

# Cornish National Minority Working Group

## Work Plan Summary

**In 2014 the Cornish people were acknowledged by the UK Government as a National Minority under the Council of Europe's Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (FCPNM).**

Recognition under the Framework Convention ensures that the Cornish are given the same protections as the Welsh, Scottish and the Irish. This means that Government departments and public bodies must consider the rights of the Cornish when making decisions.

The Working Group was established in 2015 primarily to support the implementation of the FCPNM. The Group also oversees progress against the European Charter for Regional Minority Languages (ECRML).

Members of the Working Group are responsible for promoting and celebrating Cornish National Minority status, holding the UK Government to account as signatory to the FCPNM, and supporting the development of Cornish as a community language.

**Our future Work Plan focuses on actions that will be taken by Cornwall Council and its partners to support the implementation of the principles of the FCPNM and the ECRML, together with additional actions formulated as a result of engagement with members of our Cornish National Minority.**



# Our priorities for 2022-26

## OUTCOME 1

**Support democracy and the ‘Levelling up’ agenda through discussions with our MPs and government ministers**



Our vision: to see Cornwall secure a meaningful devolution settlement which will drive green and inclusive growth that meets the needs of our communities, protects the unique characteristics of Cornish identity, and appropriately reflects Cornwall’s position as a Celtic nation within the UK.

Our ambition is that:

- ▶ By 2023, we will have secured a Devolution Deal, which will serve as a pilot for devolution in rural areas across England
- ▶ In 2023, we will hold a second UK National Minority Summit, strengthening our links with the other Celtic Nations of the UK and beyond
- ▶ By 2025, Cornwall will have piloted the ‘blueprint’ for devolution in rural areas, having secured increased powers to set its own devolved agenda.

## OUTCOME 2

**Support and develop Cornish education, language, culture and heritage**



Our vision: to empower Cornish people to maintain and develop their culture, preserving the essential elements of their identity – language, traditions and cultural heritage.

We aim to place Cornish education, language, traditions and cultural heritage at the heart of everything we do, and our ambition is to ensure that:

- ▶ By 2023 a Cornish curriculum is rolled out in schools across Cornwall
- ▶ By 2023, the Cornish language is taught in at least 20 Cornish primary schools and is fully accessible to adult learners throughout Cornwall
- ▶ By 2023, Cornwall has access to a Government commissioning fund to support Cornish culture and language
- ▶ By 2025, the Cornish language is accessible to all schools across Cornwall, with accredited qualifications in Cornish in secondary schools and higher education.

## OUTCOME 3

**Develop a robust evidence base to identify and understand priorities for the Cornish national minority**



Our vision: to ensure the needs of the Cornish National Minority are taken into account in all public sector decision-making.

Our ambition is that:

- ▶ By 2023 we will have a complete picture of public sector data collection in Cornwall and a plan in place to address identified gaps in the collection of data relating to the Cornish
- ▶ By 2024 all public sector bodies in Cornwall will collect data relating to the Cornish and use it when planning their services
- ▶ By 2025 the UK Government will recognise the importance of monitoring Cornish identity across the UK, and data on the Cornish is collected by all Central Government departments and used to inform decision-making.

## OUTCOME 4

**Develop a co-ordinated approach to communication and engagement**



Our vision: to create a culture of open and honest two-way communication with colleagues, local communities, Cornish diaspora, partners and government.

Our ambition is that:

- ▶ By 2023, we will have established regular dialogue with the Cornish National Minority to ensure that decision-making is undertaken with respect to their traditions and identity
- ▶ By 2024, Cornwall is well-known on the world stage through promoting international events as part of a ‘Global Kernow’ campaign
- ▶ By 2025, a well-established Cornish public service media is in place, serving the needs of the Cornish National Minority community and providing digital content for audiences in Cornwall and beyond.