

The number of the Comment and commentator	1	Pwyllgor Ymgyrch Tai a Chynllunio Gwynedd a Môn
<p>Proposed change: Re- arrange paragraphs c.1 – c.7, amend the text to refer to Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 and move text that was in paragraphs C.19 – C.21 to this part of the Guidance and re-number the paragraphs accordingly.</p>		
<p>C.1 Policy PS 1: The Welsh Language and Culture, promotes and supports the use of the language. It is underpinned by Policy PS 5 Sustainable Development (criterion 4). A copy of these Policies is found in Appendix 1 of this SPG. In accordance with Policy PS 1 of the Plan, information must be gathered and received about certain types of developments in order to reach a conclusion about the impact of the proposed development, e.g. are there any benefits to the language, does the proposal need to be amended, is there a risk to the well being of the Welsh language and can the impact be mitigated in a way that mitigates risk, and how can the situation in the community be monitored. The Welsh Government's ambition is to "see a million people being be able to enjoy talking and using Welsh by 2050. The Government acknowledges that "there is no doubt that this is a challenging ambition" "if we are to realise the situation where Welsh is an integral element of all aspects of everyday life ... the whole nation needs to be part of the journey. Everyone has a role to play, and we want everyone to contribute to achieving our ambition. " It is important for applicants to understand therefore that there is an expectation for developments over the Plan period to contribute positively towards the sustainability and viability of the Welsh language and not only avoid contributing to a reduction in the proportion of the population that can speak the Welsh language.</p> <p>C.2 The Priority of Gwynedd’s Promotion Plan (2018 – 2023) for the first part of the Plan period, leading to the next Census in 2021, will be “to increase the opportunities for using the Welsh Language, to increase the confidence of those who don’t consider themselves Welsh speakers, and also to look at opportunities that will help us keep young people in their communities” In doing so, one aim is to see the Welsh language given prominence in economic, housing and planning schemes locally in order to ensure that any schemes and developments contribute in a positive way towards the efforts to safeguard the Welsh language in our communities.”</p> <p>C.3 The Isle of Anglesey County Council Welsh Language Strategy (2016 - 2012) sets a vision to restore the percentage of Welsh speakers to the 2001 Census level. It includes three Priority Themes – Education, the Workplace, Welsh services and infrastructure and the community. In terms of communities it sets a target to “maintain the wards where 70% of the population speak Welsh and to increase the percentage in the other wards.”</p> <p>C.4 From a land use planning perspective Section 31 of the Planning (Wales) Act 2015 revises section 70 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 by adding the following clause: “any considerations relating to the use of the Welsh language, so far as material to the application.” This means that there is a duty, when determining a planning application, to include considerations in relation to the Welsh language, <u>where relevant to that application.</u></p> <p>C.5 Paragraphs 3.25 – 3.29 of Planning Policy Wales (Edition 10, 2018) deals with 'the Welsh language and creating Places ' from the perspective of the preparation of local development plans and making decisions on planning applications. Paragraph 4.13.5 3.28 Planning Policy Wales (Edition 9, 2016)-states “Considerations relating to the use of the Welsh language may be taken into account by decision makers so far as they are material to applications for planning permission. Policies and decisions must not introduce any element of discrimination between</p>		

individuals on the basis of their linguistic ability, and should not seek to control housing occupancy on linguistic grounds". "Considerations relating to the use of the Welsh language may be taken into account by decision makers so far as they are material to applications for planning permission."

C.6 The Joint Local Development Plan Sustainability Assessment (influenced by information from the iterative Language Impact Assessment) has considered the impacts of the plan's strategy and policies on the viability of the Welsh language. The Joint Local Development Plan's strategy and policies are based on a rational understanding of the possible implications for the Welsh language. They contribute to the creation of a social climate and conditions that facilitate the use of the Welsh Language. **The Plan's Strategy, in paragraphs 5.12-5.15, includes a statement about how the two Planning Authorities have considered the needs and interests of the Welsh language in the preparation of the Local Development Plan and how the policies relating to the Welsh language interact with other policies.**

C.7 Different types of developments necessary to maintain and create distinctive and sustainable communities take place to varying degrees. Matters requiring attention and, as such, the information necessary to reach a logical decision, will also vary

C.8 **Policy PS 1: The Welsh Language and Culture, safeguards, promotes and supports the use of the language. It is underpinned by Policy PS 5 Sustainable Development (criterion 4). A copy of these Policies is found in Appendix 1 of this SPG. By applying these Policies the Planning Services will consider the Welsh language, when it is appropriate to do so, within the legislative and relevant national planning policy requirements referred to above in paragraphs C.4 and C.5.**

C.9 The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012 (the DMPWO) provides a Standardised Application Form for planning applications in Wales and defines a 'valid' application. In order to register applications as 'valid', applicants must provide all information noted in the Standardised Application Form, e.g. plans, diagrams and certificates and any additional supplementary assessments. A local planning authority can refuse an application if the appropriate information is not provided.

C.10 In addition to the information required to validate applications, the Gwynedd and Anglesey County Council Planning Authority, as with every Local Planning Authority in Wales, will require additional supplementary assessments and reports in accordance with the policy requirements of the Local Development Plan. **In accordance with Policy PS 1 of the Plan, information must be gathered and received about certain types of developments in order to reach a conclusion about the impact of the proposed development, and how the proposed development safeguards, promotes and supports the Welsh Language, e.g. are there any benefits to the language, does the proposal need to be amended, is there a risk to the well-being of the Welsh language and can the impact be mitigated in a way that mitigates risk, can the benefits be maximised, and how can the situation in the community be monitored.**

C.11 **When decisions are made about on a planning application the emphasis will be on avoiding developments that would cause substantial harm to the character and balance language within a community. Planning authorities will take into account proposals which seek to maximise the benefits where those considerations are relevant to the application.**