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| **Committee** | Board of Management |
| **Agenda Item Number** | 9 |
| **Date paper prepared** | 01/06/2022 |
| **Subject** | Shaetlan Language Plan |
| **Author** | Beth Mouat – Director of Research, Enterprise and Impact UHI Shetland/Islands Strategy Director UHI |
| **Action requested** | Approval |
| **Purpose of the paper** | The paper presents a first Shaetlan language plan for UHI Shetland, it sets out how we raise the profile of Shaetlan and promote its use, and how we will use research to underpin our understanding of Shaetlan as a vernacular language. |
| | The Shaetlan language plan links clearly to our strategic objectives and in particular builds on the enabling theme of inclusion.  It speaks to our wish to provide Inspirational learning, influential training and innovative research that is rooted in the heart of Shetland's community. It is also linked to our engagement which sits at the centre of the Shetland community building on our positive relationships with local schools, businesses, and the community. |
| | In implementing the Shaetlan language plan we will seek to develop new education offers including evening classes and we will seek to develop projects and funding streams for postgraduate researchers (in collaboration with the UHI Language Sciences Institute). |
| **Brief summary of the paper** | The paper sets out the key objectives of the plan; how we will promote the use of Shaetlan locally, nationally and internationally, for example normalising the use of Shaetlan in signage and learning; promoting the inclusion of Shaetlan in the next Scottish census; building on existing initiatives to celebrate Shaetlan as a minority language on the international stage. |
| | It states how we aim to support the use of Shaetlan in education settings, including the development of courses for adult learning and working in partnership with other stakeholders to develop and produce educational materials in Shaetlan. |
| | The Plan also sets out how we will develop, communicate and engage the vernacular community in research. |

The table also lists "Date of committee meeting" as 20/07/2022 alongside "Date paper prepared" 01/06/2022.

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| **Consultation** | Engagement with local stakeholders, I Hear Dee, has been undertaken, and the plan has been shared with relevant UHI researchers at the Institute for Northern Studies and the Language Sciences Institute.  The plan has also been shared with colleagues at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig.  Further consultation with local stakeholders will continue as the implementation of the plan, once approved, is developed. |
| **Resource implications** | Some staff time will be required to develop areas of the plan further, including developing new course material and applying for external funding.  Each separate development will be evaluated alongside available resource and potential for income generation. |
| **Risk implications** | There are no significant risks which have been identified should the plan be adopted. |
| **Link with strategy** | The Shaetlan language plan is directly linked to the UHI Islands Strategy Key theme 6 "Supporting our islands' languages, including Gaelic language, islands dialects and Nordic culture".  The Islands Strategy is an enabling plan within the UHI Strategic Plan.  The Shaetlan language plan has the ability to strategic goals in Tertiary Education, Research Impact and Engagement. |
| **[Equality, Diversity and Inclusion](#)** | By its very nature the Shaetlan Language plan seeks to empower all users of Shaetlan, including native speakers and learners alike. |
| **Island Community Impact** | An islands community impact assessment has not been carried out, however, the outcomes proposed within the language plan will support islanders in maintaining and promoting their language which is aligned with Strategic Objective 11 of the National Islands Plan. |
| **Paper status** | ☐ **Open** – The paper may be circulated to non-members of the committee and published online without restriction.<br><br>☒ **Restricted** – The paper must not be circulated to non-members or published online until after the committee meeting.<br><br>☐ **Confidential** - The paper must not be circulated beyond the committee members and should not be published online. [Please note papers may still be subject to Freedom of Information requests – see below]. |
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