

Scrutiny Report



[Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee]

Part 1

Date: June 2022

Subject Annual Welsh Language Monitoring Report 2020 - 21

Author Policy and Partnership Manager

The following people have been invited to attend for this item:

Invitee:	Area / Role / Subject	Page Numbers
Tracey McKim – Head of People, Policy and Transformation	Head of People, Policy & Transformation	
Janice Dent – Policy and Partnership Manager	Policy and Partnership Manager	
Hywel Jones – Welsh Language Policy Officer	Report author	

Section A – Committee Guidance and Recommendations

1 Recommendations to the Committee

The Committee is asked

1. Whether the Annual Report reflects a true and fair account of the council's Welsh language performance over the period in question – 2021 – 2022.
2. Whether the Annual Report highlights the ongoing commitment to the Welsh language effectively and focuses on appropriate successes and highlights successes and good work
3. Whether the Annual Report highlights the ongoing commitment to the Welsh language effectively and focuses on appropriate areas for development
4. Whether it wishes to provide comment and recommendations on the Annual Report to Cabinet

2 Context

Background

- 2.1 The Council is required to report annually on its progress in complying with the Welsh Language Standards under the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.

The annual report has been prepared in accordance with Welsh Language Standards 158, 164 and 170, and will highlight how Newport City Council has complied with the Welsh Language Standards which were imposed on the authority by the Welsh Language Commissioner, set out in Newport City Council's Compliance Notice.

The statutory deadline for publishing the annual report is 30th June 2022 on the council's website, with relevant notification and advertising of publication via relevant channels, including social media.

This report covers the sixth year of implementing the Welsh Language Standards following the imposition of the Compliance Notice in March 2016. The report provides an overview of the Council's progress in meeting the Welsh Language Standards, generic overview of Welsh language performance, reviews

As well as outlining the authority's general compliance, this report also contains the specific information required to be published annually by the Standards. Inclusive of data on the number of complaints we have received, the Welsh language levels of our staff and the level of Welsh we require on all vacant and new posts we have advertised during the financial year.

Previous Consideration of this item

- 2.2 Summarise when the Committee has looked at this previously – include what was discussed and any outcomes that were recorded. If appropriate, you can also include any Cabinet / Officer responses to the Committees comments.

3 Information Submitted to the Committee

- 3.1 Summarise the information that is attached to this report – including the appendices.
- 3.2 For detailed /extensive reports - include a breakdown of the report – subheadings or summarise what the report covers.

4. Suggested Areas of Focus

The role of the Committee in considering the report is to:

- Consider and make comment on the content of the Annual Report and key achievements as outlined
- Consider and determine if the drafted and published Welsh language related strategies and policies are in line with the Council's vision for the Welsh language and meet the necessary statutory obligations
- Determine whether the content of the report is a true reflection of the council's Welsh language performance in 2021-2022

- Conclusions:
 - What was the overall conclusion on the information contained within the report?
 - Is the Committee satisfied that it has had all of the relevant information to base a conclusion on the quality of the Annual Report?
 - Do any areas require a more in-depth review by the Committee?
 - Do the Committee wish to make any Comments / Recommendations to the Cabinet?

Suggested Lines of Enquiry

4.1 The Committee may wish to consider:

- How progress of compliance against the Welsh language standards is monitored
- Is the report a fair and honest reflection of current performance
- Whether all staff members, senior management and relevant stakeholders are effectively engaged effectively to deliver against the Welsh Language Standards

Section B – Supporting Information

5 Supporting Information

- 5.1 [Newport's Welsh Language Standards](#)
[Newport's Implementation Plan](#)
[Newport's draft Welsh in Education Strategic Plan](#)
[5 Year Strategy 2022 - 2027](#)
Welsh Language Skills Policy

6 Links to Council Policies and Priorities

The Annual Monitoring report outlines the council's performance against statutory obligations as noted in the compliance notice, performance in line with key policies and provides a high-level review of activities deliberately aligned with Newport's wellbeing objectives, to build cohesive and sustainable communities, and to improve skills, education and employment opportunities.

The report shows how the council's vision for the people of Newport to "see, hear, learn, use and love the Welsh language" fits with creating a modernised workforce as set out in the Corporate Plan and how activities help maximise opportunities to develop our Welsh speaking workforce.

The report also shows how the council, in addition to complying with the Standards, is through the additional work with the Welsh language is contributing to Welsh Government's Strategy, [Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers](#) which sets out a vision for achieving 1 million Welsh speakers by the year 2050.

Delivery of the Welsh Language Skill Policy will aid the council increasing its capacity and capability of complying with the Welsh Language Standards, help create a modernised council, improve skills and create employment opportunities.

Complying with the Standards, implementing the 5 Year Strategy and supporting deliver of the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan will help create a Wales of, "*vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language.*"

7 Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act

Activities in relation to delivery of compliance with the Standards contained within the Compliance Notice and the 5 Year Strategy will help deliver a Wales of, "*vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language.*"

The report covers the work undertaken with the Right Skills Board, stakeholders and partners to raise awareness of the Welsh language across all of Newport's diverse communities. The key themes and actions in the report underpin them and balance short term needs with the delivery of medium to long-term solutions.

It identifies key successes and challenges for the Welsh language in Newport, and shows how the council has worked towards compliance with the Welsh language standards and promoted Welsh across the diverse communities of Newport increasing the visibility of the language across the city.

Highlighting the key achievements, development of new policies and monitoring performances across the council will help the achieve a number of goals and targets and will contribute to the Wellbeing Goals of a prosperous Wales, a more equal Wales, a Wales of cohesive communities and a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language.

8. Background Papers

Include all additional documents that are referenced in the report, and those that you have used as background reading. Hyperlink to online versions of them if available.

- [The Essentials - Wellbeing of Future Generation Act \(Wales\)](#)
- [Corporate Plan](#)
- [The Essentials - Wellbeing of Future Generation Act \(Wales\)](#)
- [Socio-economic Duty Guidance](#)
- [Public Sector Equality Duty](#)

Report Completed: May 2022