

Welsh Language Commissioner Feedback

Report to	Welsh Language Steering Group
Date of Meeting	8 November, 2022
Lead Member	Gary Williams / Councillor Emrys Wynne
Report Author	Manon Celyn Roberts, Welsh Language Officer

1. What is the report about

This report is about results of the Welsh Language Commissioner's Monitoring Report.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

To provide an update on compliance checks carried out by the Welsh Language Commissioner.

3. What are the recommendations?

To note the findings and to approve the Action Plan.

4. Report Details

Every year, the Welsh Language Commissioner carries out checks amongst organisations that are implementing the statutory Welsh Language Standards, to ensure those organisations are complying with the legislation.

The Commissioner's team also arrange an annual meeting to discuss the findings and to report on progress with the annual 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 organizations' compliance with the relevant standards. Recruitment d Policies being their priority.

THE FINDINGS

A body that creates and publishes documents and forms

During the 2022-23 surveys it was discovered that not all documents and forms included a statement on the English versions that they were also available in Welsh. There were 2 examples of a document that did not comply with standard 49 namely:

<https://www.sirddinbych.gov.uk/en/documents/education/school-information-guides/schools-information-guide-2022-2023.pdf>

<https://www.sirddinbych.gov.uk/en/documents/your-council/strategies-plans-and-policies/policies/education-and-schools/learner-transport-policy-v2.pdf>

There were 3 examples of a form that did not comply with standard 50A namely:

<https://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en/documents/licences-permits-and-trading-standards/business-and-street-trading-licences/taxi-licences/hackney-carriage-private-hire-drivers-licence-application.pdf>

<https://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en/documents/licences-permits-and-trading-standards/business-and-street-trading-licences/taxi-licences/taxi-driver-medical-assessment-form-v2.pdf>

<https://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en/documents/licences-permits-and-trading-standards/business-and-street-trading-licences/taxi-licences/notification-of-motoring-conviction-form.pdf>

Apps

The Council noted medium compliance for their apps noting that the Parentpay app was not available in Welsh. It was discussed that Parentpay was not an app that had been published by the Council and it was confirmed that the schools themselves had an agreement with the company.

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Council's use of social media

During the 2022-23 surveys it was noted that one message on Twitter and one message on Facebook were published in English only on the Council's corporate media.

<https://twitter.com/DenbighshireCC/status/1539307770410700802>

[https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=396944645808880&set=a.305457728290906&_cft__\[0\]=AZU0IC8EtS7cdGPx9KnnJuLt8nIjkk08i-XNMyuxHolZgzH2o-dNxaGPQI19TYyct6X1oDQXCMBndctXzyHjHngFVcA7jFP4uG8RDrtSmeOg2mKz-8gYi0OMa8145GYZ3Fi4J7F7obnDqCjXPOdPzCB6fkV_7kS6eyC-TYuj8mnok_21KI5IMIIozDvjT2E6kCI&_tn_=%2CO%2CP-R](https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=396944645808880&set=a.305457728290906&_cft__[0]=AZU0IC8EtS7cdGPx9KnnJuLt8nIjkk08i-XNMyuxHolZgzH2o-dNxaGPQI19TYyct6X1oDQXCMBndctXzyHjHngFVcA7jFP4uG8RDrtSmeOg2mKz-8gYi0OMa8145GYZ3Fi4J7F7obnDqCjXPOdPzCB6fkV_7kS6eyC-TYuj8mnok_21KI5IMIIozDvjT2E6kCI&_tn_=%2CO%2CP-R)

2 OPERATIONAL STANDARDS

Using the Welsh language within the body's administration

It was noted in the self-assessment questionnaire that the Council did not have a policy on the use of Welsh within the administration of a body.

Recruitment and appointment standards

It was noted during the 2022-23 surveys that 2 job advertisements contained monolingual English words and/or titles.

Position 1

Community Resource Team Co-ordinator

Job Reference: C55500077W3LDE

Errors: Pecyn Location: Ruthin/Corwen Hours: 37 per week Permanent

Position 2

Administration Officer - Team Around the Family

Job Reference: ESEI00074W3FDE

Error: English only title

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 are no costs associated with this report.

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 is to the reputation of the authority, as we have already made a commitment in our Welsh Language Strategy and through the Welsh Language Standards to increase the use of Welsh in the workplace and in communities.

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9. Action Plan

ACTION	WHO	WHEN
Report issues to relevant departments	Manon Celyn	November 2022
Internal communications to remind staff of their duty to comply with the Welsh Language Standards around telephone answering, responding to correspondence and arranging meetings.	Manon Celyn	November 2022- March 2023
Carry out mid-year internal research to check on compliance	Manon Celyn / Menter Iaith Sir Ddinbych	April 2023