

EXECUTIVE BOARD

18TH DECEMBER 2017

ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17 ON THE WELSH LANGUAGE

Purpose:

To receive the annual report in relation to the Welsh language and the introduction of the Standards during 2016-17

Recommendations / key decisions required:

To approve the annual report in relation to the Welsh language and the introduction of the Standards during 2016-17

Reasons:

It is a statutory responsibility for the Authority to implement the Welsh language Standards. As part of the Standards, we must publish an Annual Report which outlines the implementation work.

Relevant scrutiny committee consulted:

YES (Policy & Resources Scrutiny on 6 December 2017)

Exec Board Decision Required	YES
Council Decision Required	NO

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- Cllr. Peter Hughes Griffiths

Directorate	Regeneration & Policy	Tel Nos / E Mail
Name of Head of Service:	Designations:	Addresses:
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17 ON THE WELSH LANGUAGE

1. BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT.

This Annual Report has been produced in order to comply with the Welsh Language Commissioner's monitoring arrangements. The Welsh Language Commissioner gave Carmarthenshire County Council a compliance notice regarding the Welsh Language Standards Regulations on 30 September 2015 which required CCC to comply with most of the standards by 31 March 2016.

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 places a duty on county councils and county borough councils in Wales, national park authorities and Welsh Ministers to comply with standards in relation to the Welsh language.

The Standards mean that the Welsh language must not be treated less favourably than the English language, and must also promote or facilitate the use of the Welsh language. This is in accordance with the two principles that form the basis of the Welsh Language Commissioner's work:

- in Wales, the Welsh language should be treated no less favourably than the English language
- persons in Wales should be able to live their lives through the medium of the Welsh language if they choose to do so.

This report provides the detail in relation to the individual Standards; however, it is proposed that the Report for 2017-18 will be streamlined to report on the group of Standards rather than the individual areas.

2. OTHER OPTIONS AVAILABLE AND THEIR PROS AND CONS

Preparing an Annual Report is set as a specific Standard (158).

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES
Annual Report 2016-17

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: **WS Walters**

Director of Regeneration and Policy

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

The Compliance Notice received from the Welsh Language Commissioner on 30 September 2015 required the Authority to comply with a new set of Standards by 31 March 2016.

2. Legal

The Welsh Language Standards Regulations 2015 came into force on 31 March 2015. These Regulations replace the responsibilities placed on Carmarthenshire County Council under the Welsh Language Act 1993 and were imposed on the Authority on 31 March 2016.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: **WS Walters**

Director of Regeneration and Policy

1. Scrutiny Committee - 6 December 2017

2. Local Member(s) - n/a

3. Community / Town Council - n/a

4. Relevant Partners - n/a

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations - n/a

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011		(Welsh version) http://www.legislation.gov.uk/mwa/2011/1/pdfs/mwa_20110001_w_e.pdf (English version) http://www.legislation.gov.uk/mwa/2011/1/pdfs/mwa_20110001_e_n.pdf
Carmarthenshire County Council's Welsh Language Standards – Compliance Notice		(Welsh version) http://www.sirgar.llyw.cymru/media/1885671/20170321-hysbysiad-cydymffurfio44-cyngor-sir-g%C3%A2r-cy-.pdf (English version) http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1885670/20170321-hysbysiad-cydymffurfio44-cyngor-sir-g%C3%A2r-en-.pdf