

1. Welsh Language Training Report 2022-23

Introduction

Here is an overview of the provision offered to staff to learn or develop their Welsh language skills during 2022-2023:

- Community-based courses over an academic year (online or face to face weekly lessons)
- Learn Welsh North West Summer courses
- Intensive courses (a week or more)
- Online self-study courses, e.g. *Entry level Self-study*, *Work Welsh Induction* and *Improving Work Welsh*
- Work Welsh courses (online or face to face)
- Specially-commissioned courses on various levels
- The Language Skills Certificate
- Internal Welsh Friends scheme

Some of the year's highlights

Learners from the Adults, Health and Well-being department

A manager who works in the occupational therapy field attended an intensive course in Nant Gwrtheyrn in March 2023, following a previous course there in 2020. Due to the manager's desire to develop his Welsh skills, he influenced 2 other members of staff who work in the same field, and they also went on an intensive course to Nant Gwrtheyrn in March 2023, with one continuing to follow a weekly course.

Commissioned courses

Following the successes of previously commissioned courses, we decided to continue with the Intermediate class and offer another Gloywi Iaithe course this year. Due to the diverse needs of our workforce, these courses allow for greater flexibility while also offering staff the opportunity to get to know each other better. Here are some examples of the courses organised:

Level	Course details	Number of participants	Additional information
Intermediate Part 2	Weekly, three-hour lessons	6	Due to the success of the Intermediate course for Byw'n Iach, Adults, Health and Well-being and Economy and Community staff that was organised during the Covid-19 period, a follow up course was arranged between September 2021 and July 2022. All members of staff who attended have now completed the Intermediate level course.
Language Improvement	One hour and a half sessions weekly for a period of 6 weeks	8	Following the success of the previous Gloywi Iaithe course organised through Work Welsh, another course was organised in order to offer the opportunity again to staff across all the Council's departments who had shown an interest in such training. It's great to see that staff continue to be keen to maintain and develop their language skills.

The Language Skills Certificate	Weekly lessons over 2 terms (September-December 2022 and February-April 2023)	8	Having held a pilot course to offer Council staff the opportunity to complete the Certificate in conjunction with Canolfan Bedwyr and the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol, it was decided that we would offer the course once again. It is hoped that the course will be held annually from now on. Many members of the Council's staff are keen to develop their language skills, and being able to get a certificate at the end is great in order to show their professional development.
---------------------------------	---	---	--

Friends Scheme

Our Friends Scheme was launched in 2019 in order to support learners to use their new Welsh language skills in the workplace and continue to hone their ability in the language outside the classroom, in the company of fluent speakers across the organisation. The Scheme was also welcomed by a number of fluent speakers at the Council, as it provided an opportunity for them to support learners on their learning journey and offer support and lend an ear in an informal atmosphere.

By the end of March 2023, 5 individuals were receiving support from 5 'Friends'. The opportunity to have informal conversations with other Council staff is proving invaluable to learners, with many appreciating the opportunity to practice and ask questions. We hope that these sessions will support their formal lessons and help them gain confidence.

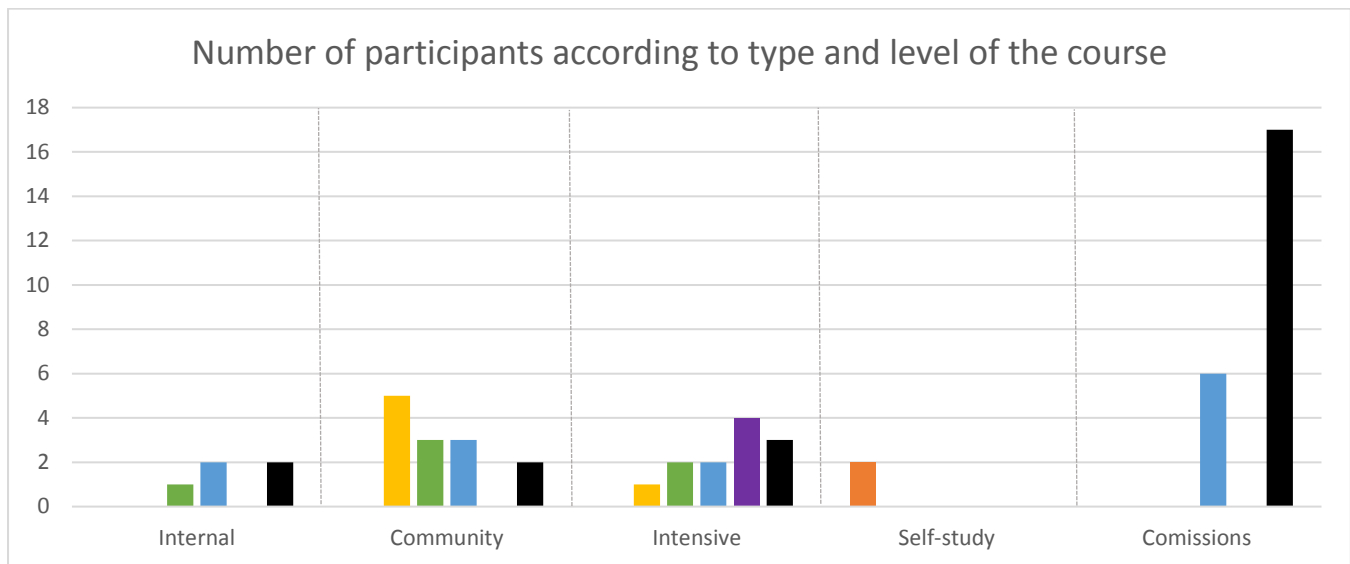
We will continue with the current arrangements and look for more Friends to support learners during the next year.

The tables below provide more information about the language training held during the year 2022-23.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS ACCORDING TO TYPE/TITLE OF COURSES

Course	Number of Individuals
In-house	
Welsh Friends Scheme	5
External	
Community Welsh Learning Courses	13
Intensive courses	12
Online self-study courses (Work Welsh)	2
Various commissions	23
	55

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS ACCORDING TO TYPE AND LEVEL OF THE COURSE



These learners are divided across the Council's departments as follows:

