

To: Chair and Members of the Welsh
Language Steering Committee

Date: 2 March 2022

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Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **WELSH LANGUAGE STEERING COMMITTEE** to be held at **10.00 am** on **TUESDAY, 8 MARCH 2022** in **BY VIDEO CONFERENCE**.

Yours sincerely

G Williams
Head of Legal, HR and Democratic Services

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Pages 3 - 4)

Members to declare any personal or prejudicial interests in any business to be conducted at this meeting.

3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

Notice of items which, in the opinion of the Chair, should be considered at the meeting as a matter of urgency pursuant to Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972.

4 MINUTES (Pages 5 - 12)

To receive the minutes of the meeting of the committee held on the 9 November 2021 (copy enclosed)

5 WELSH LANGUAGE JOURNEY IN THE COUNCIL

To receive a presentation from an officer about their Welsh language journey in Denbighshire County Council.

6 WELSH LANGUAGE STANDARDS - STANDARD 94 (Pages 13 - 28)

To receive a report by the Welsh Language Officer, regarding the Welsh Language Standards, specifically standard 94 (copy enclosed)

7 EISTEDDFOD YR URDD - UPDATE (Pages 29 - 34)

To receive a report by the Welsh Language Officer providing the committee with an update to Members on preparations for the Eisteddfod and the Council's role in the event (copy enclosed).

8 WELSH LANGUAGE CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE LDP 2018 TO 2033
(Pages 35 - 44)

To receive a report by the Planning officer regarding the first steps in formulating a new local policy on Welsh Language and culture for the next Local Development Plan (LDP) 2018 to 2033 (copy enclosed).

9 FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 45 - 46)

To consider the Committee's forward work programme (copy attached).

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

Ellie Chard
Ann Davies
Huw Hilditch-Roberts
Arwel Roberts

Anton Sampson
Graham Timms
Joe Welch
Emrys Wynne

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000

Code of Conduct for Members

DISCLOSURE AND REGISTRATION OF INTERESTS

I, *(name)*

a *member/co-opted member of

*(*please delete as appropriate)*

Denbighshire County Council

CONFIRM that I have declared a ***personal / personal and prejudicial** interest not previously declared in accordance with the provisions of Part III of the Council's Code of Conduct for Members, in respect of the following:-

*(*please delete as appropriate)*

Date of Disclosure:

Committee *(please specify)*:

Agenda Item No.

Subject Matter:

Nature of Interest:

*(See the note below)**

Signed

Date

*Note: Please provide sufficient detail e.g. 'I am the owner of land adjacent to the application for planning permission made by Mr Jones', or 'My husband / wife is an employee of the company which has made an application for financial assistance'.

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WELSH LANGUAGE STEERING COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Welsh Language Steering Committee held via video conference on Tuesday, 9 November 2021 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

Councillors Ellie Chard, Ann Davies, Huw Hilditch-Roberts, Arwel Roberts, Anton Sampson, Graham Timms (Chair) and Emrys Wynne (Vice-Chair)

Observer – Councillor Meirick Lloyd Davies.

ALSO PRESENT

Corporate Director: Communities (NS), Welsh Language Officer (MC), Lead Officer - Destination, Marketing and Communication Team (SO), Committee Administrators (KJ – Host) (RTJ)

Mudiad Meithrin Provincial Manager (CG)

1 APOLOGIES

None.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Arwel Roberts declared a personal interest in agenda item 7, as he collected donations towards the Eisteddfod yr Urdd.

Councillor Huw Hilditch Roberts declared a personal interest in agenda item 7 as he was the treasurer for collecting donations for the Eisteddfod yr Urdd in Ruthin.

Councillor Emrys Wynne declared a personal interest in agenda item 7, as he was on the steering committee for the Eisteddfod yr Urdd in Ruthin.

3 URGENT MATTERS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

None.

4 MINUTES

The minutes of the Welsh Language Steering Committee held on 13 July 2021 were submitted.

Matters of accuracy –

- Members highlighted a typing error with regards to Councillor Ellie Chard's name, alongside a small translation error with regards to the appointment of vice-chair item.

Matters arising –

- Members queried actions from the previous meeting, and whether they had been carried out, these were the powers of the committee to make decisions as well as the development of the Cylch Meithrin in Ruthin. The committee administrator assured the committee that the relevant information would be gathered and circulated to committee members.
- Councillor Meirick Lloyd Davies highlighted whether the number of Welsh language speakers of staff had increased since the Council formed in 1996. Responding, the Welsh Language Officer informed the committee that she had contacted Human Resources and whether the information was obtainable. She was still awaiting a response but would circulate the answer once she had obtained it.
- The Corporate Director: Communities suggested to the committee that due to the long wait times between meetings that an update sheet on all the matters arising from the meeting be circulated a couple of weeks after the meeting, as waiting until the next meeting often meant the issues were no longer relevant. Members of the committee unanimously agreed to the suggestion. Both the Welsh Language officer and the committee administrator would work on responding to members outside of the meeting.

RESOLVED that, subject to the above, the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13 July 2021 be received and approved as a correct record.

5 MUDIAD MEITHRIN

The Lead Member for Education, Children's Services and Public Engagement welcomed the Provincial Manager (PM) for Mudiad Meithrin to the committee; he thanked Mudiad Meithrin for all the hard work which they've carried out with Denbighshire County Council (DCC) over the years and highlighted the importance of making the committee aware of the work which Mudiad Meithrin carried out for the Welsh language speakers in the community.

The PM shared a presentation to the committee that highlighted all the work carried out by the Mudiad Meithrin. The main aim of Mudiad Meithrin was to provide every young child in Wales with an opportunity to benefit from early years services and experiences through the medium of Welsh to create new Welsh speakers. The work was achieved through support, advice, development and expanding the services offered by Mudiad Meithrins Members (Cylchoedd and nurseries).

The PM highlighted how Mudiad Meithrin supported the Cylchoedd Management committees, provided training, and qualified the Welsh-medium early years' workforce and to promote Welsh-medium Childcare and Education.

The PM informed the committee that Mudiad Meithrin was almost on all forms of social media; this was to raise awareness of the work Mudiad Meithrin carried out.

Multiple programs were created to encourage and normalize teaching young infants to learn the language. There were also Cymraeg@adre, which were sessions

aimed to teach children the Welsh Language through short videos; this aimed to teach children and their parents/guardians the Welsh Language together. The committee were also made aware of the Cylch Meithrin Ti a Fi, which was a Welsh parent and toddler group for new-borns to pre-school-aged children.

Members discussed the following in further detail –

- The staff retention and hiring in the Cylchoedd Meithrin in Denbighshire was raised, the PM responded that on the whole, there was no issue with staffing in Denbighshire; however, there were concerns about the staff requirement at Pentrecelyn.
- Councillor Arwel Roberts queried the Cylch Meithrin sites in Rhuddlan not being open since the Pandemic. The PM clarified that the sites were currently closed. However, there was community funding being sought to look at hiring a coordinator for both locations
- Members outlined the programs discussed earlier and whether the pandemic had caused issues with these as you could not meet face to face. In response, the PM informed the committee that initially, it was an issue. However, it allowed parents to have more flexibility, as they could join any programs being held remotely throughout the County, not ones in their locality.
- The Committee and the PM outlined the difficulties the pandemic had caused for children and the Welsh Language, as many parents found teaching at home through the medium of Welsh challenging. The PM stated that roughly two years' worth of children had not come through the Mudiad and agreed they were difficult times.

RESOLVED that the Welsh Language Steering Committee note the information with regards to Mudiad Meithrin.

6 MORE THAN WORDS

The Corporate Director: Communities (CDC) presented the Welsh Language Steering Committee an update following the More than Words Evaluation report (previously circulated).

The CDC drew members' attention to the letter which had been circulated to members. The areas of progress were –

- An increase in the use of visual markers to identify Welsh-speaking staff and investment in Welsh language higher education courses in health and social care.
- An increase in the focus placed on the importance of Welsh language provision and the Active Offer (offering a service in Welsh without someone having to ask for it) within higher education and inductions for new staff members.

Critical gaps identified include:

- buy-in at the middle management or operational planning level

- understanding of how to improve Welsh language service provision, beyond recognizing the importance of doing so
- targeting of training to the areas and staff for whom this would make the most difference to Welsh language service provision
- Data collection systems and processes to record and share information on the Welsh language needs of services users and Welsh language capacity of the workforce.

The following steps for More than Words were -

- The Welsh Language in Health and Social Care Partnership Board oversees the delivery of More than Words. Members of the board have proposed the establishment of a small Task and Finish Group to work up a 5-year work plan for More than just Words based on the recommendations of the evaluation and other evidence.
- The Task and Finish Group would meet regularly starting in September 2021 and provide Eluned Morgan AS/MS (Minister for Health and Social Services) on the next steps by the fifth of November.
- The CDC informed the committee that since the publication of the More than Words report on the 31st August 2021, Denbighshire County Council had organized Welsh language sessions for people who have Alzheimer's.

Members discussed the following in further detail –

- Members commended all the hard work carried out by officers since the report was published.
- Councillor Meirick Lloyd Davies queried the Seven Key objectives within the evaluation report, as the link within the letter was not working. Officers responded, stating that the seven objectives were –
 - National and Local Leadership, and National Policy
 - Mapping, Auditing, Data Collection, and Research
 - Service Planning, Commissioning, Contracting and Workforce Planning
 - Promotion and Engagement
 - Professional Education
 - Welsh in the Workplace
 - Regulation and Inspection.

RESOLVED that the Welsh Language Steering Committee note the update regarding the More than Words follow-up letter.

7 EISTEDDFOD YR URDD

The Welsh Language Officer (WLO) presented the members with an update on preparations for the Eisteddfod and the Council's role in the event (previously circulated).

The WLO guided members through a short presentation on work carried out in preparation for the Eisteddfod.

- The Council, as a critical partner, would have a marquee on a prominent site on the Eisteddfod field. The theme for the marquee was all about Welsh language, culture, heritage, tradition, recycling, climate change, and the countryside.
- The Council's activities would be carried out through the medium of Welsh (Urdd rule)
- Welsh speakers and learners would staff the Marquee throughout the week. The WLO informed the committee that a manager would be allocated to the stand each day and supported by a team of corporate staff members. The Council would also be involved in a press briefing on the Monday of the Eisteddfod week
- There were multiple groups throughout Denbighshire working to ensure that the organization went as smoothly as possible. These included the; Safety advisory group, Communications group and the Education group.
- The WLO made the committee aware that Primary Schools were invited to participate in the Primary School show. The show would take place in the main pavilion on Tuesday evening.
- Lastly, the WLO informed the committee that the Lead Officer - Destination, Marketing, and Communication Team had been working closely with the Acting Director of the Urdd Eisteddfod and the Arts with a partnership between the Urdd and Denbighshire.

Members discussed the following in further detail –

- The challenges the pandemic had caused with the collection of donations was highlighted as a significant task by the committee. The WLO agreed that virtual collecting had been a challenge.
- The WLO informed the committee that the Eisteddfod yr Urdd was celebrating 100 years since it was established by Syr Ifan ab Owen Edwards in 1922. She asked if anyone had any stories to share about the first ever Eisteddfod held in Corwen in 1929 if they could send any information onto her, she would then liaise with the relevant officers.
- Responding to queries the WLO informed members that promoting local myths and legends would be carried through the medium of art at the Eisteddfod.

RESOLVED that the Welsh Language Steering Committee approve the content of the report.

8 WELSH LANGUAGE COMMISSIONER

The Welsh Language Officer (WLO) presented the results of the Welsh Language Commissioner's Monitoring Report. Every year, the Welsh Language Commissioner carries out checks amongst organisations implementing the statutory Welsh Language Standards to ensure those organisations comply with the legislation.

The Commissioner's team also arrange an annual meeting to discuss the findings and to report on progress with the yearly Welsh Language Monitoring Report. Dylan Jones, on behalf of the Commissioner, explained the Commissioner's new way of

working from this year on looking at organisations' compliance with the relevant standards. Recruitment was their priority.

The findings – Service Delivery -

During May and June 2021, Welsh Language commissioner officers had negative experiences when corresponding with the Council by receiving English-only responses to correspondence sent via the Council's online form. The WLO explained the process when the Council received such correspondence and explained that she had discussed it with the managers of the relevant departments. It seems that the mistakes of individual officers were to blame. Managers have been sent a message for cascading to all their staff

During the 2021-22 surveys, portions of the automated message when phoning the main Council number were unclear. The investigation discovered that not all documents and forms contained a statement on the English versions that they were also available in Welsh. There was 1 example of a document that did not comply with standard 49, namely: Denbighshire Schools Information Guide 2021-22, as well as two examples of a form that did not comply with standard 50A. These were: Denbighshire County Council concern/complaint form.

Lastly, Welsh Language commissioner officers made two visits to the reception area of the Council offices in Caledfryn, Denbigh. They received no Welsh services during either visit. The WLO noted that one member of staff (a Welsh learner) had left, and therefore the WLO suggested the appointment of a Welsh speaker before the pandemic. The proposal was still in place, and consequently, a Welsh-speaking receptionist would be assigned once the reception in Caledfryn reopened.

Policy Making

It was noted that the Council's self-assessment evidence when considering the impact of policy decisions on the Welsh language was positive. The possibility of exploring this further was discussed to create an example of effective practice for that particular section on the Commissioner's new website. Promoting the Welsh language - Assess the achievement of a Welsh language promotion strategy

The WLO noted that work is underway to revise the strategy for a launch at the Urdd National Eisteddfod in Denbigh in 2022. The WLO felt frustrated that the results of the census in terms of the Welsh language would not be available by the time the new Strategy was published, which made it difficult to see whether the target which was set five years ago had been met. The lack of information also has an impact on setting a target for the next strategy, as well as knowing where resources need to be targeted. The WLO mentioned the possibility of planning a 10-year strategy with more ambitious long-term targets.

