

Cyngor Gwynedd's Comments on Response of the Welsh Language Commissioner to our Annual Monitoring Report 2013-14

Action Required	Council's Comments
<p>B.1 The 2012-13 Monitoring Report referred to a review of the Economy and Community Department's grants and funding in relation to the Welsh language. It was noted during the monitoring that there would be an opportunity to consider the conditions again when new grants were introduced. Have there been further developments?</p>	<p>No developments. Having discussed the situation with the Business Grants Unit, it would appear that new structures will not be in place until June 2015. Following this, we will review our conditions, in line with our commitment to ensure that we promote the Welsh language as best we can.</p> <p>In the meantime, a Report is being prepared for the Language Committee, outlining the role of the Council and Commissioner in relation to promoting the Welsh language within the business sector.</p>
<p>C.1 Please provide an update on receiving feedback [from Council Departments]</p>	<p>We have a system of presenting reports to the Language Committee from different Departments/ Units. Thus far, reports have been made on the following with reference to the Welsh language:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning and the Welsh language • Human Resources (recruitment) • Leisure Centres • Social housing lettings
<p>D.3 It was noted in the last report that the Training Unit is developing an e-learning programme. When will the Language Awareness module be introduced?</p>	<p>We will be adapting our Language Awareness training to be introduced as an e-learning module.</p> <p>The Training Unit is currently designing the modules. We foresee that language Awareness should be ready in about 12 months.</p>
<p>3.C We would like to discuss this [Leisure Centres' Language Champions scheme] as part of our feedback meeting.</p>	<p>Discussed on 09/10/14, with the conversation based upon the presentation made on the scheme to the Language Committee (04/04/14)</p>

<p>4 Please provide an update on progress with compliance on contract requirements [social care and home care provision]</p>	<p>We will be in a better position to prepare a further report within the next year.</p> <p>New arrangements and requirements have been set. However monitoring the compliance of all the contracts against the standards will take time. This has to be done before we are in a position to measure progress against the additional requirements across all the contracts.</p> <p>We will obviously be reporting regularly on this, as required by More Than Words and the Language Standards.</p>
<p>Please report on the compliance of the home care providers during 2013/14</p>	<p>New care contracts and requirements have been presented to providers, but as resources were scarce during 2014, it will not be possible to provide a full report at the moment.</p> <p>The Contracts Team are however addressing this and will be reporting on performance and progress as required.</p>
<p>5.A How many elected members received [Language Awareness] training? Were any members of staff trained?</p>	<p>Language Awareness training was provided for 3 members. The response was disappointing, and we will be offering the training again in 2015.</p> <p>Apart from the element of Language Awareness provided as part on the induction process, Language Awareness was not delivered as a course for staff members. (Although the course remains available to all)</p> <p>Due to changes to our staff induction, we will aim to provide Language Awareness through e-learning.</p> <p>At the moment, Social Services' Training Unit are discussing with the Workforce Development Officer introducing an element of Language Awareness into Welsh lessons for Social Services staff.</p>

7. A Please provide a copy of the [Language] Strategy.	Draft copy appended. Expected publication of the document in November.
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Request for response to the above received from the Commissioner on 21/08/14:
Above response sent on 08/09/14