills gaps on its Board.

Stephen Boyle, Auditor General for Scotland, said:

“Bòrd na Gàidhlig has made good progress in addressing the problems in its leadership, and it is now a much improved organisation. The scale of change and pace of improvement since 2019 is welcome.

“Given the long-term change required, it is likely that the full benefits of the improvements made will only emerge over time. The Bòrd must now monitor whether the changes are delivering long-term, measurable benefits, and make adjustments where necessary.”

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### Notes to editors

1. Audit Scotland has prepared this report for the Auditor General for Scotland under Section 22 of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000. It is available in Gaelic and English on Audit Scotland's website.
2. This is a section 22 report which allows the Auditor General to bring attention to Parliament and the public matters of wider interest arising from the annual audits of public bodies.
3. Issues concerning Bòrd na Gàidhlig's leadership and governance were previously highlighted in 2019. A report prepared by the previous Auditor General on Bòrd's 2018/19 accounts outlined a number of areas for improvement.
4. Bòrd na Gàidhlig is based in Inverness and employs around 21 staff. In 2020/21, it had a net expenditure of £5.6 million.
5. All Audit Scotland reports published since 2000 are available at [www.audit-scotland.gov.uk](http://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk).

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