Members discussed the following in further detail –

- Members highlighted swimming lessons within the report; they queried why there were so few swimming lessons held in the medium of Welsh in contrast to ones held through the medium of English. The WLO informed the

committee that wait times were for both mediums; however, there was never a shortage of English lessons. The WLO also clarified that when parents would register their children for classes, they would specify their chosen languages. However, most parents were not willing to wait until enough children were waiting for Welsh-medium swimming lessons.

- Members queried whether Denbighshire Leisure (DL) was required to conform to the same Welsh Language standards as Denbighshire County Council (DCC). Responding the Lead Member for Education, Children's Services and Public Engagement informed the committee the DCC and DL were both meant to conform with the Welsh Language Standards and told the committee that if anyone had any concerns, they could raise the matters with either himself or Councillor Bobby Feeley as they both were members of the governance board for DL.
- Responding to queries about new starters to the Council and whether they were made aware of the Welsh Language Standards, the WLO made members aware the standards were within the induction process to the Council.

RESOLVED that the Welsh Language Steering Committee note the Welsh Language Commissioner's Monitoring Report and approve the action plan.

9 FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The committee's forward work programme was presented for consideration.

Members raised the following matters –

- The Welsh Language Policy would be discussed at the next meeting. Members queried whether the next meeting could be held at the Welsh Language Centre in St. Asaph. Officers responded, stating they would look into the matter.

Councillor Meirick Lloyd Davies raised complaints regarding the standard of the Welsh Language and how they were not reported. The WLO informed the member that each formal complaint, which was concerning the Welsh Language, was noted within the annual Welsh Language Commissioner's Monitoring Report. However, there was a difference between formal and non-formal complaints; the appropriate Head of Service would deal with the non-formal points raised at meetings.

RESOLVED that, subject to the above, the Committee's Forward Work Programme be received and noted.

The meeting concluded at 12.20 p.m.

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Report to	Welsh Language Steering Committee
Date of meeting	08 March, 2022
Lead Member / Officer	Nicola Stubbins / Councillor Huw Hilditch Roberts
Report author	Manon Celyn Roberts – Welsh Language Officer
Title	Welsh Language Standards - Standard 94

1. What is the report about?

The report is about the Welsh Language Standards - **specifically standard 94.**

2. What is the reason for making this report?

It's our duty as a Council, as we're fully committed to complying with the Welsh language Standards, to have a Policy on Awarding grants (Standards 94). We currently don't have one therefore we're in breach of the Standards.

3. What are the Recommendations?

To give and update on the actions taken to produce a Policy on Awarding Grants (see attachment).

4. Report details

The Welsh Language Standards were introduced in Denbighshire in 2015, as part of a roll out to public sector organisations in Wales. The Standards were created in direct response to the creation of the Welsh Language Measure (2011) and the role of the Welsh Language Commissioner.

The Standards have been introduced to ensure that the Welsh Language is treated as fairly as the English Language. Denbighshire needs to comply with 167 Standards which

have been broken down into five key areas: Service Delivery; Policy Making; Operational. Record Keeping and Promotional.

The duty for implementing these Standards are for every member of the organisation. A clear mandate has been issued by the Council to comply with the Welsh Language Standards and the aim is to provide the best service possible to the public in the language of their choice. As would be expected, the Council has been implementing these standards for a number of years. Whilst many of the standards were not new to the organisation, we needed to ensure that there was a positive response to their implementation across the county and that customers see an enhanced service through the medium of Welsh.

The Council seems to be complying with the majority of the Standards across the Board. The work of monitoring the compliance rests with the Corporate Communications team, who have corporate responsibilities for the Welsh Language. They are supported by a team of Welsh Language Champions who act voluntarily to promote the corporate approach. The compliance is also subject to random testing by other organisations, including the Welsh Language Commissioner's office.

Even though it seems that we're complying with the majority of the Standards, the Welsh Language Commissioner regularly carries out spot checks on all public services and recent research shows the majority don't have a Policy on Awarding Grants. Therefore it's our duty to produce the policy as part of our efforts to comply with the standards.

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

The decision contributes to the development of the Welsh Language and culture, which underpins the Council's Corporate Plan.

6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

There is no budget in place for the Welsh Language. Any costs are expected to be absorbed into existing budgets.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment?

Whilst no formal Well-being Impact Assessment is needed for this report, it is worth noting some of the key benefits in relation to the Well-Being and Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Welsh Language Standards.

One of the key components of the well-being and Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is having: “A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language: A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation”.

The Council also has a role, through its Welsh Language Standards, to promote opportunities for local communities to get involved in Welsh Language activities.

8. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?

The main risk of any non-compliance could be a complaint being submitted to the Welsh Language Commissioner’s office, as well as damage to the Council’s reputation.

The risk of not complying with a direct request from the Welsh Commissioner to produce a policy on the awarding of grants.

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Policy on Awarding Grants at

XXX

Published in line with the requirements of the Welsh Language
Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015

Introduction

This policy has been developed to assist officers in complying with the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015 – when issuing grants on behalf of **XXX**.

The Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015 require the Council to ensure:

- Any documents that you publish which relate to applications for a grant, must be published in Welsh, and you must not treat a Welsh language version of such documents less favourably than an English language version (Standard 71)
- When you invite applications for a grant, you must state in the invitation that applications may be submitted in Welsh and that any application submitted in Welsh will be treated no less favourably than an application submitted in English. (Standard 72)
- You must not treat applications for a grant submitted in Welsh less favourably than applications submitted in English (including, amongst other matters, in relation to the closing date for receiving applications and in relation to the time-scale for informing applicants of decisions). (Standard 72A)
- If you receive an application for a grant in Welsh and it is necessary to interview the applicant as part of your assessment of the application you must -
 - (a) offer to provide a translation service from Welsh to English to enable the applicant to use the Welsh language at the interview, and
 - (b) if the applicant wishes to use the Welsh language at the interview, provide a simultaneous translation service for that purpose (unless you conduct the interview in Welsh without a translation service). (Standard 74)
- When you inform an applicant of your decision in relation to an application for a grant, you must do so in Welsh if the application was submitted in Welsh. (Standard 75)
- You must produce and publish a policy on awarding grants (or, where appropriate, amend an existing policy) which requires you to take the following matters into account when you make decisions in relation to the awarding of a grant -
 - (a) what effects, if any (and whether positive or negative), the awarding of a grant would have on -
 - (i) opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language, and
 - (ii) treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language;
 - (b) how the decision could be taken or implemented (for example, by imposing conditions of grant) so that it would have positive effects, or increased positive effects, on -
 - (i) opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language, and
 - (ii) treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language;
 - (c) how the decision could be taken or implemented (for example, by imposing conditions of grant) so that it would not have adverse effects, or so that it would have decreased adverse effects on -
 - (i) opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language, and
 - (ii) treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language;

- (ch) whether you need to ask the applicant for any additional information in order to assist you in assessing the effects of awarding a grant on -
- (i) opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language, and
 - (ii) treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language. (Standard 94)

