

Report of the Economy and Community Department on the implementation of the Language Policy and contribution towards the realisation of the Welsh Language Strategy 2023- 2033

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Department	Economy and Community
Author	Sioned E Williams

1. What policies and plans are in place within your department to contribute to the objectives of the language strategy? Identify the priority area (early years, learning, work and service, the community or research and technology)

Relevant policies and strategic plans

All of the Department's policies and strategic plans contribute to the objectives of the language strategy. Specifically:

- [Gwynedd Economic Development Strategy](#) - The Welsh language is rooted within the Strategy, the vision of the Strategy is "An innovative, productive and low-carbon economy which strengthens the Welsh language, creates new opportunities and contributes towards everyone's well-being."
- [Ardal Ni Our Area Local Regeneration Framework](#)- incorporates 13 local area regeneration plans which highlights key issues and priorities identified locally
- [Sustainable Visitor Economy Plan](#) - The Welsh language is a core part of the vision for a sustainable visitor economy and one of the agreed principles for implementation.
- Draft Gwynedd Culture Plan. The draft culture vision and principles for Gwynedd address celebrating our identity, heritage and the Welsh language.
- [Welsh Slate Landscape World Heritage Site Management Plan](#) - Emphasis is placed within the Management Plan on the importance of the language and culture within our slate communities and the need to protect and promote the language across our activities.

Projects in the Council Plan

A Prosperous Gwynedd:

- **Promoting our culture and a sustainable visitor economy**
- **Regenerating communities and town centres**
- **Creating the best possible circumstances in Gwynedd for community enterprises and businesses to thrive, and support the people of Gwynedd into work**

A Caring Gwynedd:

- **Supporting People's Well-being**

Projects and schemes by the Department's Services:

The Department's projects and plans are constantly monitored with arrangements in place to carry out an equality impact assessment, including the impact of the Welsh Language, when introducing a new policy or plan. The matters that services have highlighted for 2025/26 are matters that have been previously reported to this Committee, but managers

are constantly challenging to ensure that they contribute to the objectives of the language strategy. Some projects and schemes by different services are set out below:

Maritime Service: All our on-line services are available bilingually e.g. powerboat registration applications, berth applications and seasonal parking tickets, as well as any material provided to customers or coastal users e.g. safety leaflets, code of conduct etc.

Pwllheli Hafan and Harbour Service: All our on-line services are available bilingually as well as any material provided to customers and harbour users. Although many of our service users use English, efforts are made to start all conversations in Welsh. All services are available in Welsh and English including our website: [Hafan | Hafan Pwllheli Marina](#)

Museums and Arts Service: The Museums Service organises all its exhibitions bilingually and provides a range of activities in Welsh (and some bilingual ones too). We continue to work with Menter Iaith Bangor to hold sessions to encourage conversations between Welsh speakers and new Welsh speakers. In addition, the Engagement and Learning Officer (SPF/Fusion grant) works with Menter Iaith throughout the county to provide links and activities by supporting the Welsh language e.g. Tywyn.

Gwynedd Community Arts continues to provide bilingual sessions across Gwynedd to encourage creativity and well-being in the communities of Gwynedd through the arts. Through various grants such as Community Arts and Arts Support Grants 2025/6 support has been provided to Gwynedd's cultural organisations and companies, reaching all parts of the county and offering Welsh and bilingual provision. It is hoped that this will continue in 2026/7. Recipients of an arts grant are required to accept the Council's language policy or have one themselves and indicate the number of opportunities available in Welsh.

Also, in the process of developing the vision of Culture for Gwynedd and conferences and workshops held with the Welsh language as part of it.

Gwynedd Archives Service: The Archives and Museums Education Service provides materials and activities for schools across Gwynedd through the medium of Welsh in order for them to understand their communities, the importance of the Welsh language and local identity. This is done through a Service Level Agreement with 75 primary schools, 7 secondary schools and 2 special schools committing to the agreement. Also, through the use of the Service's collections, the Archives Service offers activities in our communities and archives that promote the Welsh language. The Service also collaborates with other organisations, such as the National Library, Open Doors, Historical Societies etc. to carry out activities.

