

# EXECUTIVE BOARD 19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016

## Policy on the Internal use of the Welsh language

### Purpose:

The draft Policy of the Internal use of the Welsh language has been prepared as part of the Council's responsibilities through the Welsh language Standards.

### Recommendations / key decisions required:

- That the Executive Board discusses the draft Policy of the Internal use of the Welsh language and provide any comments.

### Reasons:

- The County Council is required to prepare a Policy on the Internal use of the Welsh language as part of the Welsh language Standards framework (Standard 98)

Exec Board Decision Required                      Yes

Council Decision Required                      NO

### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- Cllr. Mair Stephens

Directorate

Name of Head of Service:

Wendy Walters

Report Author:

Llinos Evans

Designations:

Assistant Chief Executive  
(Regeneration & Policy)

Policy & Partnership Officer

Tel Nos.

01267 224112 / 4914

E Mail Addresses:

[WSWalters@sirgar.gov.uk](mailto:WSWalters@sirgar.gov.uk)

[Llinevans@sirgar.gov.uk](mailto:Llinevans@sirgar.gov.uk)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
EXECUTIVE BOARD  
19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016**

**POLICY ON THE INTERNAL USE OF THE WELSH LANGUAGE**

**1. BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT**

Carmarthenshire County Council received its Compliance Notice in relation to the Welsh language Standards in September 2016.

As part of the Standards we are required to prepare and publish a Policy on the Internal use of the Welsh language, which aims to promote and facilitate the use of the Language in our day to day work and in our workplaces.

Many of the opportunities outlined in the draft policy were previously in place and are requirements of the new Welsh language Standards or supported through the previously approved 'The Welsh Language in Carmarthenshire' report and recommendations (March 2014) and Welsh Language Skills Strategy. However this policy provides us with an opportunity to collate and review the information and subsequently our approach.

**2. OTHER OPTIONS AVAILABLE AND THEIR PROS AND CONS**

Preparing and publishing a Policy on the Internal use of the Welsh language is a statutory responsibility under the Welsh Language Measure (2011).

**DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?**

**YES  
(Draft Policy)**

# 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: **W.S.Walters** Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration & Policy)

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

## 1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

The Council has a statutory responsibility to meet the Welsh language Standards, which have been placed on us as part of the Welsh Language Measure (2011).

## 2. Legal

The Welsh Language Standards Regulations 2015 came into force on 31 March 2015. These Regulations have replaced the responsibilities placed on Carmarthenshire County Council under the Welsh Language Act 1993 and have been imposed on the council since 31 March 2016.

## 3. Finance

The cost for majority of the support outlined in the Policy is already met by current budgets.

There is however a need to look at the Welsh language learning / improvement opportunities which may lead to increased costs.

## CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below  
Signed: W.S.Walters Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration & Policy)

1. Scrutiny Committee - N/A

2. Local Member(s) - N/A

3. Community / Town Council - N/A

4. Relevant Partners - N/A

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

The draft Policy has been discussed by the Members Advisory Panel on the Welsh language and the Staff Working Group – Welsh language Standards (both chaired by Cllr Mair Stephens)

The draft Policy was discussed at the Corporate Employee Relations Forum on 17 June 2016. The CERF group support the Policy in principle however concern was noted in relation to costs of implementing the Policy. The CERF group has asked CCC to discuss the funding for the implementation of this Policy with the Welsh Government.

The draft Policy was discussed at Corporate Management Team on 19 July 2016. CMT agreed on the Policy pending one amendment on page 4 (paragraph 2) to change the word atmosphere to culture.

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

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

**THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW**

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Welsh Language Standards		<a href="http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1443477/Carmarthenshire-Welsh-Language-Standards.pdf">http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/media/1443477/Carmarthenshire-Welsh-Language-Standards.pdf</a>