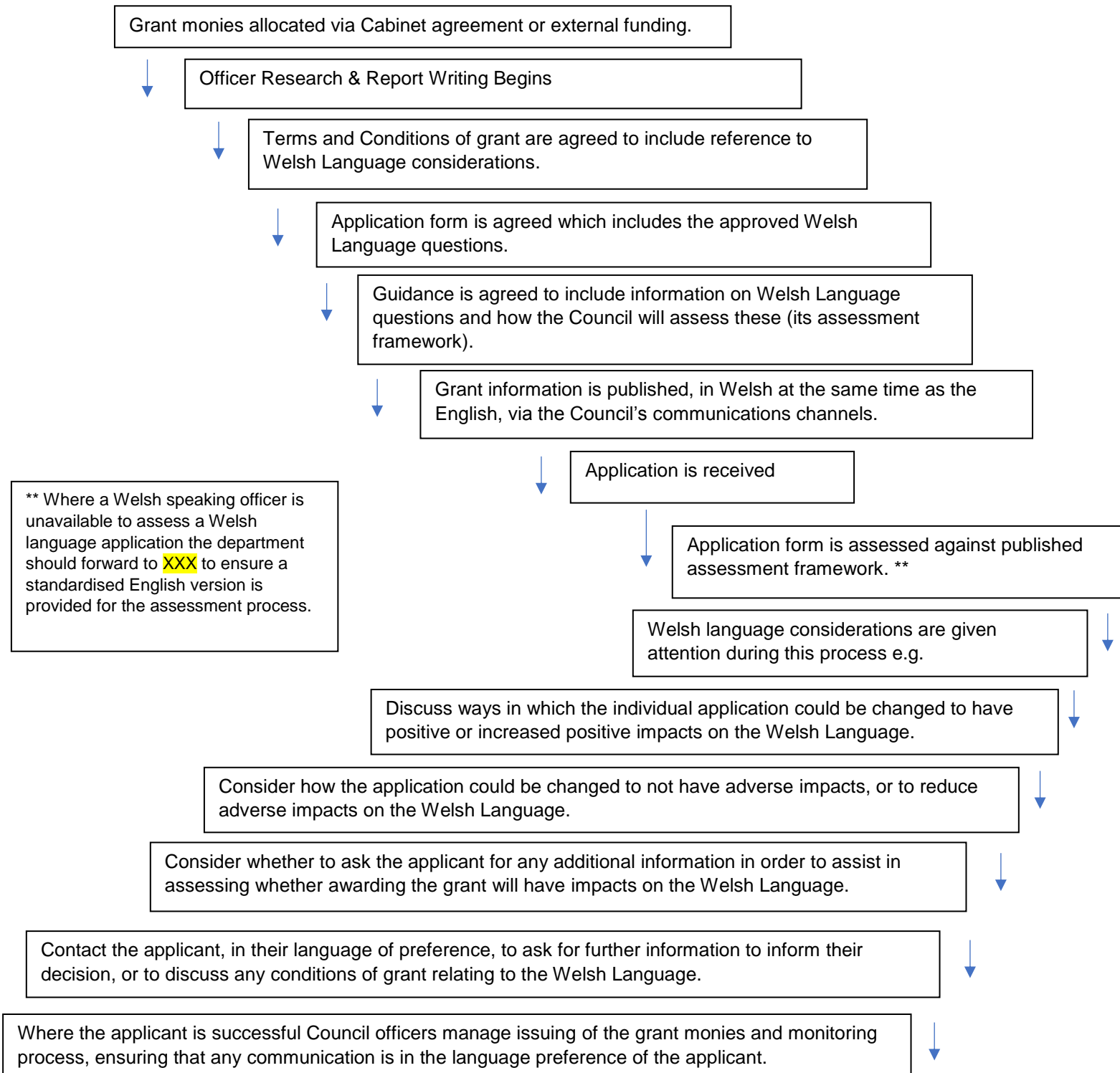
This policy aims to assist officers in ensuring the above considerations are an integrated aspect of grant making at XXX whilst also ensuring that decision makers (including Full Council / the Executive (Cabinet) / and Senior Officers through delegated decisions) are aware of their duties when making a decision. It may also be necessary to consider completing an Impact Assessment when setting up new grants to ensure the organisation complies with Welsh Language Standards 88-90 – please refer to the Impact Assessment guidance for more information.

Adhering to the checklist provided (appendix 1) will demonstrate that you have acknowledged and responded to the need to consider the Welsh language. Therefore, a successful grant making process at XXX must:

- publish all materials in Welsh
- respect individuals language preference throughout the grant application process
- identify any impacts on the Welsh Language (positive, negative or both)
- note ways of promoting the Welsh Language, including the use of Welsh
- reduce any adverse impacts on the Welsh language
- demonstrate due regard to the various impacts listed in the Standards
- implement grant conditions only where necessary

Grant Making Process Overview

The flowchart is a visual guide only to help and support compliance.



Do I need to consider this on my grant making process?

- If the Council awards grants on behalf of another body (Welsh Government or any other body that fall within scope of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011) and the specific terms and conditions of the grant include Welsh language considerations, then this policy will apply.
- If the Council awards grants that it has funded, then this policy will apply.
- If the Council awards grants on behalf of organisations that do not fall within scope of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and there are no specific terms and conditions in relation to the Welsh language set out in the grant, then this policy will not be applicable. A disclaimer to this effect must be included in the grant documentation.
- In cases where we do not set terms and conditions, nor are we able to change the policy direction or terms and conditions for those external funds, all other relevant Welsh Language Standards are applicable to us – such as publishing Welsh versions of our guidance and consultation documents, applications forms, and publicity etc. must be adhered to.

If you are unsure whether this policy applies to a grant making process that you are managing – please contact **XXX** for further advice.

What should I include in the terms and conditions?

We suggest the following should be included in all terms and conditions that **XXX** issue.

This grant is awarded in line with the requirements of our Policy on Awarding Grants, published to ensure compliance with the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015, under the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.

In order to satisfy the requirements of these terms and conditions you must comply with the below

- <<insert specific conditions of grant in relation to the Welsh language>>

or

- <<list agreed actions that the applicant has noted to ensure positive impacts, or to reduce negative impacts (these will have been discussed during the decision-making stage). >>

It may be appropriate in some instances to impose a condition on a grant to ensure more positive Impacts on the Welsh language. This could be as simple as requiring applicants to display bilingual signage or that activities are provided in Welsh. If you require further advice you are welcome to contact **XXX**.

What should I include in the guidance for applicants?

We suggest the following is inserted into all guidance for applicants -

The Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015 place a statutory requirement on the Council to ensure all grants issued by it consider whether there are ways the initiative could be amended to include more positive impacts on the Welsh Language or if actions could be included to decrease negative impacts or eradicate them altogether.