Gwynedd Libraries Service and Neuadd Dwyfor: Gwynedd Libraries play a key role by supporting people to learn and speak Welsh, access reading and information resources in Welsh, learn about our culture and heritage and take part in Welsh language and Welsh cultural activities. We are working with key partners to ensure that Welsh language resources are available to support all types of reading and information needs, and to support the needs of users who need access to books and other materials in Welsh in different forms. By providing access to Welsh books and resources, as well as activities in Welsh, we are

contributing to the Welsh Government's ambition to increase the number of people who learn and speak Welsh and see the benefits of learning and speaking Welsh to improve skills and job opportunities and strengthen a sense of national identity.

A varied programme of Welsh language events, whether film or a live performance, is also offered in Neuadd Dwyfor. The Neuadd is promoted as a Welsh Language Cultural Centre in Pen Llŷn and beyond.

The service continues to encourage staff teams to speak Welsh together and to assess any needs or support they require to communicate naturally with each other in Welsh.

Regeneration Programmes Service: The information we have on-line is bilingual and all marketing/promotional material is bilingual.

The Service is responsible for the regeneration role within our town centres which involves a number of commissions. Commissioning packages for any work are bilingual and any scheme developed, whether it is a study or capital work such as signage, will all be bilingual. In addition, any scheme of an arts nature that is implemented will take into account and benefit from the celebration of heritage and language. Examples include art schemes in town centres along with slate inlays on town pavements that are part of the story of Welsh Slate. More recently there has been support for towns interested in submitting an expression of interest to the UK Government to be a Town of Culture 2029.

The Service is also responsible for co-ordinating the work and implementation of projects relating to the North West Wales Slate Landscape. It is a specific area of work where the Welsh language is a horizontal theme within the Management Plan and is addressed at all meetings of the Partnership Board. Discussions have been held to identify opportunities to monitor any impacts that could derive from projects developing from the designation on the Welsh language by collaborating with Bangor University and discussions continue on subsequent research.

The LleCHI LleNi project: Our World Heritage Site, Our Pride, Our Future in particular promotes the Welsh language as a community language across the slate area. The following are examples of our basic principles for promoting the Welsh language in the community:

- Use of Clear Welsh in correspondence and advertisements for activities
- Start every conversation: whether it's a meeting, event or activity, in Welsh
- Ensure equal status for Welsh and English
- Create a supportive space and opportunities for learners to practise their Welsh
- Lead well-being events and historic walks naturally bilingual, giving learners opportunities to practise Welsh, and opportunities for people who do not speak Welsh at all, to hear it and to become familiar with it.

Specific projects currently underway:

- Tafod Tirwedd – a scheme that develops resources and activities for learners.
- Cwrs Cynefin a Chymuned – a course to develop ambassadors within the communities to promote the industry (and the language at its core) to visitors.
- Darganfod Geiriau - a joint project with Menter Iaith Gwynedd to collect key wording and names for the slate valleys and share them with fluent Welsh speakers and new speakers

Community Support Service The Service provides information and support bilingually. The community grants portal is administered bilingually and all third-party grant beneficiaries are required to provide a bilingual policy to meet the criteria. We are currently working with Menter Iaith Gwynedd to establish a referral system for community groups that receive support to develop projects that cannot be delivered bilingually. This will ensure that these groups have specialist support to ensure bilingualism in their arrangements and provision.

Economic Development Service: The work of the Service includes responsibility for the development and implementation of the Gwynedd Economic Development Strategy and the '*Creating the best possible conditions in Gwynedd for businesses and community enterprises to thrive, and supporting the people of Gwynedd into work*' project within the Council's Plan. Work to develop a new economic strategy for Gwynedd has been completed during 2025/26. The Strategy received the seal of approval of [Cyngor Gwynedd's Cabinet on 10 March](#) and a recommendation for its adoption will be submitted to the Full Council on 14 May.

