

**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.**

**30 July 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

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**REPORT FOR:** Consideration

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**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**

<b>Recommendation:</b>
To note the contents of the report

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