In complying with this statutory requirement, we ask you, as the applicant, to let us know through the application form how your initiative may impact the following areas -

- *opportunities for persons to use the Welsh Language*
e.g staff, residents and visitors
- *has a positive or negative impact on the numbers of Welsh speakers*
*e.g. Welsh medium education, study opportunities, links with the Welsh Government's [Cymraeg 2050 Strategy](#) / **FIVE YEAR PROMOTIONAL STRATEGY HYPERLINK***
- *opportunities to promote the Welsh language*
e.g. status, use of Welsh language services, use of Welsh in everyday life in work and in the community. Actively encourage and promote the use of our services in Welsh to see an increase in demand over time.
- *treating the Welsh language, no less favourably than the English language*

The team will assess your answers, ask further questions where necessary or they may impose a condition of grant that would require you to complete a specific action to ensure more positive impacts on the Welsh Language.

What do we mean by impact?

A Negative or Adverse Impact

This is where it is identified that an initiative (or some aspect of it) may have a negative impact on the Welsh Language by reducing opportunities for persons to use the language, reducing the number or percentage of Welsh speakers, treating the Welsh language less favourably than the English language or not promoting it. A negative impact may be entirely unintentional and only become apparent when research or consultation takes place or by seeking advice from relevant Policy Officers.

A negative impact may also occur when an initiative is removed or no longer continued. Therefore these matters should be considered during decision-making process about an application.

A Positive Impact

This is where it is identified that an initiative (or some aspect of it) may have a positive impact on the Welsh Language by increasing opportunities for persons to use the language, promoting the Welsh Language, increasing numbers or percentage of Welsh speakers or treating the Welsh language more favourably than the English language

Positive impacts assist the Council to meet its obligations under the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.

No impact/Negligible

This is where it is identified that an initiative (or some aspect of it) may not have any impact on the Welsh Language.

What should I include in my application form?

The following must be added, as a mandatory question, to all application forms, to ensure the Council complies with its Welsh Language Standards by asking the applicant to give us some considerations before our own deliberations -

Please let us know:

- *How you feel the grant could impact opportunities for people to use and promote the Welsh Language (Positive or Negative) and if in any way it treats the Welsh Language less favourably than the English Language?*
- *How positive impacts could be increased, or negative impacts be decreased?*

Example Assessment Framework / Weighting

It is advised that all assessment frameworks are updated to include a section that considers the impacts on the Welsh Language. A suggested approach is provided below.

Question	Brief Description
Has the applicant identified any positive impacts on using or promoting the Welsh Language?	
Has the applicant identified how the positive impacts can be increased?	
Are there positive impacts, or actions that could increase positive impacts, not recorded in the application form that the panel wish to note?	
Has the applicant identified any ways to decrease negative impacts on the Welsh Language?	
Are there actions that could decrease negative impacts not recorded in the application form that the panel wish to note?	
Has the applicant identified any negative impacts on using or promoting the Welsh language?	
Are there any negative impacts on promoting or using the Welsh Language how will they be mitigated?	
Are there negative impacts not recorded in the application form that the panel wish to consider?	
Do we need more information from the applicant for us to assess the impacts on the Welsh language?	
Please record any response from the applicant here for audit purposes.	
Do we need to impose a condition of grant that will ensure more positive impacts on the Welsh Language or one that will decrease negative impacts? <i>If any are recorded here, they must also be recorded in the terms and conditions of the grant and the applicant must be made aware of them.</i>	

Officers must consider what weighting/scoring to give to the above in instances where the grant making process uses a scoring method to assess whether to award a grant or not.

Contact Details

Further details can be obtained from:

XXX

Appendix 1

Grant Making @ XXX

If you are managing a grant making process on behalf of XXX please complete the below checklist to ensure the Council complies with the requirements of The Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015.

Making sure you comply, will reduce the chance of any complaint, appeals or investigations by the regulator and the various costs associated with this. For further information please see our Policy on Awarding Grants at XXX.

<p>All information about the grant is available in Welsh and will be published at the same time as the English version, including any guidance documents, assessment frameworks and terms and conditions.</p>	
<p>The press release, invitation and application forms include the below proactive offer -</p> <p>Caniateir cyflwyno ffurflen gais yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd unrhyw gais a gyflwynir yn Gymraeg yn cael ei thrin yn llai ffafriol na chais a gyflwynir yn Saesneg</p> <p>An application form may be submitted in Welsh, and will not be treated any less favourable than an application form submitted in English.</p>	
<p>The following sentence has been included in the English application form (where it is separated from the Welsh version).</p> <p>Mae'r ddogfen yma ar gael yn Gymraeg This document is available in Welsh</p>	
<p>Where an email address or telephone number is being used to ask people to get in touch the following sentence has been included in the poster, email or public notice.</p> <p>Mae croeso i chi gyfathrebu â ni yn y Gymraeg You are welcome to communicate with us in Welsh.</p>	
<p>The application form includes the following mandatory question to allow the applicant to consider the impact of the initiative on the Welsh Language:</p> <p>Rhowch wybod i ni:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Sut byddai'r grant yn effeithio ar gyfleoedd i bobl ddefnyddio'u Cymraeg a'i hybu (cadarnhaol neu negyddol), ac a fyddai'n trin y Gymraeg yn llai ffafriol na'r Saesneg mewn unrhyw ffordd? •Sut byddai modd estyn effeithiau cadarnhaol, neu leihau effeithiau negyddol? <p>Please let us know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How you feel the grant could impact opportunities for people to use and promote the Welsh Language (Positive or Negative) and if in any way it treats the Welsh Language less favourably than the English Language? • How positive impacts could be increased or negative impacts be decreased? 	

<p>During the assessment process you have considered the following –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How you feel the grant could impact opportunities for people to use and promote the Welsh Language (Positive or Negative) and if in any way it treats the Welsh Language less favourably than the English Language? • How positive impacts could be increased, or negative impacts be decreased? <p>You are advised to use the published assessment framework during your deliberations which can be found in the Policy on Awarding Grants at XXX – to provide an audit trail of your considerations and actions.</p>	
<p>Where you have arranged a meeting to ask further questions in relations to the application you have included the below proactive offer. This includes hybrid and virtual meetings.</p> <p>Croeso i chi ddefnyddio'r Gymraeg yn y cyfarfod dim ond i chi roi gwybod i ni erbyn xx/xx/xx.</p> <p>You are welcome to use Welsh at the meeting, just let us know by xx/xx/xx should you wish to do so</p>	
<p>Welsh Language Simultaneous Translation Services have been arranged in response to an applicant letting us know they wish to speak Welsh at the meeting*. Email XXX to organise this service.</p>	
<p>You have considered implementing a condition of grant to ensure more positive impacts on the Welsh Language.</p>	
<p>You respect the applicant's language preference during the process.</p>	

Please note that administering the grant through a third party does not absolve the Council of its statutory responsibilities to comply with the above Welsh Language Standards. As such, contract managers must ensure that the requirements listed above, and any others depending on the nature of the project, are included in the contract agreement.

*No Welsh language face-to-face / simultaneous translation service is needed where no response has been received from the offer. You may also arrange for meeting to be in Welsh only with Welsh speaking officers from your department.

