

Panel Ymgynghorol yr Iaith Gymraeg

Welsh Language Advisory Panel

19 July 2018 at 2 o'clock

Democratic Services' Unit Committee Room, County Hall, Carmarthen

MINUTES AND ACTION POINTS

In attendance:

Cllr. Peter Hughes-Griffiths	PHG	Plaid Cymru (Chair)
Cllr. John Prosser	JP	Labour
Cllr. Edward Thomas	ET	Independent (Vice-chair)
Cllr. Carys Jones	CJ	Plaid Cymru
Cllr. Tina Higgins	TH	Labour
Officers		
Llinos Evans	LIE	Policy and Partnership Officer
Bethan James	BJ	Welsh Language Development Officer
Sioned Raymond	SR	Ysgol Bro Myrddin pupil on work experience
Carys Ifan	CI	Director of S4C Yr Egin Centre

Item No.	Text and action points:	Responsible:
1.	<p>Welcome and apologies</p> <p>Councillor Peter Hughes-Griffiths welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>Apologies were received from Councillor Fozia Akhtar, Councillor Sue Allen, Councillor Joseff Davies, Councillor Alun Lenny, Councillor Dorian Williams, Wendy Walters, Gwyneth Ayers and Myfanwy Jones.</p> <p>Sioned Raymond, who is on work experience with the Council was welcomed to the meeting.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of the previous meeting on 8.5.18</p> <p>Minutes were received to be a true record of the meeting.</p>	
3.	<p>Annual Report</p> <p>BJ noted that the Annual Report for the Welsh Language for 2017/18 is currently going through the democratic process and has been discussed at the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee today and will be discussed at the County Council's Executive Board on Monday 30 July. Subsequently it will be presented</p>	

	<p>to the Full Council meeting for information and will be available to access on the Council's website.</p> <p>BJ referred to the importance of appointing the Learning and Development Adviser in relation to the Welsh language during the year, and mentioned the list of courses that had been offered to staff in recent months. She noted that 40 members of staff had registered for intensive courses (Entry, Foundation and Intermediate) which had been promoted recently and will start in the Autumn. It was mentioned that 239 have registered so far for the 10 hour online Welsh Language Course. It was agreed to send a message to those who have not completed the course to encourage them to revisit the site.</p> <p>BJ said that the Language Leaders are key to the policy team as they convey and cascade messages to their teams in the Council. During the year, a group of Language Leaders from the Communities Department and the Children's Services team from the Education Department have been trained to create a total of three groups including the Language Leaders of the Environment Department and the Leisure's Language Leaders.</p> <p>The policy team continues to work with the Human Resources' department in order to support the implementation of the Language Skills Strategy where progress has been made with regards to new members of staff and their Learning Agreements.</p> <p>The campaign to play Welsh language music at Carmarthen, Llanelli and Ammanford Leisure Centers was mentioned, which was launched on Welsh Language Music Day in February, and reference was made to the intention of extending the campaign to the theatres and markets.</p> <p>While referring to the Standards' Guidelines and Resources for staff on the intranet, CJ asked if it was possible to provide Guidelines for changing Lenovo Miix tablets to Welsh. BJ will send instructions as soon as possible.</p> <p>BJ mentioned the County Strategic Forum and the Promotion Strategy and talked about the leaflets they have produced. It was agreed to send a message to the Councillors with a link to 'Being bilingual' and to ask them how many leaflets they would like in order to distribute them.</p> <p>The appendices in the document were noted for information, such as explanations about the complaints received and the numbers that have attended Welsh language learning courses.</p>	<p>BJ</p> <p>BJ</p> <p>MJ</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>A presentation regarding yr Egin by Carys Ifan</p> <p>Carys Ifan was welcomed to the meeting by Councillor Peter Hughes-Griffiths.</p> <p>Carys noted that the new building had been built following the announcement that Carmarthen had won with its application as S4C looked to relocate, and that the building was great and the scope was very exciting.</p> <p>CI said an announcement had been made earlier today that 10 companies had confirmed that they wanted to move to Yr Egin. On the ground floor there will be a cafe, a small auditorium for 120 people, and in the middle will be 'Y Galon', an area where the public can use post production resources. S4C will be located on the second floor and the tenants on the top floor.</p> <p>The intention is to create a creative cluster and will succeed in creating this with the new tenants. The 10 companies are Atebol, Big Learning Company, Captain</p>	

	<p>Jac, Asset Finance Solutions, Gorilla, Highly, Lens 360, Moelin, Optimwm and Trywydd. Yr Egin are continuing discussions with other companies but 74% of the building has been filled.</p> <p>Most companies work through the medium of Welsh or work bilingually and there is an opportunity for non-Welsh speaking staff to learn.</p> <p>The centre is more than a building, it is a way of engaging with the public in Carmarthenshire and CI referred to the fact that the centre has received LEADER funding.</p> <p>The Egin is a place to perform, a place to create, to share skills and upskill. Resources will be available to use as well as a post-production area. The tenants' area will be on the same floor as a joint working area. The Egin will create a creative community. It will be possible to create projects together and share ideas to create something new. CI noted that her post as Director has a varied remit which involves discussions with various people and organizations and she mentioned that she has already discussed with the County Council's Education Department regarding the possibilities of working together.</p> <p>Yr Egin is also hoping to work with secondary school pupils in order to give them the opportunity to speak to the tenants. This will allow pupils to discuss their career.</p> <p>CI mentioned that the Centre is also keen to work with university students with an opportunity for students to gain a Masters degree while researching for the Centre.</p> <p>There will be two weeks of celebrations between October 22 and November 3 where there will be a programme of activities. CI said that she's hoping that there will also be a lantern tour through the town to celebrate the opening of the building.</p> <p>The Egin is hoping to work with communities to create community celebration videos and the Egin will be able to show the video clips in the building.</p> <p>CI noted that there had been several open days and that the final open day of Yr Egin will be on July 27 between 12 and 2. All attendees must register either on ticket.wales or by emailing yregin@pcydd.ac.uk. The tour around the building lasts about half an hour and this is the last chance to see the building before the opening in the Autumn.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>Any other matter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome Pack <p>LIE outlined the main messages of the welcome pack and thanked the Councillors for their input at the previous meeting. LIE mentioned that the County Council had received financial assistance from the Welsh Government in terms of the design and printing work and Councillors were asked for ideas regarding the distribution of the welcome pack to incomers.</p> <p>Councillors requested a supply for Councillors and it was suggested to send packs to schools to distribute to new families.</p>	

	<p>A possibility of sending the welcome pack with new medical cards and when registering for Council Tax was discussed.</p> <p>Keeping a supply in the Libraries and mobile libraries was also mentioned.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welsh Language Commissioner <p>LIE mentioned that the policy team will provide the Councillors with an update when they receive any information regarding the appointment of a Welsh Language Commissioner or any developments with regards to changes in legislation to establish a Commission. The standards continue to be equally relevant to the County Council.</p>	
6.	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>25 September 2018 at 2 o'clock</p>	