Ensuring a prosperous future for the language within our communities is at the core of the intention of the Economic Strategy. An assessment was carried out early in the development process of the Strategy to embed linguistic considerations into its development; as a result the strengthening of the Welsh language is included in the vision of the Strategy:

"An innovative, productive and low-carbon economy which strengthens the Welsh language, creates new opportunities and contributes towards everyone's well-being."

The Welsh language has also been identified within the sixth priority of the strategy and strengthening the use and visibility of the Welsh language as a unique aspect of Gwynedd's economy has been identified as an area of activity.

The use of the Welsh language by initiatives is also woven within the monitoring and evaluation framework of the Strategy. A large part of the Service's activity then falls under the wing of our project within the Council's 'A Prosperous Gwynedd' priority.

The **ARFOR programme** has been operating since 2019, to strengthen the economy of the west Wales region. The aim is to maintain and create work that would enable young people to stay and return to the region to work and protect and promote the use of the Welsh language. The region includes Gwynedd, Anglesey, Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire. Cyngor Gwynedd's Economic Development Service leads the work on behalf of the 4 counties.

A further £500,000 has been secured by the Welsh Government to continue the ARFOR Programme until September 2026. The transition period focuses on the recommendations of the independent evaluations of ARFOR 1 and 2; transfer learning from the programme and implement a small number of key interventions within the youth and migration themes. During 2025/26, the Service has secured £1.3 million to offer financial support to help local enterprises develop. To receive funding, a business is required to commit to using more Welsh and offer three ways in which they would do so; as of February 2026, 97 initiatives have confirmed their commitment.

The Service has also helped 175 local residents to return to work and a further 103 to increase their ability to earn more wages, which is helpful in sustaining our local communities and reducing outward migration.

Tourism, Marketing and Events Service

The service provides information and support bilingually.

Our event grant fund is administered bilingually.

Guided visits to yr Ysgwrn and venues within the Slate designation for the Gwynedd and Eryri Ambassadors were held bilingually.

The training sessions for business and event organisers highlighted the support available from the Department and Welsh Government in terms of the use of the Welsh language in business and communications.

As part of the Diwylliesiant project (Shared Prosperity fund) an additional budget was secured to promote the special qualities of the area.

Below are the articles that cover the language and culture as featured on the Eryri /Snowdonia Mountains and Sea website and on the social media accounts

- *Ewch ati i frolio'r iaith* Article written by author and poet Rhys Iorwerth: | [Ewch ati i frolio'r iaith! | Eryri](#)
- Swm yn Eryri – Article promoting Welsh music concerts and events across Eryri and the Llŷn Peninsula [Sŵn Eryri 2026 | Eryri](#)
- *Creu, Cyfranogi a Chysylltu yn Eryri a Phen Llŷn* /Create, Participate and Connect in Eryri and the Llŷn Peninsula – An article that promotes arts and cultural experiences, as well as promoting the organisations that offer these experiences [Creu, Cyfranogi a Chysylltu yn Eryri a Phen Llŷn | Eryri](#)

2. What else needs to be addressed in the next year to raise the status of the Welsh language and ensure opportunities for people to use Welsh?

Maritime Service: In order to raise the status of the Welsh language, the service is taking deliberate steps to:

- Encourage and support staff to speak and correspond in Welsh.
- Provide training opportunities for staff to improve and learn the language.
- Celebrate the success of officers learning Welsh.
- Improve bilingual content in our harbours and on the county's beaches.

The Service has had very productive discussions with the Council's Welsh Language Learning and Development Officer over the past few months regarding the development of Welsh language learning resources for the service's seasonal officers. We have also agreed that the Officer will be part of a seasonal officer induction programme in 2026.

Some permanent officers of the Service have completed a 'confidence building' course in Welsh, and some are currently undertaking 'basic Welsh' on-line training.

Pwllheli Hafan and Harbour Service: 22% of the team members are Welsh learners. Training opportunities are available. This year there has been considerable encouragement for team members who have less confidence to develop their skills and support them to use Welsh in the workplace.

