

Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla 2003 Osradharc



Official Languages Act 2003 Overview

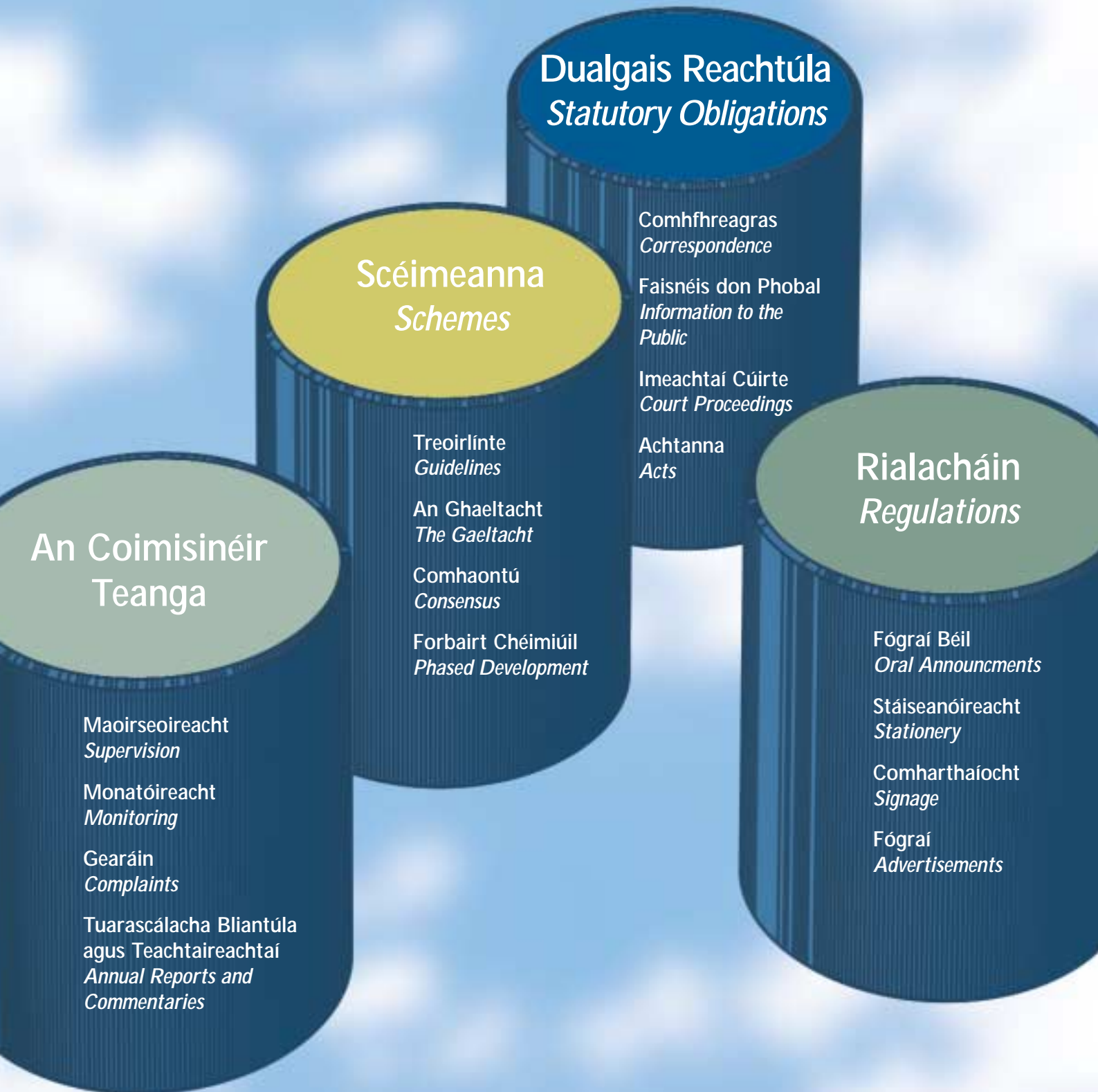


*An Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail, Tuaithe
agus Gaeltachta*

*Department of Community, Rural
and Gaeltacht Affairs*

Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla 2003

Official Languages Act 2003



Réamhrá

Siníodh Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla 2003 ina dhlí ar 14 Iúil 2003. Is é an chéad phíosa reachtaíochta ina leagtar síos próiseas pleanála reachtúil chun a chinntiú go gcuirfear seirbhísí poiblí ar fáil sa Ghaeilge

Cuspóir an Acha

Is é bun-chuspóir an Acha ná soláthar níos mó de sheirbhísí i nGaeilge a chur ar fáil ón seirbhís phoiblí ar chaighdeán níos airde.

