

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.

**CABINET EXECUTIVE
23 June 2020**

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Myfanwy Alexander
Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and Welsh
Language

REPORT TITLE: Draft Welsh Language Standards Annual Report 2020

REPORT FOR: Consideration

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the Draft Welsh Language Standards Annual Report for consideration and approval (see Appendix A). The Report outlines work undertaken during 2019-20 to ensure compliance with the Welsh Language Standards under the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, and performance against the requirements of the Standards.

2. Background

2.1 The Council is required, under the Welsh Language Standards, to publish an annual report, outlining the work undertaken to comply with the requirements of the Standards during the previous year.

2.2 The Draft Welsh Language Standards Annual Report (attached as Appendix A) includes work undertaken to comply with the;

- Service Delivery Standards – which state how the Council must deliver services to the public, e.g. by telephone, in meetings, through correspondence, in documents and through digital platforms
- Policy Making Standards – stating how the Council must consider the impact of its decisions and services on the Welsh language
- Operational Standards – what information, support and procedures the Council must provide to its workforce through the medium of Welsh and to enable them to work more through the medium of Welsh
- Promotion Standards – how the Council intends to promote and increase opportunities to use the Welsh language within Powys.

2.3 The report also sets out work to be undertaken during 2020-21 to further improve how the Council provides services to its Welsh speaking residents, visitors and workforce; to ensure impacts on opportunities to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh

language no less favourably than English are considered through the Council's decision-making processes, including how proposals could be amended to ensure a more positive or less negative impact; and to promote the Welsh language and culture through the Council's work.

2.4 The final sections include data the Council must record under the Record Keeping Standards under the Welsh Language Measure, which include;

- Complaints received by the Council regarding its compliance with the Welsh Language Standards, along with Welsh Language Standards Investigations conducted by the Welsh Language Commissioner during the 2019-20 financial year
- Data on the Welsh language skills of Council employees
- The number of staff undertaking training courses provided by the Council through the medium of Welsh
- The language skills requirements of new posts and vacancies advertised by the Council during the year.

3. Advice

3.1 To approve the Draft Welsh Language Standards Annual Report 2020 to be published on the Council's public website, providing a review of work undertaken to ensure compliance with the Welsh Language Standards during the 2019-20 financial year, and ensuring the Council meets its statutory obligations as outlined in the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.

4. Resource Implications

4.1 The Draft Welsh Language Standards Annual Report is a review of work undertaken during 2019-20 and of information held by the Council regarding its compliance with the Standards. The work plan included for 2020-21 is within existing budget.

4.2 The Head of Finance (Section 151 Officer) notes that the resources are in place.

5. Legal implications

5.1 Legal: There is a legal requirement upon the Council to publish its Welsh Language Standards Annual Report on its public website by 30 June 2020. The Recommendation can be supported from a legal point of view.

5.2 The Head of Legal and Democratic Services has commented as follows: "I note the legal comment and have nothing to add to the report".

6. Data Protection

6.1 N/A

7. Comment from local member(s)

7.1 N/A

8. Integrated Impact Assessment

8.1 An Impact Assessment is not required as the Welsh Language Standards Annual Report is a review of work undertaken during 2019-20 and of information held by the Council regarding its compliance with the Standards.

9. Recommendation

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
To approve the Draft Welsh Language Standards Annual Report 2020 (attached as Appendix A) for it to be published on the Council's public website by 30 June 2020.	<p>To provide a review of work undertaken during the 2019-20 financial year to ensure compliance with the Welsh Language Standards.</p> <p>To ensure the Council meets its statutory obligations as outlined in the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.</p>

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