



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

WELSH LANGUAGE CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE

9 MAY 2023

WELSH LANGUAGE PROMOTION STRATEGY 2022-2027

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH, PROTECTION, AND
COMMUNITY SERVICES IN DISCUSSION WITH THE RELEVANT
PORTFOLIO HOLDER CLLR RHYS LEWIS**

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1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide the Welsh Language Cabinet Sub-committee with a revised copy of the Welsh Language Promotion Strategy Action Plan (Appendix 2) to support the implementation of the Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2022-2027 (Appendix 1) approved by this Committee on 25 October 2022.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It's recommended that Members : -

- 2.1 Note the content of this report and the associated Action Plan
- 2.2. Approve the Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2022-27 Strategy Action Plan.

3.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Council is required to produce a Five-Year Strategy to facilitate and promote the Welsh Language in the county under Standard 145 of the

Compliance Notice issued under section 44 of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 On 25 October 2022, this Committee, the Welsh Language Cabinet Sub Committee, approved a revised copy of the statutory Welsh Language Promotion Strategy (Appendix 1) as required under Standard 145 of the Compliance Notice issued to Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council under Section 44 of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.
- 4.2 The Council's first statutory 5 year Welsh Language Promotion Strategy concluded in terms of timescale in 2021.
- 4.3 Following approval in April 2021 by the former Welsh Language Cabinet Steering Group, Nico Cyf, an external organisation that specialises in language planning were commissioned to assist the Council to formulate a revised Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2022-2027.
- 4.4 Nico Cyf, were also commissioned to assist the Council to formulate an action plan to support the implementation on the Strategy. The Welsh Language Cabinet Sub Committee agreed that the action plan would be subject to scrutiny in order to gain recommendations before approval by that sub committee.
- 4.5 Subsequently, the draft action plan was considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 21 March 2023.

5.0 CURRENT SITUATION / PROPOSAL

- 5.1 The 2022-2027 Action Plan will be Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council's second action plan to support the delivery of its Welsh Language Promotion Strategy, being a continuation of the first action plan (2016-2021).
- 5.2. The aim of this second action plan is to build on the work done by the Council and its partners to promote and facilitate the language over the past five years.
- 5.3 The action plan will play a role to support in the strategy's continued approach of aiming to increase the number of Welsh speakers in the county borough in line with the Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050 trajectory, with the next milestone being a +5% on the 2021 Census figures.

5.4 Furthermore, the action plan will reflect the three main national themes outlined in the Strategy which are as follows:

➤ Theme 1: Increasing the number of Welsh speakers

- Language transmission in the family
- The early years
- Statutory education
- Post-compulsory education
- The education workforce, resources and qualifications

➤ Theme 2: Increasing the use of Welsh

- The workplace
- Services
- Social use of Welsh

➤ Theme 3: Creating favourable conditions – infrastructure and context

- Community and economy
- Culture and media
- Wales and the wider world
- Digital technology
- Linguistic infrastructure
- Language planning
- Evaluation and research

5.5 It is also important to note that Council partners will all play a key role in delivering the second Welsh Language Promotion Strategy and, as such, the action plan has been divided into two parts, with Part 1 outlining the activities and targets which are Council-led, either through direct delivery or through the commissioning of services from partner organisations; and with Part 2 of the Action Plan affording partners the opportunity to contribute to the success of the overall strategy.

5.6 Part 2 of the action plan won't be subject to the same Council monitoring and scrutiny, but partners may be invited to give annual updates on progress.

6.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS / SOCIO-ECONOMIC DUTY

6.1 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](#).

7.0 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 A public consultation process was undertaken in 2021 for the main strategy along with discussions with key stakeholders and services throughout the drafting period for the new action plan.

8.0 FINANCIAL 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)

11.0 CONCLUSION

- 11.1 The Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2022-27 and Action Plan will build on the good work achieved under the first strategy and action plan by Council services and our partners which has had a positive impact on the provision of services in Welsh for residents in Rhondda Cynon Taf.