Museums and Arts Service: The Service recognises the need to:

- support learners or those who are less confident in speaking and using Welsh

- provide training opportunities for staff to improve and learn the language
- continue to provide a programme of activities and events in Welsh that are dependent on grants and need to identify a long-term way to sustain this
- The outcome of our Storiell Audience Development and Marketing commission through the CELF (National Contemporary Art Gallery Network) scheme and the Lloyd George Museum's Audience Development and Marketing commission (SPF) provides feedback that will be useful to us in this field in the future.

Gwynedd Libraries and Neuadd Dwyfor: We will continue to:

- Promote the Welsh language as a living language by continuing to hold 'Paned a Sgwrs' sessions in our Libraries.
- Ensure that activities for children and families are either held in Welsh only or bilingually with the emphasis on Welsh as the main language.
- Ensure that priority is given to activities for adults where Welsh Learners are welcome and encouraged to take part.
- Continue to provide and maintain designated collections of resources for Learning Welsh in all libraries.
- Promote the availability of Welsh language materials and resources through our digital platforms.
- Maintain our local history collection and magazine collection in our main Stores and ensure that information about the collections is available to users.
- Collaborate with partners such as Menter Iaith, Cymraeg i blant and Mudiad Meithrin on specific plans and activities in the Libraries to attract families.
- Continue to take a leading role in the administration of the Welsh Large Print Book scheme on behalf of Libraries Wales, by co-ordinating the Welsh Large Print book printing scheme with a view to ensuring that large print resources are made available in Welsh to those users who are struggling to read normal size print.
- Continue to work with the North Wales Society for the Blind to ensure that Welsh audiobooks are available for loan through Libraries Wales and digitally through the national digital platform.
- Continue to maintain book resources of historical value through our 19th and 20th Century Children's Book collection held in the main Library Stores in Caernarfon.
- Hold the Penygroes Library Annual Lecture in collaboration with the Dyffryn Nantlle Historical Society.
- Hold the Dafydd Orwig Memorial Lecture annually at Dyffryn Ogwen Library.
- Collaborate with People's Collection to identify content for the website, training service staff to be able to do this and add photos and digital content that align with the strategic objectives.
- Act on the legacy of Diwyllesiant by focusing on the promotion of Welsh Language literature and attracting new readers of all ages.
- Continue to develop a wider programme in the theatre with an emphasis on developing live Welsh language evenings with bands and artists, such as Al Lewis, Welsh of the West End, Cabarela and a Welsh-language Comedy Evening.

Gwynedd Archives Service: We would continue to:

- Offer an Archives and Museums Education Service to schools in the county providing material and activities through the medium of Welsh so that they can understand their communities, the importance of the Welsh language and local identity.
- Offer sessions and activities in our archives.
- Collaborate with organisations and societies to offer activities.

Regeneration Programmes Service: Linked to the Slate Cymru work, bilingual education resources will be developed for KS2 and 3. New resources to learn about heritage and the slate landscape have already been uploaded to the Slate Wales website, the You Tube channel and the People's Collection. In addition, a Language and History event will be held in the autumn, for an audience of newcomers to get a taste of the language and its origins, along with a session on the history and culture of the area.

Community Support Service: There will be collaboration with Menter Iaith Gwynedd to raise awareness of a new language policy they are developing for community and town councils and community groups.

Economic Development Service: It is a further period of change in the financing landscape of the economic development field. A small amount of short-term bridging funding has been secured for the ARFOR programme but no continuity expenditure for the programme. There will be a wider shift in funding as the Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) ends and the Local Growth Fund becomes operational. Further opportunities will need to be considered to raise the status of the Welsh language and to ensure opportunities to use the Welsh language in planning for the new funding.

In the field of supporting people, there will be more support schemes available in 2026/27 as a result of new funding from the Welsh Government and the UK Government. Ensuring that there is an appreciation of the Welsh language as a skill in the world of work and ensuring opportunities to use the Welsh language will be planned within all provisions.