Bainfear é seo amach go príomha trí dhualgas reachtúil a chur ar Ranna Stáit agus ar chomhlachtaí poiblí a leithéid de sheirbhísí a sholáthar ar bhealach comhtháite trí chreat pleanála reachtúil, ar a dtugtar "scéim" a bheidh le hathnuachan gach 3 bliana le haontú an Aire agus ceann an chomhlachta phoiblí i gceist. Leagtar síos san Acht gur féidir leis an Aire treoirlínte a ullmhú agus a eisiúint chuig chomhlachtaí poiblí chun cuidiú leo dréacht-scéim teanga a ullmhú. Fanfaidh na scéimeanna i bhfeidhm ar feadh tréimhse 3 bliana agus ina dhiaidh sin caithfear iad a athnuachan. Úsáidfear an próiseas seo chun feabhas suntasach chéimíúil a bhaint amach, thar tréimhse, ar leibhéal na seirbhísí trí Ghaeilge a chuirfear ar fáil.

Ina theannta sin, sonraítear roinnt forálacha ginearálta bunúsacha san Acht a mbeidh feidhm coitianta leo, mar shampla, comhfhreagras i dteanga oifigiúil a fhreagairt sa teanga oifigiúil chéanna, faisnéis a thabhairt don phobal i nGaeilge, nó i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla, foilseacháin dhátheangacha de dhoiciméid thábhachtacha áirithe, úsáid na Gaeilge sna cúirteanna, srl.

Foreword

The Official Languages Act 2003 was signed into law on 14 July 2003. The Act is the first piece of legislation to provide a statutory framework for the delivery of public services through the Irish Language.

Objective of Act

The primary objective of the Act is to ensure better availability and a higher standard of public services through Irish.

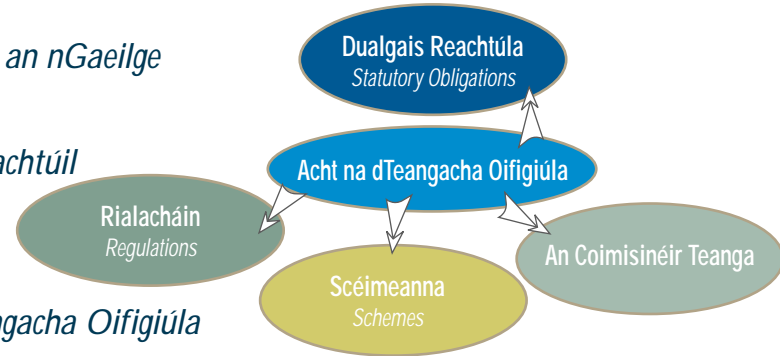
This will be principally achieved by placing a statutory obligation on Departments of State and public bodies to make specific provision for delivery of such services in a coherent and agreed fashion through a statutory planning framework, known as a "scheme", to be agreed on a three-year renewable basis between the head of the body concerned and the Minister. The Act provides for the preparation of guidelines by the Minister for public bodies in relation to the preparation of draft schemes. Schemes remain in force for 3 years and thereafter fall to be renewed. The intention is that this renewal process will be used to secure a significant improvement, over time, in the level of public services available through Irish over time, as demand requires.

The Act also specifies some basic general provisions of universal applicability, e.g. correspondence to be replied to in the language in which it was written, providing information to the public in the Irish language, or in the Irish and English languages, bilingual publications of certain key documents, use of Irish in the courts, etc.

Cuspóir an Achta

Is féidir príomh-ghnéithe an Achta maidir leis an nGaeilge a roinnt faoi cheithre réimse mar a leanas:

1. Dualgais shonracha a leagtar amach go reachtúil
2. Dualgais a shocrófar faoi Rialacháin
3. Dualgais maidir le "Scéimeanna"
4. Nithe a bhaineann le Coimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla



1. Dualgais Reachtúla

- Ceart ag gach duine Gaeilge a úsáid os comhair ceachtar Teach den Oireachtas ina n-áirítear aon choiste dá gcuid. [Alt 6]
- Achtanna a fhoilsiú i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla ag an am céanna [Alt 7]
- Ceart ag duine éisteacht a fháil agus an Ghaeilge a úsáid in imeachtaí cúirte [Alt 8]
- Ceart ag duine freagra a fháil i nGaeilge ó chomhlachtaí poiblí má chuirtear an comhfhreagras chucu sa teanga sin [Alt 9 (2)]
- Dualgas comhlachtaí poiblí a chinntiú go mbeidh aon chumarsáid- i scríbhinn nó leis an bpost leictreonach - a dhéantar leis an bpobal chun faisnéis a thabhairt i nGaeilge nó i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla. [Alt 9 (3)]

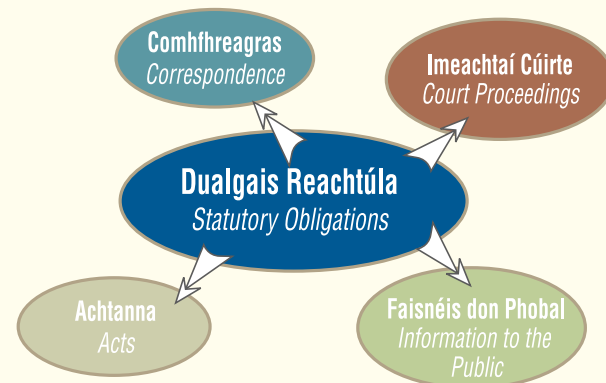
Objective of Act

The main provisions of the Act, with regard to the Irish language, can be divided into four categories:

1. Specific duties that are provided for in the legislation.
2. Duties that will be specified in Regulations
3. Duties in relation to "Schemes"
4. Issues concerning Coimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla

1. Statutory Obligations

- The right of any person to use the Irish language before either House of the Oireachtas including any committee thereof. [Section 6]
- Publication of Acts simultaneously in both Irish and English. [Section 7]
- The right of a person to be heard and to use the Irish language in court proceedings. [Section 8]
- The duty of public bodies to reply to correspondence - in writing or by electronic mail - in the language in which that correspondence was written. [Section 9 (2)]
- The duty of public bodies to ensure that any communication providing information to the public - in writing or by electronic mail - is in the Irish language only or in the Irish and English languages. [Section 9 (3)]

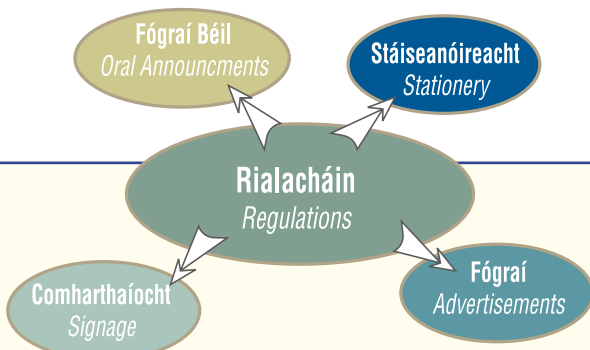


- Dualgas ar chomhlachtaí poiblí, ar chomhlachtaí Stáit iad freisin, doiciméid áirithe a mbeadh spéis ag an bpobal iontu, a fhoilsiú i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla ag an am céanna, mar shampla tuarascálacha bliantúla **[Alt 10]**
- Gaeilge amháin a bheith ar logainmneacha oifigiúla sa Ghaeltacht agus stádas comhionann a bheith ag an leagan Gaeilge agus Béarla do logainmneacha oifigiúla sa chuid eile den tír. **(Cuid 5)**

2. Dualgais faoi Rialacháin

Beidh cumhacht ag an Aire rialacháin a dhéanamh chun:

- lán-éifeacht a thabhairt do rud ar bith atá leagtha síos san Acht **[Alt 4]**
- úsáid na Gaeilge amháin, nó na Gaeilge agus an Bhéarla le chéile, a rialú ar fhógairtí béil – biodh said beo nó taifeadta, ar stáiseanóireacht, ar chomharthaí agus ar fhógraí. **[Alt 9 (1)]**



- The duty of public bodies, which are also State Bodies, to ensure that certain documents of public interest shall be published in each of the official languages simultaneously, for example, annual reports. **[Section 10]**
- Official placenames in Gaeltacht areas being in the Irish language only and equal status being given to the Irish and English language versions of official placenames in other parts of the country. **(Part 5)**

