

Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee

2 March 2021

WELSH LANGUAGE ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20

Purpose:

To consider the Welsh Language Annual Report for 2019-20

To consider and comment on the following issues:

The Welsh Language Annual Report for 2019-20 and the implementation of the Welsh Language Standards across the Council.

Reasons:

The Authority has a statutory duty to implement the Welsh Language Standards. As part of those Standards, we are required to publish an Annual Report to outline how the work was carried out.

To be referred to the Executive Board for decision: YES

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:-

Cllr. Peter Hughes-Griffiths, Executive Board Member for Culture, Sport & Tourism

Directorate

Name of Head of Service:

Noelwyn Daniel

Report Author:

Llinos Evans & Myfanwy Jones

Designations:

Head of ICT & Policy

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
POLICY & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
2 MARCH 2021

Welsh Language Annual Report 2019-20

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 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.

The Welsh language Standards have replaced the Welsh language schemes and will:

- provide greater clarity to organisations on their duties on the Welsh language;
- provide greater clarity to Welsh speakers about the services they can expect to receive in Welsh;
- Ensure more consistency of Welsh language services and improve their quality.
- The Welsh Language Commissioner's Assurance Report 2019-20 notes that our performance was excellent in the provision of services through the medium of Welsh, with the only exception being self-service machines. With the county's parking payment machines currently being upgraded, this issue will soon be resolved.
- Areas sampled include correspondence, telephone calls, reception areas, forms, press releases, social media, website, jobs advertised and signage. Of the sample undertaken, the areas noted above were fully compliant.

2. OTHER OPTIONS AVAILABLE AND THEIR PROS AND CONS

Preparing an Annual Report for publication on the Council's website is a statutory requirement under the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES
Annual Report 2019-20

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: Noelwyn Daniel

Head of ICT & Corporate Policy

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

Head of ICT & Corporate Policy

1. Local Member(s) N/A

2. Community / Town Council N/A

3. Relevant Partners N/A

4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations N/A

EXECUTIVE BOARD PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED
YES

Include any observations here

**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 (Wales) Measure 2011		Welsh version http://www.legislation.gov.uk/mwa/2011/1/pdfs/mwa_20110001_we.pdf English version http://www.legislation.gov.uk/mwa/2011/1/pdfs/mwa_20110001_en.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
Closing the Gap: The Welsh Language Commissioner's Assurance Report 2019-20		Welsh Version http://www.comisiynyddygydraeg.cymru/Cymraeg/Rhestr%20Cyhoeddiadau/20200911%20Adroddiad%20sicrwydd%202019-20.pdf English version http://www.comisiynyddygydraeg.cymru/English/Publications%20List/20200911%20Assurance%20report%202019-20.pdf