Following the adoption of a new Economic Development Strategy, a delivery plan will be developed which will include activity to strengthen the use and visibility of the Welsh language as a unique aspect of Gwynedd's economy.

Tourism, Marketing and Events Service

The Shared Prosperity funding period is ending with a change of emphasis. Efforts will have to be made to find resources from other funding opportunities to raise awareness of the area's special qualities through our online and digital tourism accounts.

Highlight the opportunities that will arise to hold cultural events in the county with the support of a 26/27 Cyngor Gwynedd Event support fund.

3. Has the development of technology impaired your ability to provide opportunities to use Welsh? If applicable, please provide an example. How do you ensure that the

development of technology does not affect your ability to provide opportunities to use the Welsh language?

Maritime Service: Microsoft's translation services have facilitated translation and encourage staff to correspond in Welsh. Programmes such as Cysill on-line or the 'Geiriaduron' app are also very useful. Some officers in the service use 'Artificial Intelligence' software such as 'ChatGPT' to help with the production of correspondence in Welsh. Technology makes it easier for our officers to learn, use and engage with the Welsh language.

Museums and Arts Service: Online translation/Cysill has facilitated translation although the content still needs to be checked. Some officers in the service use 'Artificial Intelligence' software such as 'ChatGPT' to help with the production of correspondence in Welsh. It is sometimes necessary to keep an eye out for "background" systems that still do not provide elements in Welsh such as receipts and hire/ticket systems.

Gwynedd Libraries Service and Neuadd Dwyfor: We see opportunities to promote the Welsh language through our digital provisions. As an example, working with the North Wales Society for the Blind we are ensuring that Welsh-language audiobooks, e-books and Magazines are available to borrow digitally through the national digital platform.

Our Library app can be used through the medium of Welsh and we promote the use of Welsh through all our Social Media pages.

Taking a leading role in the emergence of the All-Wales LMS, it will be possible to mine data on the all-Wales use of Welsh language resources. e.g. Library data shows that loans of Welsh books by children under the age of 7 often overtake loans of English books.

Our Neuadd Dwyfor and Gwynedd Libraries Events ticket booking platforms can be used in Welsh.

Regeneration Programmes Service: Problems have arisen regularly that the translation provision does not always work on MS Teams.

Tourism, Marketing and Events service

Some challenges remain with the use of MS TEAMS to conduct and record our meetings bilingually.

4. How do you keep a record of the people who use your service through the medium of Welsh? Can you share relevant data?

Any other relevant data

Maritime Service:

Power Boat Registration Applications 2025/26	
Language Submitted	Number
Welsh	31
English	2384
Berth Applications	
Language Submitted	Number
Welsh	1
English	260

The number of forms completed in Welsh through our on-line service in 2025/26 is low, with only 32 forms completed in Welsh out of the 2676 submitted, namely 1.2%, which is slightly higher than the previous year (0.15%). This is to be expected as the majority of powerboat owners and berth holders are visitors.

Pwllheli Hafan and Harbour Service: This is not currently data we collect from users of our service. We plan to move to a new customer management system later in the year, so this could be possible in the near future. It is estimated that less than 20% of our 440 annual customers are Welsh and even fewer are Welsh speakers.

Museums and Arts Service: The number attending activities at the Museums in Welsh have been maintained. Around 3,500 have taken part although we do not have all the 2025/6 figures at the moment due to waiting for details of grants etc.

We have Welsh and English accounts for Facebook and Instagram.

Website user details are not available to us completely to report on a figure.

Archives Service: During 2025-2026, 6 sessions/activities were held through the medium of Welsh by the Archives Service or in collaboration with the county's Historical Society with 235 attending.

Regeneration Programmes Service: As a result of the Slate Wales work, and the LleChi LleNi scheme in particular, the following is in place:

- record the data of the attendee of project activities in schools, highlighting the numbers who made use of resources and responded bilingually.
- data available from users of the Welsh resources available on Slate Wales's You Tube channel.

In line with monitoring the choice of language, registration form for activities, and requests for the Simultaneous Translation service at meetings, lectures etc., approximately 72% of the people involved in Slate Wales activity do so through the medium of Welsh.