2. Duties under Regulations

The Minister will have the power to make regulations generally for the purposes of:

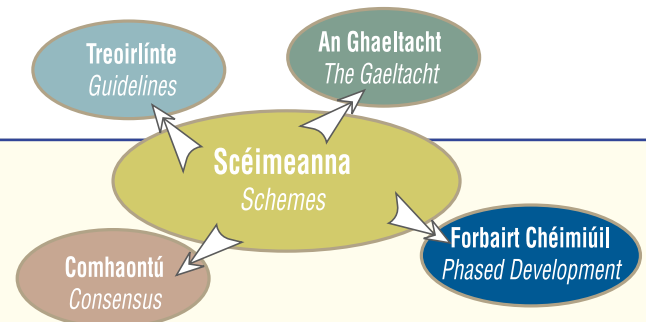
- giving full effect to the provisions of the Act. **[Section 4]**
- ensuring that the Irish language only, or the Irish and English languages together, are used, on oral announcements, -whether they be live or recorded, on stationery, on signage and on advertisements. **[Section 9 (1)]**

3. Dualgais faoi "Scéimeanna"

- Faoi **Alt 11** tá dualgas ar chomhlachtaí poiblí scéim a ullmhú a leagfaidh síos na seirbhísí atá i gceist acu a sholáthar
 - trí mheán na Gaeilge amháin,
 - trí mheán an Bhéarla amháin, agus
 - trí mheán na Gaeilge agus an Bhéarla araon;

agus na céimeanna atá i gceist a ghlacadh chun a chinntiú go mbeidh aon seirbhís nach bhfuil ar fáil trí Ghaeilge á soláthar sa teanga sin amach anseo.

- Faoi **Alt 12** réiteofar treoirínte chun cabhrú le comhlachtaí poiblí scéim a ullmhú.
- Faoi **Alt 13** tá dualgas ar chomhlachtaí poiblí a chinntiú go
 - bhfuil go leor foirne acu atá inniúil sa Ghaeilge. **[Alt 13 (2) (c)]**,
 - mbeidh freastal á dhéanamh ar na riachtanais áirithe Gaeilge a bhaineann le seirbhísí a sholáthar sa Ghaeltacht **[Alt 13 (2) (d)]**.



3. Duties under "Schemes"

- **Section 11** provides that public bodies have a duty to prepare a statutory scheme detailing the services that they will provide
 - through the medium of Irish,
 - through the medium of English, and
 - through the medium of Irish and English;

and the measures to be adopted to ensure that any service not provided by the body through the medium of the Irish language will be so provided.

- **Section 12** provides that guidelines shall be prepared to assist public bodies in the preparation of schemes.
- **Section 13** provides that public bodies have a duty to ensure that
 - an adequate number of its staff are competent in the Irish language. **[section 13 (2) (c)]**
 - the particular Irish language requirements associated with the provision of services in Gaeltacht areas are met. **[Section 13 (2) (d)]**

- mbeidh an Ghaeilge mar theanga oibre ina gcuid oifigí atá lonnaithe sa Ghaeltacht laistigh de thréimhse ama a bheidh le haontú idir an comhlacht poiblí agus an Aire. [Alt 13 (2) (e)]

- Faoi Alt 14 leagtar síos na nósanna imeachta maidir le dréacht-scéim a dheimhniú. Ach scéim a bheith deimhnithe, cuirfear cóip ar aghaidh chuig Coimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla. Fanfaidh scéimeanna i bhfeidhm ar feadh thréimhse trí bliana de ghnáth agus ina



dhiadh sin caithfear iad a athnuachan. Úsáidfean an próiseas seo chun feabhas suntasach chéimiúil a bhaint amach ar leibhéal na seirbhísí trí Ghaeilge a chuirfear ar fáil.

