

**English version below**



Mar is eol duit, i mí na Nollag 2011, d'aontaigh an Feidhmeannas ar dhréacht-Chlár an Rialtais 2011-2015. Leagann an dréachtcháipéis amach na spriocanna agus réimsí oibre ar a ndíreoidh an Feidhmeannas sa trí bliana amach romhainn. Tá próiseas comhairliúcháin ar siúl go dtí an 22ú Feabhra 2012.

Tá POBAL ag iarraidh ar ghrúpaí Gaeilge a gcuid aighneachtaí a sheoladh chuig:

*Programme for Government Team  
Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister  
Room E3.19  
Block E, Castle Buildings  
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Belfast BT4 3SR*

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Cur cóip chugainn chomh maith, chuig [eolas@pobal.org](mailto:eolas@pobal.org)

Ar na príomhphointí ar chóir a lua, tá:

**Reachtaíocht idirnáisiúnta** - Faoin Chabhailchoinbhinsiún um Chosaint na Mionlaigh Náisiúnta agus faoin Chairt Eorpach ar Theangacha Réigiúnda nó Mionlaigh, tá sé de dhualgas ag rialtas na Breataine, chomh maith leis an Fheidhmeannas agus ag Tionól TÉ, an Ghaeilge a chosaint.

**Acht na Gaeilge TÉ** – Cúis bhuartha í nach bhfuil an tAcht luaite sa dréacht cháipéis, ainneoin an gealltanais a tugadh i gComhaontú Cill Rímhinn, reachtaíocht don Ghaeilge a reachtú. Tá an comhaontú seo anois cúig bliana d'aois. Ba chóir do Chlár an Rialtais an tacaíocht fhorleathan atá ann do reachtaíocht don Ghaeilge sa Tuaisceart a aithint.

**An Straitéis don Ghaeilge** – Cé go bhfáiltimid roimh an tagairt don straitéis, ní thugann an Clár don Rialtas aon sonraí faoin tionchar a bhéas ag an Straitéis, nó cad iad na himpleachtaí a bhéas aige don Chlár. Is mór an trua seo, mar cé go dtuigeann muid nach bhfuil críoch tagtha leis an obair seo, tá sé soiléir go mbeidh impleachtaí ag straitéis éifeachtach ar chuid mhaith de Chlár an Rialtais agus b'fhearr linn na himpleachtaí seo a bheith níos so-fheicthe sa dréacht cáipéis.

**Ag fás Geilleagar Inbhuanaithe agus Infheistíú don Todhchaí** – Maidir le hathnuachan Geilleagar, tá comhlachtaí agus gnónna sa tuaisceart atá ag feidhmiú go dhátheangach, nó a bhaineann úsáid as an Ghaeilge ar bhonn laethúil ina gcuid gnó. Tá buntáistí eacnamaíoch agus forbartha leis an Ghaeilge, mar shampla sna meáin, i gcúrsaí aistriúcháin srl agus ba chóir do dhréacht Chlár an Rialtais tábhacht na Gaeilge a aithint, agus cuidiú a chur ar fáil do chomhlachtaí an taobh teanga dá gcuid gnó a fhorbairt.

**Ag Tógáil Pobal Láidir Comh-roinnte** – Bheadh tacaíocht láidir don Ghaeilge sa dhréacht Chlár ina chéim mhór i dtreo aitheantais don Ghaeilge mar chuid de shaibhreas cultúrtha comh-roinnte.

**Ag Soláthair Seirbhísí Poiblí Éifeachtach d'Ard-chaighdeán** – Níl aon fáth nach mbeadh an Ghaeilge iniata ón tús in aon tionscnamh úr dírithe ar fheabhsú Seirbhísí Poiblí, ag éascú réamhphleanáil agus ag seachaint cur amú ama agus costas breise. Tá Gaeilgeoirí ag gach leibhéal d'ár Seirbhísí Poiblí. Thiocfadh leis an Chlár don Rialtas na daoine seo a shaináithint ag an tús, agus an acmhainn láithreach seo a úsáid mar bhuntáiste.

**Tús a chur leis An Údarás Oideachais agus Scileanna i 2013** – Ba chóir go mbeadh an Ghaeilge agus cur chun cinn mar cheann de na príomh-luachanna den Údarás Oideachais agus Scileanna nuair a bhunaítear é i 2013.

POBAL, Aonad 6, Teach Uí Chorráin, Ionad an Dá Spuaic, 155 Sráid Northumberland, Béal Feirste BT13 2JF. Teil: +44 (0)28 90 438132, [eolas@pobal.org](mailto:eolas@pobal.org)



As you know, in December 2011, the Executive agreed the draft Programme for Government 2011-15. The draft document outlines the targets and areas of work which the Executive will undertake in the coming three years. There is a consultation process ongoing until 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2012.

POBAL is calling on Irish language groups to send your comments to

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Or, [pfg@ofmdfmi.gov.uk](mailto:pfg@ofmdfmi.gov.uk)

Send us a copy too, to [eolas@pobal.org](mailto:eolas@pobal.org)

Amongst the main issues which need to be raised, are:

**International legislation** – Under the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and the European charter for regional and minority Languages, it is the responsibility of the British government as well as the Executive and the NI Assembly to protect the Irish language.

**The Irish Language Act NI** - The fact that the ILA is not mentioned in the draft document is a cause of concern in the light of the commitment given in the St Andrews' Agreement to enact Irish language legislation. This Agreement is now more than five years old. The PfG should take into account the overwhelming support for Irish language legislation expressed by the Irish language community in the North.

**The Irish Language Strategy** - Welcome though the reference to the strategy is, the draft PfG gives no detail of how this strategy might impact or what its effect might be on the main themes of the PfG. This is unfortunate, because although we understand that this work may not yet be complete, it is clear that an effective strategy will have implications in many area of relevance to the PfG and we would prefer to see these signposted more thoroughly in the draft document.

**Growing a Sustainable Economy and Investing in the Future** - In terms of Economic Renewal, many businesses in the north now operate bilingually, or indeed, actively promote the Irish language in their everyday business dealings. The proposed PfG could cater for these, and other businesses, to help them promote the language aspect of their business, particularly in Irish language media.

**Building a Strong and Shared Community** - A strong support of the Irish language within the draft PfG would be a great stepping stone towards an understanding and acceptance of a shared culture and language, rather than one which divides.

**Delivering High Quality and Efficient Public Services** - There is no reason why the Irish language could not be included from the start in any new initiatives aimed at improving Public Services, improving pre-planning and thus avoiding time wasting and extra costs at a later date. Irish speakers exist at every level of all our Public Services. The PfG could identify these individuals at the start, and use this already existing resource to its advantage.

**Make the Education and Skills Authority operational in 2013** - The Education and Skills Authority, proposed to be operational by 2013, should have the Irish language and its promotion as one of its core values.

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