

EDUCATION, YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE WELSH LANGUAGE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

5 MAY 2023

POLICY ON AWARDING GRANTS AND THE WELSH LANGUAGE

Purpose:

To agree the Policy on Awarding Grants and the Welsh Language for the Council, in order to ensure consistency across grant schemes and compliance with the Welsh Language Standards.

The Scrutiny Committee is asked to:-

Consider the Policy on Awarding Grants for 2023-28 and to provide feedback prior to consideration by Cabinet.

Reason(s)

It is a statutory duty on the Council to implement the Welsh Language Standards. As part of those Standards, we are required to publish a grant awarding policy which ensures that we have a positive impact on people's opportunities to use the Welsh language when we make decisions about awarding grants.

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- Councillor Glynog Davies and Councillor Gareth Jones

Directorate

Name of Head of Service:

Noelwyn Daniel

Report Author:

Myfanwy Jones

Designations:

Head of IT & Policy

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

POLICY ON AWARDING GRANTS AND THE WELSH LANGUAGE

1. BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT.

This Policy has been prepared in order to comply with the Welsh Language Standards (The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011). Carmarthenshire County Council's compliance notice states that we must 'produce and publish a policy on awarding grants' that requires us to consider the effects that awarding a grant will have on 'opportunities for persons to use Welsh', and on 'not treating Welsh less favourably than English'.

The Policy has been developed in full discussion between the Corporate Policy Team (who lead on the Welsh language standards) and Economic Development Team (who lead on grant administration).

Although there have been arrangements in place previously to ensure that grant awarded bodies comply with the Welsh Language Standards, there has not been a Policy in place, nor a formal consideration of the impact that awarding the grant would have on residents' use of Welsh.

The Policy details the Council's commitment to administering Grants in accordance with the Standards and explains the way in which the Council will pass on these duties to the applicants. The procedures detailed have been formulated in order to guide the applicants towards ensuring a positive impact of their activities on the Welsh Language. The Policy outlines the expectations that need to be applied in the grant awarding process from the initial information given to potential applicants, through to the application form and the information given to successful applicants.

There is a practical set of exemplary commitments provided in the information given to potential applicants which will guide the applicant to planning a positive impact on the Welsh Language through the administration and application of their proposed activities. These commitments will then be transferred from the application form to the information given to successful applicants. From there, the Policy explains that the commitments to the Welsh Language will be reported upon and monitored.

Finally, the Policy includes an appendix of information on support for candidates working bilingually, and a checklist for officers to ensure the correct application of the Policy in practical terms.

The Policy will align with the Council's Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2023-28 and the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES

Policy on awarding grants and the Welsh Language

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
Jason Jones, Head of Regeneration

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

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

The introduction of the Policy on Awarding Grants and the Welsh Language fulfils a requirement as part of the Standards set upon the Council under the Compliance Notice received from the Welsh Language Commissioner on 30 September 2015.

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.

Finance

The policy introduces a new way of working amongst our key grant opportunities as a Council.

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDERS AWARE/CONSULTED

Cllr. Glynog Davies and Cllr. Gareth John

YES

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 Compliance Notice		Welsh Language Standards (Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011) Compliance Notice (gov.wales)