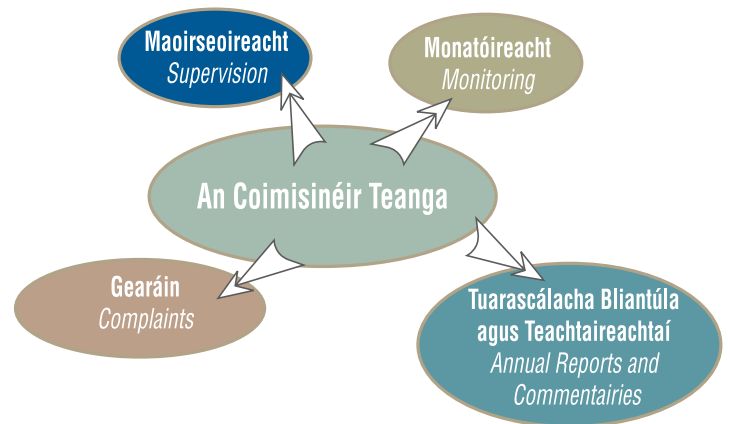
“Tá an dhátheangachas seo an-suimiúil...”

- the Irish language becomes the working language in its offices situated in the Gaeltacht areas within a certain timeframe to be agreed between the public body and the Minister. [Section 13 (2) (e)]

- Section 14 sets out the procedures concerning confirmation of a draft-scheme. Once a "Scheme" is confirmed a copy will be forwarded to Coimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla. Schemes will usually remain in force for 3 years and thereafter fall to be renewed. This process will be used to secure a significant gradual improvement in the level of public services which will be available through Irish.

4. Coimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla

Faoi Alt 20 tá Oifig Choimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla le bunú chun maoirseacht agus monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar an Acht agus chun féachaint chuige go gcuirfear i bhfeidhm é. Tabharfar An Coimisinéir Teanga ar an gCoimisinéir. Beidh cumhacht ag an gCoimisinéir gearáin a fhiosrú agus cúis dlí a thionscnamh i gcoinne chomhlachta phoiblí i gcás nach gcuirtear eolas a iarrtar ar fáil. Beidh an Coimisinéir neamhspleách agus ceapfaidh an tUachtarán é nó í.



4. Coimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla

Section 20 provides for the establishment of Oifig Choimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla to supervise and monitor the Act and to ensure that the Act is implemented. The Commissioner will be known as An Coimisinéir Teanga. The Commissioner will have the power to investigate complaints and take legal action against any public body where requested information is not provided. The Commissioner will be independent and will be appointed by the President.

Comhthuiscint | UNDERSTANDING

Ceisteanna a chuirtear faoin Acht go rialta

1. Cad é cuspóir an Achta?

Is é bun-chuspóir an Achta ná soláthar níos mó de sheirbhísí i nGaeilge a chur ar fáil ón seirbhís phoiblí ar chaighdeán níos airde.

2. An mbeidh ceart agam freagra a fháil i nGaeilge ó chomhlacht Stáit má scríobhaim chucu sa teanga sin?

Beidh. Tá an ceart sin luaithe go sonrath i **Alt 9 (2)**.

3. An mbeidh dualgas ar chomhlachtaí poiblí a chinntiú go mbeidh aon fhaisnéis a chuireann siad ar fáil don phobal i nGaeilge amháin nó go dátheangach?

Beidh. Tá an dualgas sin luaithe go sonrath i **Alt 9 (3)**.

4. An mbeidh seirbhísí trí Ghaeilge níos fearr ar fáil ó chomhlacht Stáit atá ag feidhmiú sa Ghaeltacht?

Beidh. Tá na dualgais seo a leanas sonraithe san Acht a chabhróidh go mór le leibhéal agus caighdeán na seirbhísí trí Ghaeilge a chuirfear ar fáil do mhuintir na Ghaeltachta a fheabhsú:

- Ceart ag duine éisteacht a fháil agus an Ghaeilge a úsáid in imeachtaí cúirte. **[Alt 8]**
- ceart ag duine freagra a fháil i nGaeilge ó chomhlachtaí poiblí má chuirtear an chomhfhreagras chucu sa teanga sin. **[Alt 9 (2)]**
- Dualgas comhlachtaí poiblí a chinntiú go mbeidh aon chumarsáid- i scríbhinn nó leis an bpost leictreonach -a dhéantar leis an bpobal chun faisnéis a thabhairt i nGaeilge nó i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla. **[Alt 9 (3)]**

Comhpháirtíocht / PARTNERSHIP

Questions that are frequently asked about the Act

1. What is the objective of the Act?

The primary objective of the Act is to ensure better availability and a higher standard of public services through Irish.

