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| MEETING: | LANGUAGE COMMITTEE |
| DATE: | 27 February 2018 |
| TITLE: | Gwynedd Language Strategy |
| AUTHOR: | Gwenllian Williams |
| PURPOSE OF THE REPORT | To give the members an update on the development of the Strategy |

1. Background

- 1.1 In accordance with Standard 145 (Welsh Language Standards, Welsh Language Measure (wales) 2011), we have a statutory obligation to publish a language strategy that explains how we intend to promote and encourage the use of the Welsh language in the county.
- 1.2 This strategy must contain, amongst other things, a target for increasing or maintaining the number of Welsh speakers within the county.
- 1.3 Gwynedd already has a language strategy, and the current one has been operational since 2014. That strategy was developed and published by hunaniaith, the language initiative (Menter Iaith) for Gwynedd, and the Council was the main partner. Hunaniaith has been primarily responsible for the implementation of that strategy.
- 1.4 The new strategy will be lead by Gwynedd Council, and all departments will be expected to contribute to it's implementation, as well as external partners. The strategy will also reflect the commitments made in relation to the Welsh language in the Gwynedd Council Plan and the Gwynedd and Mon Well-being Plan.

2. Summary of the work so far:

- 2.1 A workshop was held with members of the Language Committee on the 12th of October 2017 to discuss ideas and priorities of the Strategy. A workshop was also held with officers from Hunaniaith.
- 2.2 As it is vitally important that the Language Strategy reflects and complements the priorities in other strategic plans currently being developed by the Council we decided to review the dates for the consultation and completion of the strategy, and moved the consultation period forward from January 2018 to spring 2018.

2.3 A draft strategy has been written on the basis of the above workshops, and taking into consideration other strategic plans.

3. Next steps

3.1 The draft will be presented to the Cabinet on the 13th of March for approval for public consultation.

3.2 The consultation process will be held which will include sessions with the Language Committee, heads of services internally and representatives from external partners and community groups.

We ask that the members accept the above update on the development of the Strategy and offer any observations.