Let us know if you have any questions -

XXX

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Report to	Welsh Language Steering Committee
Date of meeting	08 November, 2022
Lead Member / Officer	Nicola Stubbins / Councillor Huw Hilditch-Roberts
Report author	Manon Celyn Roberts, Welsh Language Officer
Title	Eisteddfod yr Urdd - update

1. What is the report about?

This report is about Eisteddfod yr Urdd.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

To provide an update to Members on preparations for the Eisteddfod and the Council's role in the event.

3. What are the Recommendations?

To approve the contents of the report.

4. Report details

The Urdd is the largest movement for young people in the whole of Europe and the annual Urdd Eisteddfod attracts 90,000 people during the week. The Eisteddfod is hosted in North and South Wales on a rotational basis.

The event is arranged by Urdd Gobaith Cymru, but supported by officers from across Council departments. Whilst the event belongs to the Urdd, there is a desire from the Council to make the most of this opportunity to market and promote Denbighshire as a key destination.

Funding of the Eisteddfod: The Urdd is funded in a number of ways. Each authority contributes annually through a deal brokered with the WLGA. Local fundraising committees have been arranging a host of events over recent years, to meet targets set for different communities. The Urdd also sources sponsorship from local companies and receives funding from Welsh Government.

Dates: The Eisteddfod will be hosted on the Kilford Farm site near Denbigh from Monday, 30 May until Saturday, 4 June. The actual opening concert date TBC. It has also been confirmed that entry to the Eisteddfod field will be free for everyone this year, so we need your help to spread the word so that everyone in Denbighshire is aware of this.

Themes for Denbighshire's marquee: The Council, as a key partner, will have a marquee on a prominent site on the Eisteddfod field. The theme for the marquee is Discovering Denbighshire. All our activities will be held through the medium of Welsh and our marquee will be staffed by Welsh speakers and learners throughout the week.

There are many activities on the Maes (Eisteddfod field) that are promoted for learners.

The DCC marquee will have four separate sections. One will have a theatre space which will be used for performances throughout the week. Schools from Denbighshire reaching the finals will be encouraged to book a slot at the marquee as a performance/rehearsal opportunity.

The second space will promote tourism business and things to do in the county. Peter McDermott, Team Leader for Tourism is leading on this aspect.

The third space will be allocated to art and craft and an artist in residence, Mari Gwent, will work there during the week. Sian Fitzgerald, Denbighshire's Community Arts Officer is leading on this area an art/Welsh language project is underway in 11 schools with Eleri Jones and Catrin Williams. The finished work will be displayed in the council marquee at the Eisteddfod.

The fourth section will be a corporate reception area, welcoming visitors to the marquee with pictures of the first ever Urdd Eisteddfod in Corwen, 1929.

Outside of the marquee: Countryside and Climate Change Services are currently arranging plans to have an external exhibition including a wildflower meadow. A BMX

track will be placed behind the marquee and an E Bike exhibition. Dave Shiel, Hannah Arndt, Tom Johnstone and Liz Wilcox-Jones are leading on the outside of the marquee.

Staffing: There will be a manager allocated to the stand each day and supported by a team of corporate members of staff. They will be on hand to co-ordinate activities in the main areas and to answer questions from the public. They will be taking a proactive approach to encouraging people to access our stand.

Media: The Council will be involved in a press briefing on the Monday of the Eisteddfod week and a member of Denbighshire's Communications team will have a presence at the other event, should issues relating to Denbighshire be raised.

Civic presence: A programme of activity for the Chairman of the authority will be arranged and shared with the team nearer the time.

Safety Advisory Group: The SAG will meet 8 March to discuss issues relating to health and safety of the event. Their remit includes food safety, licensing, transport plan, site event plan. These meetings will progress on a monthly basis and arrangements will be put in place.

Communications and Marketing Group: This sub-group will be looking at various aspects, including the co-ordination of a marquee for Denbighshire, promotion and marketing of the event, social media and encouraging people to come and stay in the county. The team was present at the 2019 Eisteddfod and played an active role in the proclamation ceremony which took place in Prestatyn in October 2019.

Education Group: This will be looking at all the aspects relating to schools. This will involve promoting the Urdd competitions to all schools, encouraging take up in events, promoting the proclamation ceremony, ensuring children are licenced to get involved in the activities.

Schools: Primary and secondary schools have been invited to get involved in the show. More details to follow.

All schools in Denbighshire have been encouraged to get involved in all Urdd Eisteddfod competitions.

The first and second placed in each competition at the local level progress to the county level. Local heats are held in the Dee Valley, Ruthin, Denbigh and Rhyl/ Prestatyn.

The winners of each competition at county level will represent the county at the national.

Schools will also have an opportunity to get involved in ceremonies during the week.

Marketing/ promotion: Denbighshire's Communications team have been involved in the Eisteddfod planning from the outset. Denbighshire's team will be supporting the Urdd's Corporate Communications team through sharing social media messages, arranging photo / filming opportunities, arranging local activities to promote the Eisteddfod.

Denbighshire's team will be promoting the county as a great place to visit, either on holiday or as day trippers and we will be making the most of the opportunity during the week to showcase the county and to promote what the county has on offer.

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

The decision contributes to the development of the Welsh Language and culture, which underpins the Council's Corporate Plan.

6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

A budget of £25,000 has been allocated towards the cost associated with the Eisteddfod (subject to change if costs have risen due to the pandemic). Any additional support is deemed as goodwill and is down to individual departments.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment?

Whilst no formal Well-being Impact Assessment is needed for this report, it is worth noting some of the key benefits in relation to the Well-Being and Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Welsh Language Standards.

One of the key components of the well-being and Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is having: "A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language : A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation".

The Council also has a role, through its Welsh Language Standards, to promote opportunities for local communities to get involved in Welsh Language activities.

8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?

Consultation has been carried out with the Communications and Marketing Sub-Group, as well as a Strategic Sub-Group co-ordinating the Council's response.

Updates have also been provided to the Welsh Language Steering Group and some Member Area Groups.

9. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?

Plans are progressing well. Any risks are likely to be externally linked, eg weather, illness (covid).

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Report to	Welsh Language Steering Committee
Date of meeting	8 March 2022
Lead Member / Officer	Councillor Mark Young – Lead Member for Planning, Public Protection and Safer Communities
Report author	Bethan Morris, Planning Officer
Title	Welsh Language Considerations for the LDP 2018 to 2033 Background Paper

1. What is the report about?

This report is about the first steps in formulating a new local policy on Welsh Language and culture for the next Local Development Plan (LDP) 2018 to 2033. It focuses on the preparation and potential content of the supporting Background Paper.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

Members of the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) discussed an initial report on the Welsh Language Background Paper on 17th January 2022, see Appendix 1. It was felt crucial to seek the view of the Welsh Language Steering Committee early in the process of formulating the forthcoming local policy for the next LDP 2018 to 2033.

3. What are the Recommendations?

That Members discuss the report and make recommendations on how the Background Paper should present evidence to support Welsh Language in the LDP 2018 to 2033.