As a result of the work of working with partners and allocating grants, all organisations receiving a grant are required to comply with principles from Cyngor Gwynedd's Language Policy, for example that all signs displayed in public must be bilingual and that any marketing, promotion and publicity material must be bilingual.

Economic Development Service: Within the business support work area, all businesses requesting financial support are required to report on their business language profile. The following is a snapshot of the response of businesses requesting one of our recent business development grants:

All Welsh	17 (15%)
More Welsh than English	13 (12%)
Fully bilingual	30 (28%)
More English than Welsh	40 (37%)
All English	9 (8%)

In terms of supporting people, the team assesses the language skills of each person receiving support and offers help and support to improve Welsh language skills where appropriate.

The following is an analysis of the response of the individuals supported during the last financial year (2025/26).

Understand Welsh	75%
Speak Welsh	64%
Welsh Reading	62%
Writing in Welsh	60%

Each supported individual is offered a choice of which language they want us to use to communicate with them. Only 41% chose for us to communicate with them through the medium of Welsh over the past year.

Tourism, Marketing and Events service

Eryri Mynyddoedd a Môr – social media accounts

Number of followers on our Welsh medium Eryri Mynyddoedd and Môr , Social media accounts (for the period from 1/4/26 – 31/3/26):

Facebook – 2327

Instagram – 1406

X (Twitter) – 451

Gwynedd Ambassadors Programme

Gwynedd Ambassadors whom have completed the Cultural module by language choice:

Through English: **239 Bronze Ambassadors**

Welsh: **20 Bronze Ambassadors**

(259 Bronze Ambassadors in total)

59 New Ambassadors have enrolled on the course and have opted to carry out the courses through the medium of Welsh. (with 20 having achieved Bronze level status).

5. What are the language skills of your staff?

90.6% of the Department's staff have completed a Language Assessment, with arrangements in place for the remainder to either complete a self-assessment or a manager's assessment over the coming months. The results of the Language Assessment show that 94.8% of the Department's staff met the language designation of their post in 2025/26. Arrangements are in place to encourage and support those workers who are not yet meeting the requirements to develop their language skills in the workplace.

6. Please provide examples of any obstacles, complaints and commendations associated with the provision and promotion of Welsh-medium services.

Below are some examples from services:

Maritime Service: Some officers within the service, because English is their first language, speak English together on occasions despite our efforts to encourage and motivate them to speak Welsh. It is difficult to monitor the use of the Welsh language in the workplace in every location, but the matter is regularly addressed by the team to remind all officers of the expectation. All team meetings are held through the medium of Welsh.

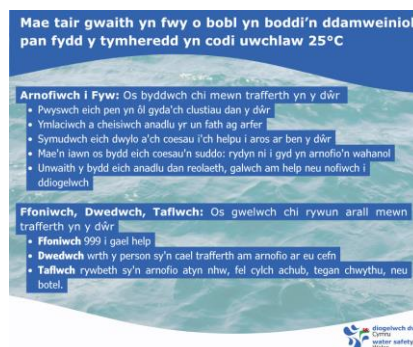
We encourage all customers who visit our offices to start every conversation in Welsh, and we also try to answer all phone calls with a bilingual message. The message under the e-mail signature of the majority of service staff welcomes anyone to use Welsh or English and we have previously received positive comments about this.



Croeso i chi ddefnyddio'r Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg wrth gysylltu efo fi.
You are welcome to contact me in Welsh or English

Whilst we endeavour to display information bilingually at our destinations (on notice boards or in offices) unfortunately, some information/material is only available in English, e.g. seafarers' manuals or safety posters. We are displaying the safety material of the Lifeboat (RNLI) and organisations such as Welsh Water Safety which is available in Welsh.

[Float to Live Toolkit: resources for download](#)



External organisations such as the Coastguard Agency, Trinity House, the UK Harbour Masters Association correspond in English only, and specialist training is usually only offered through the medium of English. In addition, some documents such as our Marine Safety Code and risk assessments are also written in English as it is necessary to share and discuss the content of these documents with external organisations, such as the Coastguard Agency, the Marine Accident Investigation Branch or the HSE.