2. Will I have the right to receive an answer in Irish from a State body if I write to them in that language?

Yes. That right is specifically included in **Section 9 (2)**.

3. Will there be a duty on public bodies to ensure that any information being provided by them to the public will be in the Irish language only or bilingual?

Yes. That duty is specifically included in **Section 9 (3)**.

4. Will there be better services available through Irish from State bodies that are operating in the Gaeltacht?

Yes. The following duties that are specifically included in the Act will greatly help to improve both the level and standard of services through Irish that will be provided to the people of the Gaeltacht:

- The right of a person to use the Irish language in court proceedings. **[Section 8]**
- The right of a person to receive an answer in Irish from public bodies if the correspondence is sent to them in that language. **[Section 9 (2)]**
- The duty of public bodies to ensure that any communication providing information to the public – in writing or by electronic mail – is in the Irish language only or in the Irish and English languages. **[Section 9 (3)]**

- dualgas comhlachtaí poiblí scéim a ullmhú a leagfaidh síos na seirbhísí atá i gceist acu a chur ar fáil trí mheán na Gaeilge amháin. [Alt 11]
- dualgas chomhlachtaí poiblí a chinntiú go
 - bhfuil go leor foirne acu atá inniúil sa Ghaeilge [Alt 13 (2) (c)]
 - mbeidh freastal a dhéanamh ar na riachtanais áirithe Ghaeilge a bhaineann le seirbhísí a sholáthar sa Ghaeltacht. [Alt 13 (2) (d)]
 - mbeidh an Ghaeilge mar theanga oibre ina gcuid oifigí atá lonnaithe sa Ghaeltacht laistigh de thréimhse ama a bheidh le haontú idir an comhlacht poiblí agus an Aire. [Alt 13 (2) (e)]

5. Céard faoi úsáid na Gaeilge sna cúirteanna?

Faoi **Alt 8** tá ceart ag duine éisteacht a fháil agus an Ghaeilge a úsáid sna cúirteanna.

6. Céard is brí le "scéim" i gcomhthéacs an Achta seo?

Is bealach nó córas pleanála reachtúil atá i gceist chun dualgas a chur ar chomhlachtaí poiblí leibhéal agus caighdeán na seirbhísí a chuirtear ar fáil trí Ghaeilge a fheabhsú go céimiúil.

7. An mbeidh costas i gceist má thógaim gearán chuig an gCoimisinéir Teanga?

Ní bheidh. Faoi **Alt 21 (f)** tá cead ag duine gearán a dhéanamh leis an gCoimisinéir agus tá dualgas ar na gCoimisinéir an gearán sin a scrúdú.

8. An mbeidh aon phionós ar chomhlacht Stáit má theipeann air seirbhísí trí Ghaeilge a sholáthar mar a bhí geallta?

Tá an chumhacht ag an Aire faoi **Alt 27**, le cead an Aire Airgeadais, scéim chúitimh a thabhairt isteach amach anseo sa chás go dteipeann ar chomhlacht na seirbhísí trí Ghaeilge a bhí geallta a chur ar fáil. Gan amhras is féidir le duine gearán a dhéanamh leis an gCoimisinéir Teanga faoi seo agus tá dualgas air siúd an gearán sin a fhiosrú.

- The duty of public bodies to prepare a scheme that will set out the services which they propose to provide in the Irish language only. [Section 11]
- The duty of public bodies to ensure that:
 - an adequate number of its staff are competent in the Irish language [Section 13 (2) (c)]
 - any particular linguistic requirements associated with the provision of services in Gaeltacht areas are met. [Section 13 (2) (d)]
 - the Irish language shall become the working language of public offices situated in the Gaeltacht areas, within a certain timeframe to be agreed between the public body and the Minister. [Section 13 (2) (e)]

5. What about the use of Irish in the Courts?

Section 8 provides that a person has the right to be heard and to use the Irish language in the courts.

6. What is the meaning of a "scheme" in the context of this Act?

It is a method or a statutory planning system that puts a duty on public bodies to gradually improve both the level and standard of the services it provides through Irish.

7. Will there be costs involved if I take a complaint to An Coimisinéir Teanga?

No. **Section 21(f)** provides that a person has the right to make a complaint to An Coimisinéir Teanga and the Commissioner is obliged to examine that complaint.