4. Report details

4.1 The next LDP 2018 to 2033 is in the process of being prepared. The LDP guides new development throughout Denbighshire through its strategy and policies, which have to align with national policy and be supported by evidence. Background papers are used to

point to evidence and sources on a particular topic, which in turn support strategy and / or policies of that particular topic.

4.2 The Strategic Planning Group (SPG) has responsibility of guiding the next LDP 2018 to 2033. Following its meeting on 17th January 2022 the SPG asked that the Welsh Language background paper considerations report (Appendix 1), be referred for input from the Welsh Language Steering Committee. The SPG recognise the difficulty in supporting the Welsh Language in the new LDP and particularly the difficulties in linking new development to the impact on Welsh Language. SPG members did not consider it appropriate in the LDP to allocate parts of Denbighshire as sensitive in terms of Welsh Language. The SPG accept a policy requesting a formal linguistic assessment with every planning application cannot be included in the LDP 2018 to 2033. LDP policies that require financial contributions for maintaining the Welsh Language are accepted by the SPG as being difficult to evidence; as any financial contributions must be directly linked to the impact of the new development, its structure. There is no evidence available in Denbighshire that links new building construction or its impact, to residents' linguistic abilities. The SPG supports officer recommendations to broaden the linguistic background paper to include social and cultural identity of settlements. SPG members recommend noting the number of speakers when presenting linguistic data rather than just using percentage figures.

4.3 National guidance on developing Welsh Language LDP policies is provided in Technical Advice Note (TAN) 20. It states that the impact on Welsh Language and the sustainability of communities has to be considered when preparing an LDP. The impact has to be assessed within the Sustainability Appraisal. LDP policies however cannot introduce any element of discrimination between individuals on the basis of their linguistic ability.

4.4 Welsh Language is considered in Denbighshire's statutory Sustainability Appraisal, which assesses the social, environmental and economic impact and effect of policies, to ensure that the LDP 2018 to 2033 is delivering sustainable outcomes. Evidence to support LDP 2018 to 2033 Welsh Language strategies and policies will be delivered through a background paper.

4.5 TAN 20 indicates that matters to be assessed may include housing scale and location of growth, employment land, community facilities and education infrastructure as

well as planning obligations and signage. Evidence is required to support any new policies.

4.6 Since TAN 20 was introduced, in 2017, the focus of incorporating Welsh Language into LDP's has shifted. It is recognised that creating and sustaining communities, so that they have a strong social and cultural fabric, enables the Welsh Language to thrive. National policy now recommends that as part of placemaking policies consideration is given to encouraging cohesive communities with a distinct sense of place and identity, which will support the Welsh Language.

4.7 It is therefore recommended that any background paper in support of the LDP 2018 to 2033 collates information on the cultural and social fabric of settlements as well as its built local character and linguistic data. Reference to the identity and cultural aspects of the community are recommended so that they can be cross referenced to other reports detailing information on settlements (Settlement Hierarchy Report). The idea is to ensure that the character or identity of a settlement is clearly described and can then be assessed as part of policies that require assessment of community cohesion, local character and distinctiveness.

4.8 The background paper can also recommend how policies in the LDP 2018 to 2033 should be drafted. It is suggested that the background paper promote consideration of the social and cultural fabric of the community in a number of policies, primarily the Placemaking and Welsh Language policies. Such consideration is also recommended in the town centre and visitor policies, as well as housing policies. Supporting Welsh Language can also be achieved through supporting community facilities and new digital infrastructure and such policies should be included in the LDP 2018 to 2033.

4.9 SPG welcome input from Welsh Language Steering Committee as to what considerations can be included in the background paper on Welsh Language.

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

The decision contributes to the development of the Welsh Language and culture, which underpins the Council's Corporate Plan.

The development of the Replacement LDP 2018 to 2033 contributes to all Corporate Priorities: Housing; Connected Communities; Resilient Communities; Environment & Young People.

6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

The cost of developing the Welsh Language background paper in support of the LDP 2018 to 2033 forms part of the cost of producing a replacement LDP. There are no costs for discussing the Welsh Language background paper.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment?

A Well-being Impact Assessment is not necessary for this report as no decision is being made. On-going Wellbeing Impact Assessment inform the development of the replacement LDP 2018 to 2033.

It is also worth noting some of the key benefits in relation to the Well-Being and Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Welsh Language Standards. One of the key components of the well-being and Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is having: “A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language: A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh Language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation”. The Council also has a role, through its Welsh Language Standards, to promote opportunities for local communities to get involved in Welsh Language activities.

8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?

The development of the LDP 2018 to 2033 is subject to extension and comprehensive engagement and consultation with the public and other stakeholders. The considerations for the Welsh Language Background paper were discussed as part of the Strategic Planning Group on 17th January 2022 when it was agreed to refer the report to this Committee.

9. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?

There are no risks associated with discussing what considerations could and should form part of the Welsh Language background paper for the LDP 2018 to 2033. The approved Replacement LDP Delivery Agreement includes a detailed risk assessment for the development of the replacement LDP 2018 to 2033.

Strategic Planning Group

Report to	Strategic Planning Group
Date of Meeting	17 January 2022
Lead Member	Councillor Mark Young – Lead Member for Planning, Public Protection and Safer Communities
Report Author	Bethan Morris, Planning Officer
Report	Welsh Language Background Paper Considerations

1. What is the report about

- 1.1 This report provides information on considerations that are being taken into account in preparing a Welsh Language Background Paper for the next LDP 2018 to 2033.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1 All policies in the next LDP 2018 to 2033 have to be supported by way of evidence. This report highlights considerations that can be taken into account in developing policies that support the Welsh Language and therefore should be addressed in the Welsh Language Background Paper.

3. What are the recommendations?

- 3.1 That Members of the SPG discuss the recommendations for how to best support Welsh Language in the policies of the LDP 2018 to 2033 and address the Background Paper.

4. Report Details

- 4.1 Cymraeg 2050 is the national strategy for increasing the number of Welsh speakers to a million by 2050. It has three themes; increasing the number of Welsh speakers, increasing the use of Welsh and creating favourable conditions – infrastructure and context. In terms of the local development plan and controlling

planning it is this third theme that can be predominantly supported particularly in creating favourable community conditions.

