



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022-23

WELSH LANGUAGE CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE

WELSH LANGUAGE PROMOTION STRATEGY 2022-2027 – ACTION PLAN

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES &
COMMUNICATIONS**

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide the Welsh Language Cabinet Sub-Committee with the comments and observations following pre scrutiny by the [Overview & Scrutiny Committee](#) of the Welsh Language Promotion Strategy at their meeting held on the [21st March 2023](#)

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Welsh Language Cabinet Sub -Committee note the comments and observations of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee as detailed in paragraph 5 of the report

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The need for the Welsh Language Cabinet Sub-Committee to be aware of the comments and observations of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee prior to their consideration and approval of the Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2022-27

4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 4.1 Following a commitment to undertake pre scrutiny of the Welsh Language Promotion Strategy prior to the Cabinet Sub-Committee's consideration, the Overview & Scrutiny Committee received the report of the Director of Public Health and Protection and Community Services which outlined the aim of the

second action plan and how the Council and its partners plan to build on the work over the last 5 years to promote and facilitate the language.

- 4.2 The purpose of the pre-scrutiny exercise was to provide the Council's Overview & Scrutiny Committee with the opportunity to formulate their combined comments and observations for the Cabinet Sub-Committee to consider at its meeting on the [9th May 2023](#)

5. **KEY ISSUES**

- 5.1 At the meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee Members provided comment in respect of some of the key issues such as:-

- Members were pleased to see that an Eisteddfod Officer has already been working with a number of partners to increase engagement and participation. Members would like to see targets in future Eisteddfod business and action plans.
- Members commented that they would like to see more opportunities and references for Welsh as a living language so that people continue to use the Welsh language and build on their Welsh language skills, after they have left mainstream education.
- Members commended the engagement that the Library Services has with the Community to encourage participation in activities through the medium of Welsh.
- The Committee referred to the number of learners choosing to leave Welsh Medium Education and **recommended** that the Authority closely monitors this data and the reasons why they are leaving. Members referred to instances such as the provision of ALN in Welsh Medium Education and parents not feeling confident that they are able to support their children in homework and extra-curricular activities
- Members **recommended** further work be undertaken in understanding what the perceived barriers are to engaging in the Welsh language such as links to deprivation

6. **CONCLUSION**

- 6.1 Scrutiny is a vital component of good governance and improves the Council decision-making process and service provision. Therefore the undertaking of pre scrutiny by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee in this area will strengthen

accountability and assist Cabinet in taking any future decisions on these matters.

7. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS/ SOCIO ECONOMIC DUTY

7.1 An Equalities and Diversity / Socio-Economic Impact Assessment has been completed for the main Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2022-2027 and may be seen here.

8. FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no specific financial implications aligned to this report. However, there may be costs and resources to service areas in respect of implementation of the Action Plan.

9.0 WELSH LANGUAGE IMPLICATIONS

9.1 A Welsh Language Impact Assessment been completed for the main Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2022-2027 and may be seen [here](#).

10.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATION CONSIDERED

10.1 Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and Welsh Language Statutory Standards 2015 regulate this area of work. The strategy also links in with the More than Words Strategy (the Welsh Government's strategic framework for Welsh language services in health, social services and social care) and Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (under the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013).

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

as amended by

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS:

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