

Report to: Welsh Language Steering Committee

Date of Meeting: 21 November 2024

Lead Member/Officer: Councillor Emrys Wynne / Gary Williams, Corporate Director

Report Author: Gerallt Lyall, Welsh Language Officer; Catrin Hughes-Owen, Team Leader – Communications and Campaign Management

Title: Welsh Language Mainstreaming Report in the Corporate Plan 2022-27

1. What does the report discuss?

How to ensure that Welsh Language and Culture is mainstreamed into the Corporate Plan and how to monitor this.

2. What is the reason for preparing this report?

To discuss and agree on how to ensure that the Welsh Language and Welsh Culture are mainstreamed throughout the six themes of the Corporate Plan and to establish ways to monitor this to ensure a positive impact on the Welsh Language and Culture across the county.

3. What are the recommendations?

- To discuss the suggestions in section 4.3 below for mainstreaming the Welsh language across the themes of the Corporate Plan.
- To agree on the role of the Steering Committee in governing and monitoring this work.

4. Report Details

4.1

With the themes of the Corporate Plan 2022 to 2027 now reduced from nine to six, and with the Welsh Language and Culture theme no longer a standalone theme, it is essential to ensure that Welsh Language and Culture are mainstreamed into the remaining six themes.

4.2

This report serves as a starting point for the Steering Committee to discuss the best process for achieving this and offers recommendations on how to proceed.

4.3

The following proposals outline how this can be achieved and the role of the Steering Committee in accomplishing this work:

- The Welsh Steering Committee takes a leading role in providing governance and oversight of Welsh language and culture-related indicators and activity in support of the Corporate Plan, with the aim that this monitoring work coincides with the Committee's work of monitoring and reporting on the County Council's Welsh Language Strategy 2023-28.
- The Welsh Steering Committee should satisfy itself that all reasonable opportunities to mainstream Welsh language and culture into each theme of the Corporate Plan are taken.
- The Committee should be clear that the Corporate Plan prioritises key indicators and activities. Detailed and fuller performance management frameworks are in place for the Welsh Language Strategy 2023-28 and WESP.
- The Welsh Steering Committee could include in its terms of reference an additional purpose to act as a 'critical friend' supporting groups to enhance the Welsh language and culture elements within Well-being Impact Assessments that are being developed.
- That Boards in place to deliver the Corporate Plan themes ensure Welsh Language and Culture is a core part of their thinking, and that they can demonstrate how opportunities to mainstream Welsh Language are being taken.

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Plan 2022 to 2027: The Denbighshire We Want?

The decision contributes to the development of a culturally vibrant county in Denbighshire where the Welsh language thrives, which is one of the key objectives of the Council's Corporate Plan 2022-27.

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

There will be no cost, but services will be required to prioritize the Welsh language and Welsh culture when planning their annual work programs.

7. What are the Well-being Impact Assessment?

No Well-being Impact Assessment required – initial discussion.

8. What consultations have been held with Scrutiny and others?

Consultations were held with the Lead Cabinet Member for the Welsh Language and the Lead Corporate Director.

9. Chief Financial Officer's Statement

Not applicable.

10. What risks exist, and is there anything we can do to mitigate them?

Not applicable – initial discussion.

11. Power to Make the Decision

11.1 Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011