8. Will there be any penalty on a State body if they fail to provide services through Irish as had been promised?

The Minister has the power under **Section 27**, with the permission of the Minister for Finance, to introduce a compensation scheme in the future in the case that a body fails to provide services through Irish which had been promised. A person can also make a complaint to An Coimisinéir Teanga regarding this matter and the Commissioner is obliged to investigate that complaint.

Sin ráite, ní miste a rá á go bhfuil an bhéim san Acht ar dhaoine agus chomhlachtaí poiblí a thabhairt linn trí dul i gcomhairle leo, plé a dhéanamh agus teacht ar chomhthuiscint agus chomhaontú leo maidir le cur i bhfeidhm an Achta. Is ar bhonn comhpháirtíochta agus comhoibriú le chéile, mar sin, a thabharfar feidhm iomlán don Acht seo in áit a bheith ag brath ar an "láimh láidir". Ní miste a rá chomh maith go mbeidh, don chéad uair riamh, dualgas reachtúil ar chomhlachtaí poiblí seirbhísí a chur ar fáil trí Ghaeilge don duine atá á lorg.

9. An mbeidh ar mo chumas cás cúirte a thógáil má theipeann ar chomhlacht Stáit seirbhís trí Ghaeilge a chur ar fáil dom, mar a bhí geallta acu?

Beidh. Anuas ar sin, beidh cead ag duine faoi **Alt 21 (c)** den Acht dul chuig an gCoimisinéir Teangacha chun gearán a dhéanamh agus a iarraidh ar an gCoimisinéir an gearán sin a fhiosrú.

That said, it must be stated that the emphasis in the Act is on bringing people and public bodies with us through consulting them, discussing and coming to a mutual understanding and consensus with them in relation to implementing the provisions of the Act. It is on the basis of partnership and co-operating together, therefore, that this Act will be given full effect, rather than being dependent on the "láimh láidir". It must be also stated that, for the first time, there will be a statutory obligation on public bodies to provide services through Irish to the person requesting them.

9. Will I be able to take a court case if a State body fails to provide me with a service through Irish, as they had promised?

Yes. In addition a person has also the right under **Section 21 (c)** of the Act to make a complaint to An Coimisinéir Teanga and to ask the Commissioner to investigate this complaint.

10. An bhfuil an Acht seo ag laghdú mo chearta bunreachtúla maidir leis an nGaeilge?

Is bun-phrionsabal dlí é nach féidir le reachtaíocht laghdú a dhéanamh ar chearta bunreachtúla an duine. Tá comhairle láidir dlí ar fáil don Roinn go bhfuil forálacha an Achta i gcomhréir le Airteagal 8 den Bhunreacht. Is éard atá i gceist go bunúsach san Acht ná struchtúr reachtúil a chur ar fáil le leibhéal agus le caighdeán na seirbhísí poiblí a chuirtear ar fáil trí Ghaeilge a fheabhsú go céimíúil.

11. An gcabhróidh an Acht seo le tuilleadh fostaíochta a chruthú a bheidh dírithe ar an nGaeilge?

Is cinnte go gcabhróidh. Mar shampla, beidh:

- Achtanna le foilsíú i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla ag an am céanna. **[Alt 7]**.
- an Ghaeilge á húsáid ar fhógairtí béil – bíodh said beo nó taifeadta, ar stáiseanóireacht, ar chomharthaí agus ar fhógraí. **[Alt 9 (1)]**

10. Will this Act reduce my constitutional rights in relation to the Irish language?

It is a basic principle of law that legislation cannot reduce the constitutional rights of a person. The strong legal advice available to the Department is that the provisions of this Act are in accordance with Article 8 of the Constitution. This Act basically involves the provision of a legal framework that will gradually improve both the level and standard of public services provided through Irish.

