

**8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2016**

<b>Executive Board Member:</b>	<b>Portfolio:</b>
<b>Cllr. L.M. Stephens</b>	<b>Human Resources, Efficiencies &amp; Collaboration</b>

## **Welsh Language Annual Report 2015-16**

### **Purpose:**

**Annual Report on the Carmarthenshire County Council's work in relation to the Welsh language 2015-16.**

**The report will be presented to the Welsh Language Commissioner by 30 June 2016.**

### **Recommendations / key decisions required:**

- That the Executive Board Member approves the Annual Report for 2015-16 in order for the report to be formally presented to the Welsh Language Commissioner.

### **Reasons:**

- The County Council has a statutory responsibility to prepare an Annual Report to the Welsh language Commissioner.
- The report also includes an update on the 'Welsh language in Carmarthenshire' report.

<b>Directorate</b> <b>Name of Head of Service:</b> Wendy Walters  <b>Report Author:</b> Llinos Evans	<b>Designation</b> Assistant Chief Executive – Regeneration & Policy  <b>Policy &amp; Partnership Officer</b>	<b>Tel No.</b> 01267 224112/ 01267224914 <b>E Mail Address:</b> <a href="mailto:WSWalters@carmarthenshire.gov.uk">WSWalters@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</a> <a href="mailto:LlinEvans@carmarthenshire.gov.uk">LlinEvans@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</a>
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**Declaration of Personal Interest (if any):**

None

**Dispensation Granted to Make Decision (if any):**

N/A

**DECISION MADE:**

Signed:

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER

**The following section will be completed by the Democratic Services Officer in attendance at the meeting**

Recommendation of Officer adopted	YES / NO
Recommendation of the Officer was adopted <b>subject to the amendment(s) and reason(s) specified:</b>	
Reason(s) why the Officer's recommendation was <b>not adopted:</b>	

**Executive Board Member Decision Meeting – Human Resources,  
Efficiencies and Collaboration  
8<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

**Welsh Language Annual Report 2015-16**

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

This Annual Report on the Welsh Language has been produced in order to comply with the Welsh Language Commissioner's monitoring arrangements.

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.

The Standards framework has replaced the Welsh language schemes from 31 March 2016. Standards will:

- provide greater clarity to organizations 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 gave Carmarthenshire County Council a compliance notice regarding the Welsh Language Standards Regulations on 30 September 2015 which requires CCC to comply with most of the standards by 31 March 2016.

This report summarises the preparatory work in relation to the Standards and also provides an update on the recommendations included in the 'Welsh Language in Carmarthenshire' report.

**DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?**

**YES**

**Adroddiad Blynyddol 2015-16  
Annual Report 2015-16**

## 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: Wendy Walters

Assistant Chief Executive

Policy and Crime & Disorder	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Organisational Development	Physical Assets
<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>	<b>NONE</b>

### 1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

The new Compliance Notice received from the Welsh Language Commissioner on 30 September 2015 requires 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 will be 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: Wendy Walters

Assistant Chief Executive

### 1. Scrutiny Committee

The Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee will receive the report in the Autumn.

### 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:**

**THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW OR THERE ARE NONE** (Delete as applicable)

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Welsh language Standards		<a href="http://www.sirgar.llyw.cymru/media/1443483/Safonau-laith-Cyngor-Sir-G%C3%A2r.pdf">http://www.sirgar.llyw.cymru/media/1443483/Safonau-laith-Cyngor-Sir-G%C3%A2r.pdf</a>  <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>