- 4.2 Technical Advice Note (TAN) 20, Planning and the Welsh Language was issued in October 2017 and is the current guidance for the next LDP 2018 to 2033. It states that the impact on Welsh language and the sustainability of communities has to be considered when preparing an LDP. The impact has to be assessed within the Sustainability Appraisal. LDP policies however cannot introduce any element of discrimination between individuals on the basis of their linguistic ability.
- 4.3 TAN 20 indicates that matters to be assessed may include housing scale and location of growth, employment land, community facilities and education infrastructure as well as planning obligations and signage. Evidence is required to support any new policies.
- 4.4 Since TAN 20 was introduced Welsh Government have updated Planning Policy Wales and published Future Wales – The National Plan 2040. The Future Wales outcomes indicate that development can be managed to ensure that there are jobs and homes to enable the Welsh Language to remain central to those communities' identities and development can encourage the creation of education and social infrastructure to enable the Welsh Language to develop as a natural thriving part of communities. Future Wales does not have any specific policies on the Welsh Language and therefore in ensuring Welsh is recognised and considered in the next LDP the focus has to remain on TAN 20 and Planning Policy Wales.
- 4.5 Planning Policy Wales Edition 11, February 2021, recognises that in creating and sustaining communities it enables the Welsh Language to thrive. Welsh Language is part of the social and cultural fabric and therefore should be seen as part of social and cultural wellbeing goals and placemaking. Having strong placemaking policies that encourage cohesive communities with a distinct sense of place and identity supports the Welsh Language. Policies cannot discriminate on the basis of linguistic controls. Welsh language impact assessments must be undertaken as part of the Sustainability Appraisal and can also be required in respect of large developments that are not allocated in the LDP and are in areas of particular sensitivity.

- 4.6 Integrating Welsh Language as part of placemaking and cohesive communities and protecting cultural including linguistic identity as a way for LDPs to support the Welsh Language has been strengthened by recent publications. On 2 March 2021 Welsh Government published a paper on Second homes: developing new policies which considers the future of Welsh as a community language (Second Homes 2021). It highlights the problems facing specific parts of Gwynedd, Pembrokeshire, Anglesey and Ceredigion where second homes are pushing out local residents and diminishing Welsh speaking communities. Dwyfor, Gwynedd is identified as facing the greatest threat and it is noted that tackling the problem of second homes alone will not be enough to stabilise the Welsh language particularly given other socio-economic changes including those resulting from Brexit and Covid 19. It highlights the socio economic, social and cultural challenges facing communities such as depopulation, the growth of economic practices of 'working from home' that change the linguistic balance of communities, shrinkage in the public sector due to budget cuts, possible shrinkage in the agricultural sector resulting from Brexit and the long term nature of land ownership. It concludes that Welsh speaking areas will face the biggest challenge to their linguistic and cultural integrity for decades and recommends establishing a Commission to make recommendations regarding the future of the Welsh Language as a community language.
- 4.7 Covid 19 has had an impact. The effects of Covid-19 on Welsh language community groups – survey findings (Effects of Covid-19) was published on 10 December 2020 and Welsh Government issued a response to these concerns on 13 July 2021. It has highlighted the importance of digital inclusion, the contribution of sports clubs and art performance groups, increasing the use of Welsh by researching community development models and social enterprise models as well as considering intergenerational balance and county promotion strategies.
- 4.8 In attempting to tackle the concerns raised in Second Homes 2021 and the Effects of Covid 19 2020 & 2021 there is an open Welsh Government consultation on Welsh Language Communities Housing Plan which commenced on 23 November 2021 and runs to 22 February 2022. Dwyfor, characterised as a Welsh-speaking heartland, has been chosen as a location for trialling and evaluating interventions and their cumulative impact. Officers will ensure that they remain up to date on the progress of this consultation and its recommendations building it into the Welsh Language Background Paper where appropriate.

- 4.9 All these current updates on national policy, national trends will be incorporated into the background paper so that local policies are in conformity. National data, such as the reports on The Cymraeg 2050 strategy will be utilised where appropriate. The Welsh Language Background paper for the next LDP 2018 to 2033 however has to have a local context and assess local data that then recommends and supports local policies in the LDP.
- 4.10 Although a Census was undertaken in 2021 the results of that Census are not yet available and may not be available for a number of years. The 2019 Sustainability Appraisal sets out the 2011 and 2001 Census details in terms of Welsh speakers and notes that there was a decrease from 26.4% of the population to 24.6% of the population in the 10 year period. The South and rural areas of the county, with the exception of Llangollen, have the greater percentage of Welsh speakers. There is no clear trend between an increase in the population and its impact on the number of Welsh speakers and therefore it is not possible to predict a trend between the creation of new development and its impact on Welsh speakers where it could be both positive and negative.
- 4.11 In terms of the next LDP 2018 to 2033 it is possible for those locations with a high number of Welsh speakers to be described as sensitive and attempt to curtail development in those locations. This however could have a negative impact on those communities, such as where an affordable housing need has been identified or where the economy of the community is at risk and needs to adapt.
- 4.12 It is therefore recommended that, within the Welsh Language Background, where there are high levels of Welsh speakers in a settlement, the local character and distinctiveness of the settlement should include a reference to a Welsh linguistic identity and the cultural aspects of the community. (The title of the background paper should then also include a reference to culture.) This description will then be integrated into the final Settlement Hierarchy Report to ensure that the next LDP 2018 to 2033 clearly describes the character of the settlements and should be assessed when policy considerations include cultural well-being, social infrastructure and local character and distinctiveness.
- 4.13 In terms of local policies within the LDP 2018 to 2033 it is recommended that in defining and justifying the policies set out in the Draft Preferred Strategy consideration is given to:-

- a) Strengthening the placemaking policy so that it is clear that all new development must have consideration of the social and cultural fabric of the community and encourage a cohesive community that supports its distinct sense of place and identity. (A reference to creating distinctive and cohesive communities in the policy could allow for Supplementary Planning Guidance and gives flexibility in being able to clarify and fully define requirements at a later date.)
- b) Linking the Welsh Language policy to the Welsh Language Background Paper and Settlement Hierarchy Paper. (It is also recommended that the Welsh Language Background Paper title includes a reference to Culture and that it then includes links to Social and Cultural Wellbeing.)
- c) Linking the Welsh Language policy back to placemaking.
- d) The Welsh Language policy or justification text to highlight the benefits to businesses of encouraging Welsh Language for social and cultural wellbeing and distinctiveness.
- e) Within housing policies ensuring that the point of local needs and the ability of local residents to be able to afford those homes, whether they are market homes or affordable homes, is clearly expressed and sets out evidential requirements of applicants where appropriate.
- f) Town Centres and Retail development policies to include reference to maintaining and enhancing the cultural and social character of the town. (Will assist Denbigh, Ruthin & Corwen.)
- g) Visitor economy and accommodation policies to be carefully drafted to ensure balance is achieved and social and cultural identities are not lost.
- h) Include a reference within the policies to supporting any new digital infrastructure.
- i) Include a reference within the policies to supporting community facilities.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 Officers will incorporate the outcomes of members' discussion on the above recommendations into work being undertaken on the next LDP 2018 to 2033.
- 5.2 Members are asked whether they would like this report and information on the LDP 2018 to 2033 to be referred to the Welsh Language Steering Committee. Officers would greatly appreciate input from the Welsh Language Steering Committee that could then be incorporated into the Welsh Language Background Paper.

WELSH LANGUAGE STEERING COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Meeting	Item (Description / Title)	Purpose of Report	Lead member and Contact Officer
8 July 2022	Eisteddfod yr <u>Urdd – Diweddariad</u>	Update on Eisteddfod yr Urdd	Manon Celyn Roberts
8 November 2022			

Note for Officers – Report Deadlines

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>	<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
<i>November</i>	26 October				

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