Some of the service's seasonal officers do not have a Council e-mail account which makes it a challenge for us to ensure they complete a language self-assessment, however we are working with the Council's E-learning Officer to try and resolve this situation.

Pwllheli Hafan and Harbour Service: As with the Maritime service, external organisations such as the Coastguard Agency, Trinity House, the UK Harbour Masters Association correspond in English only, and specialist training is usually only offered through the medium of English. In addition, some documents such as our Marine Safety Code and risk assessments are also written in English as it is necessary to share and discuss the content of these documents with external organisations, such as the Coastguard Agency, the Marine Accident Investigation Branch or the HSE.

All members of the team speak Welsh, although some are less confident. Recruiting for certain positions with specific maritime skills can be challenging.

Museums and Arts Service: All members of the team speak Welsh. In the future, recruiting to some jobs with specific skills may be challenging.

It is not always possible to work with artists who are Welsh-speakers. If so, we support them to carry out the activities with a Welsh-speaking assistant. Artists who are learners will also be given the opportunity to use Welsh if they are confident to do so. Funding an additional assistant can be a challenge. It is also challenging at times to share information on social media, which is relevant to the arts in Gwynedd, unless they are available bilingually.

The ability of the Service to attract Welsh-speakers or new speakers as volunteers continues to be challenging and we are considering the best methods of attracting and managing volunteers for the service.

Gwynedd Libraries Service and Neuadd Dwyfor: The vast majority of activities for children and families, and adults held in Gwynedd Libraries are either Welsh medium only or with Welsh as a central part of them. We believe that by giving people an opportunity to hear and chat, and participate through the medium of Welsh, that the Welsh language will be seen as a community, living language.

The following is a quote from someone who attended - "The story sessions are the only exposure I have to Welsh nursery rhymes and Welsh stories."

As a result of a comment where new speakers asked to join a story session for children to improve their Welsh language skills, we have started 'Paned a Sgwrs' groups for new speakers in many of our Libraries, namely Barmouth, Tywyn, Cricieth, Bethesda and Caernarfon Library. These sessions are an opportunity to present various materials and resources available from the library.

We have started a weekly Ji-Babi-Bach session at Bethesda Library and there is an opportunity for parents who are new speakers to take part in Welsh nursery rhymes sessions. We believe that there is added value in holding the sessions in the main Library so that the public can hear the language being used in a natural and everyday way, giving everyone an opportunity to socialise and support each other.

By means of our collaboration plans with the North Wales Society for the Blind and Y Lolfa, we are able to produce audio book resources and audio e-books, and large print books, in Welsh, with these resources available at Gwynedd Libraries and Libraries across Wales.

Through our collaboration at a national level, we ensure that Welsh language interfaces will be an essential requirement in all tenders for digital systems and services.

During October and November 2025, the Welsh Language Commissioner carried out surveys to check local authority leisure and libraries' websites. The report highlights good practice, as well as areas where there is room to strengthen the use of Welsh, particularly in the provision that third party companies provide on our behalf. The review focused mainly on our Library Catalogue and on the Borrowbox platform. The report acknowledges that the non-compliance is due to issues such as some English words, but the WLC office considers that this treats Welsh less favourably than English and therefore breaches the standards. We are already in discussions with CIVICA – the company delivering the Catalogue as part of the all-Wales LMS – and are working on a solution. Borrowbox has historically been very supportive of any Welsh language provision, but a few English words have appeared recently, so we will be contacting the Company expecting a quick response and resolution from them for all the Welsh authorities that share the platform.

Regeneration Programmes Service: Through the work of Slate Wales there is praise and appreciation from attendees to extend vocabulary and speak Clear Welsh.

A note on social media appreciating the slate inlays on Tywyn pavements – *"These are really good, magical words in the dialect of Bro Dysynni"*

The departments report to the Language Committee in 2025: [Economy and Community Department.pdf](#)