

MEETING:	LANGUAGE COMMITTEE
DATE:	OCTOBER 11 2012
TITLE:	WELSH LANGUAGE COMMISSIONER'S RESPONSE TO GWYNEDD COUNCIL'S ANNUAL LANGUAGE MONITORING REPORT 2011-12
AUTHOR:	EQUALITY AND LANGUAGE OFFICER
PURPOSE OF REPORT:	TO PRESENT THE RESPONSE AND OUR COMMENTS TO THE COMMITTEE

1. LANGUAGE MONITORING REPORT

- 1.1. Further to our Welsh Language Monitoring Report, which was presented to the Language Sub-Committee in June, here are the comments received from the Welsh Language Commissioner.
- 1.2. With the establishment of the post of Welsh Language Commissioner, the routine has changed somewhat: note that there is a formal request for further information on some aspects of the Report.
- 1.3. We had to respond to this request for more information within 20 working days. The Commissioner's response was sent on 02/08/2012 and we provided further information on all the points requested by 30/08/12.

2. RESPONSE TO THE WELSH LANGUGAE COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

- 2.1. In addition to Commissioner's comments, we also present the Council's response to the request for further information on aspects of our Monitoring Report. The areas under consideration can be summarised as follow:
 - An update on reviewing and standardising place names.
 - Language Skills Strategy Action Plan and Timetable.
 - Number of staff appointed who need and receive Welsh language training.
 - Number and percentage of staff who can speak Welsh.
 - Information on our equality and language impact assessment arrangements.
 - Information on our agreement with the Health Board to provide Specialist Children's Services.

- Our language awareness training arrangements.
- Our interim arrangements for recording staff language skills (until the integrated payroll and human resources system is established).

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1. Accept the Welsh Language Commissioner's response to our Report and our response to the request for further information.