

MEETING	EDUCATION AND ECONOMY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DATE	19 June 2025
ITEM	DRAFT EDUCATION LANGUAGE POLICY TASK AND FINISH GROUP
PURPOSE	To submit the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group in relation to the wording of the draft policy
TASK AND FINISH GROUP CHAIR	Councillor Rhys Tudur
AUTHOR	Bethan Adams, Scrutiny Advisor

## 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Draft Education Language Policy was submitted to the meeting of the Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee on [10 April 2025](#). During the discussion, Councillor Rhys Tudur suggested possible amendments to the wording of the Draft Policy.
- 1.2 The Committee resolved to:
  1. Note the draft policy and note the observations.
  2. Welcome the fact that the draft policy was proceeding to consultation.
  3. That the Committee makes a request to the Scrutiny Forum to prioritise resources for the formation of a task and finish group, with the brief to examine the wording of the Draft Education Language Policy to consider whether suggestions need to be made to the Cabinet Member / Education Department, and report back to the committee at the 19 June 2025 meeting.
  4. Should the application to the Scrutiny Forum be successful, that the Scrutiny Advisor sends an e-mail to Committee members giving them the opportunity to put their name forward to be a member of the Task and Finish Group.
- 1.3 The Scrutiny Forum (meeting of scrutiny chairs and vice-chairs) approved the request to prioritise resources for the formation of the Task and Finish Group based on the understanding that a single meeting would be held.
- 1.4 An e-mail was sent to Committee members inviting them to put their name forward to be a member of the Task and Finish Group. Councillors and co-opted members who have a vote on education matters were given the opportunity to put their name forward.

- 1.5 The following members put their names forward to be members of the Task and Finish Group - Councillors Jina Gwyrfai, Richard Glyn Roberts, Huw Rowlands and Rhys Tudur.

## 2. TASK AND FINISH GROUP DISCUSSIONS

- 2.1 A meeting of the Task and Finish Group was held on 2 June 2025. The Draft Education Language Policy and suggestions from Councillors Rhys Tudur and Richard Glyn Roberts regarding the wording of the policy were shared with the agenda.

- 2.2 The following officers were present at the meeting:

Iwan Evans, Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal Service  
Gwern ap Rhisiart, Head of Education Department  
Debbie Anne Jones, Assistant Head of Corporate Services  
Siwan Llwyd Roberts, Head of Gwynedd's Immersion Education System  
Jennifer Rao, Education Executive Officer.

- 2.3 The Chair of the task group guided the members and officers through the suggestions and explained the rationale behind the amendments. Members were given the opportunity to make observations and propose further amendments. Officers were invited to make observations.
- 2.4 Members expressed their appreciation of the opportunity to discuss the wording of the draft policy. The officers were thanked for their work and for working openly with members on this matter. It was noted that it was a good example of how things should work.
- 2.5 The meeting notes are included in **Appendix 1**.
- 2.6 Attached in **Appendix 2** is the draft policy with the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group in terms of amendments to the wording of the draft policy.
- 2.7 The Education Department has provided a response to the Task and Finish Group's recommendations to the Committee. The response is seen in **Appendix 3**.

**The Committee is asked to consider the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group and the Education Department's response to the recommendations.**