11. Will this Act help to create more employment that will be directed towards the Irish language?

It certainly will. For example, the following are requirements under the provisions of the Act:

- publication of Acts in Irish and English simultaneously **[Section 7]**.
- use of Irish on oral announcements, whether they be live or recorded, on stationery, on signage and on advertisements. **[Section 9 (1)]**

- doiciméid áirithe a mbeidh spéise ag an bpobal iontu a fhoilsiú i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla ag an am céanna, mar shampla tuarascálacha bliantúla. **[Alt 10]**
- dualgas ar chomhlachtaí a chinntiú go
 - mbeidh aon chumarsáid- i scríbhinn nó leis an bpost leictreonach - a dhéantar leis an bpobal chun faisnéis a thabhairt i nGaeilge nó i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla. **[Alt 9 (3)]**
 - bhfuil go leor foirne acu atá inniúil sa Ghaeilge **[Alt 13 (2) (c)]**
 - mbeidh freastal a dhéanamh ar na riachtanais áirithe Ghaeilge a bhaineann le seirbhísí a sholáthar sa Ghaeltacht. **[Alt 13 (2) (d)]**
 - mbeidh an Ghaeilge mar theanga oibre ina gcuid oifigí atá lonnaithe sa Ghaeltacht laistigh de thréimhse ama a bheidh le haontú idir an comhlacht poiblí agus an Aire. **[Alt 13 (2) (e)]**

Is cinnte mar sin go mbeidh éileamh mór ar dhaoine le Gaeilge sa Státchóras go ginearálta agus gur buntáiste ar leith Gaeilge líofa a bheith ag duine.

12. An mbeidh feabhas le hathaint láithreach maidir le soláthar seirbhíse trí Ghaeilge?

Is Acht é seo ina bhfuil i gceist seirbhísí trí Ghaeilge a fheabhsú go céimiúil ar bhonn pleanála agus dá bhrí sin beidh na nithe éagsúla seo a leanas le déanamh:

- (a) treoirlínte le hullmhú;
- (b) rialacháin le hullmhú;
- (c) dréacht-scéim le hullmhú ag comhlachtaí poiblí agus le haontú leis an Aire, agus
- (d) Oifig Choimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla le bunú agus Coimisinéir le ceapadh

Mar sin, meastar go mbeadh sé níos réalaíche a rá go mbeidh feabhas le haithint ar leibhéal agus ar chaighdeán na seirbhíse a chuirfear ar fáil trí Ghaeilge laistigh de thréimhse feidhme na scéimeanna tosaigh.

- publication of certain documents of public interest in each of the official languages simultaneously, for example, annual reports. **[Section 10]**
- duty of public bodies to ensure that:
 - any communication providing information to the public – in writing or by electronic mail – is in the Irish language only or in the Irish and English languages. **[Section 9 (3)]**
 - an adequate number of its staff are competent in the Irish language **[Section 13 (2) (c)]**
 - any particular linguistic requirements associated with the provision of services in Gaeltacht areas are met. **[Section 13 (2) (d)]**
 - the Irish language shall become the working language of public offices situated in the Gaeltacht areas, within a certain timeframe to be agreed between the public body and the Minister. **[Section 13 (2) (e)]**

It is certain therefore that there will be a greater demand for people who are competent in the Irish language in the Public Sector in general and that it will be a specific advantage for a person to have fluency in the language.

12. Will there be an immediately recognised improvement in relation to the provision of services through Irish?

The purpose of this Act is to gradually improve services through Irish on a planned basis and therefore the following issues will have to be addressed:

- (a) preparation of guidelines;
- (b) preparation of regulations;
- (c) preparation of draft-schemes by public bodies which are required to be agreed with the Minister,
- (d) establishment of Oifig Choimisinéir na dTeangacha Oifigiúla and the appointment of the Commissioner

In these circumstances it is more realistic to anticipate that there will be a noticeable improvement in both the level and standard of the services provided through Irish during the course of the initial schemes.

13. Cén fáth nach bhfuil comhlachtaí príobháideachtaí mar chomhlachtaí teileachumarsáide clúdaithe san Acht?

Leagtar amach ag **Alt 1 (5)** sa Chéad Sceideal den Acht gur féidir scóip an Achta a leathnú amach anseo chuig earnálacha eile den gheilleagar, seachas an earnáil phoiblí, ina measc comhlachtaí teileachumarsáide, na bainc agus cuideachtaí árachais.



"Cuirtear fáilte roimh ghnó trí ghaeilge anseo..."

13. Why are private companies such as telecommunications companies not covered in the Act?

Section 1(5) of the First Schedule of the Act provides that the scope of the Act can be broadened in the future to other sectors of the economy, other than the public sector, including telecommunications companies, banks and insurance companies.



"Tá áthas orm go bhfuil gaeilge agat..."



"Sin ceist eile..."

Acht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla 2003

Dualais Reachtúla

An Coimisinéir Teanga

Scéimeanna

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