

Panel Ymgynghorol yr Iaith Gymraeg

Welsh Language Advisory Panel

5 December 2019 at 13:30
Democratic Services Conference Room, County Hall

MINUTES & ACTION POINTS

Present:

Cllr. Peter Hughes Griffiths	PHG	Plaid Cymru (Chair)
Cllr. Edward Thomas	ETH	Independent (Vice-chair)
Cllr. Sue Allen	SA	Independent
Cllr. Dorian Williams	DW	Plaid Cymru
Officers:		
Noelwyn Daniel	ND	Head of IT & Corporate Policy
Llinos Evans	LLE	Policy & Partnership Officer
Poppy Evans	PE	Environment Department
Kelly Thomas	KT	Environment Department
Rachel Jones	RJ	Forward Planning Team
Owain Enoch	OE	Forward Planning Team

Item:	Discussion and action points:	Yn gyfrifol:
1.	Welcome and Apologies Cllr. Peter Hughes-Griffiths welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr. Carys Jones, Cllr. Tina Higgins, Cllr. Joseph Davies, Cllr. Fozia Akhtar, Wendy Walters, Gwyneth Ayers and Myfanwy Jones. Sincere condolences were noted to Cllr. Tina Higgins and her family.	
2.	Minutes from the previous meeting The minutes were agreed as being a true record. It was noted that an enquiry had been made with Gaynor Morgan, Democratic Services Manager regarding the use of mod.gov through the medium of Welsh. It was agreed to arrange for a link to the Welsh-medium software to be circulated to Councillor Peter Hughes-Griffiths and Councillor Dorian Williams.	LLE

	<p>It was noted that the Council's work experience opportunities were now live on the website and that a question had been included asking the young people if they would be interested in undertaking an element of their work experience through the medium of Welsh.</p> <p>It was agreed to receive an update on this in due course.</p>	LLE
<p>3.</p>	<p>Environment Language Leaders</p> <p>Poppy Evans and Kelly Thomas were welcomed to the meeting representing the Language Leaders from the Environment Department.</p> <p>A detailed presentation was given by the Language Leaders outlining the role of the Leaders within the department and all the activities organised by the Leaders, including St David's Day celebrations and the Shwmae Day Quiz.</p> <p>PE and KT mentioned the opportunities to learn or improve Welsh language skills available through the Council and explained that a network of Mentors is available across the department to support learners.</p> <p>The Leaders have also invited new representatives to join the network from some of the department's other offices such as the depots in the Llanelli area.</p> <p>A quiz was held with Members and online feedback was received from the Panel. Opportunities were identified in terms of expanding the network, sharing good practice and meeting with the other departmental Language Leaders.</p> <p>Discussion arose regarding the use of technology in promoting Welsh language messages across the Council and ND noted that research was currently being done on this.</p> <p>Feedback has been received in terms of formalising the Language Leaders scheme and possibly arranging a launch so that Heads of Service and Third Tier Managers are aware of all the activities and duties of the Language Leaders.</p> <p>The Language Leaders were thanked for their presentation and work during the year.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>Planning and the Welsh language</p> <p>Rachel Jones and Owain Enoch were welcomed to the meeting.</p> <p>RJ outlined the process of developing the Local Development Plan. Consultation on the plan will begin early in the new year. It was noted that this area of work / strategic plan overlaps with several other areas, so the deposit plan will be updated regularly until it is formally announced.</p> <p>RJ outlined the Stakeholder Forum and noted that Ffred Ffransis from Cymdeithas yr Iaith and Wyn Thomas from Dyfodol i'r Iaith, are members of the forum, specifically with regard to Welsh language issues.</p> <p>The feedback throughout the process has highlighted the importance of the Welsh language and the importance of considering any negative or positive impact regarding the language. Similarly, the role of the Local Development Plan</p>	

	<p>in retaining young people in the area has been highlighted. Affordable Housing is also a priority, to support young people and young families in the county.</p> <p>During September, full Council agreed that the Welsh language is a material planning consideration for all developments of five or more houses in rural Carmarthenshire, and 10 or more houses in urban areas.</p> <p>RJ outlined the work of preparing the Sustainability Appraisal and the Welsh language is considered within that framework. As part of that process and in accordance with TAN 20 guidance, the Forward Planning Team will consider all the evidence available to them in order to assess the potential impact of the Development Plan.</p> <p>RJ noted that the team had identified a weakness in having a suitable methodology to assess impact. The team has discussed this at a Wales level and with the Welsh Language Commissioner, however, nothing has emerged. Therefore, a piece of work was commissioned to look at the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulation of methodology • Assess the potential impact of the Deposit Plan • Assess the policies that form part of the Deposit Plan <p>Cwmni Iaith and Cwmni Burum have prepared a detailed methodology, which is much more scientific and draws together evidence from several areas such as school pupil data. The report will be presented to the team within the next week and the report will be submitted as part of the Deposit Plan agreement process.</p> <p>There is the potential for this research to lead to further guidance on developers and how any scheme mitigation will be implemented.</p> <p>RJ and OE were thanked for a detailed presentation.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>Mae Gen ti Hawl</p> <p>LLE explained the context in terms of the 'Mae Gen ti Hawl' campaign. On 6 December 2019, public organisations across Wales will hold a 'Welsh Language Rights Day'.</p> <p>This is a day to celebrate the Welsh language services that organisations offer, and the rights people have to use the Welsh language when dealing with them. It will be an opportunity to promote Welsh language services and try to increase the number who choose to use them.</p> <p>This is the first year that the national campaign has taken place. The date was chosen to mark the date when the language legislation was passed by the Assembly in 2010. We hope that the campaign will reach many people this year, and the aim is to make this an annual campaign.</p> <p>It was explained that the council will be supporting the campaign this year but as we are in a period of pre-election protocol, it will not be possible to fully support the campaign.</p>	

6.	Any other business No other business.	
7.	Date for the next meeting 6 February 2020 at 13:30	