

GWYNEDD COUNCIL CABINET



Report to Gwynedd Council Cabinet meeting

Meeting Date: 18 September 2018
Cabinet Member: Cllr Nia Jeffreys
Liaison Officer: Gwenllian Mair Williams
Contact number: 01286 679469
Item Title: Welsh Language Promotion Plan in Gwynedd 2018-2023 (County Language Strategy)

1 THE DECISION SOUGHT

1.1 Seeking the Cabinet's approval on the final version of the Welsh Language Promotion Plan and initial Work Programme, for its implementation.

2 THE REASON FOR THE NEED FOR DECISION

2.1 To ensure that there is agreement on the content of the Promotion Plan and the priorities set out in it, and that they are in line with the priorities identified in other plans such as the Council's Plan and the Gwynedd and Anglesey Well-being Plan. Also that Cabinet members are content with the initial action steps set out for the priorities of the Promotion Plan

3 INTRODUCTION

3.1 In accordance with the requirement of Standard 145 (Welsh Language Standards, Welsh Language Measure (Wales) 2011), the Council has a statutory duty to produce a 5 year strategy setting out how we intend to promote the Welsh language and to facilitate the use of the Welsh language more widely in our area.

3.2 This is the Council's plan and therefore all Council departments will be expected to contribute towards achieving the goals. We will also be working with other external partners where there are commonalities, in order to share resources and expertise in working towards achieving the objectives.

3.3 The Promotion Plan also reflects the current commitments made in relation to the Welsh language in the Council's Plan and the Gwynedd and Môn Well-being Plan as well as wider commitments in areas of education and planning.

3.4 The content of the draft Plan was consulted upon earlier this year, and the final Plan has been revised in light of that consultation, taking into account some of the issues raised. For example, there is an attempt to place a greater emphasis on the need to look at support for learners and also the role of technology in the final Plan.

3.5 An initial work programme has been drawn up to give an idea of the first steps that will be taken to achieving the objectives of the Plan. These actions are based on discussions with relevant departments, and partners, to identify work streams that meet the priorities, and also opportunities for collaboration or new projects. Some external partners had identified specific collaborative opportunities in their consultation response, which have been reflected in the Plan and the Work Programme.

3.6 Meetings will be held during the Autumn which will include representatives from the various areas and partners, in order to agree on the collaboration details, as well as timetables and means of monitoring. These will be added to the Work Programme, which will be updated as the work develops.

4 NEXT STEPS AND TIMETABLE

4.1 The Cabinet is asked to approve the final Promotion Plan and the attached Work Programme in order to present it to the full Council on the 4th of October.

5 ANY CONSULTATIONS HELD PRIOR TO RECOMMENDING THE DECISION

5.1 A report on the consultation responses was presented to the Welsh Language Committee in July and some of the themes raised were discussed and should be considered in the further development of the Plan.

5.2 Comments of Statutory Officers

Monitoring officer:

"The strategy complies with the statutory requirement placed on the Council under Standard 145 of The Welsh Language Standards (No. 1) Regulations 2015 to produce a 5 year strategy to promote the Welsh language. I note the steps in the Work programme in order to achieve these priorities, and also the

need to keep in mind to statutory obligation under Standard 146 after 5 years to asses to what extent the Council has followed the strategy”

Finance Officer:

“The author has confirmed that no additional costs should arise for the Council as a result of adopting the attached Welsh Promotion Plan. I therefore have no further comment from the perspective of financial propriety.”