

SUBJECT: 5 Year Welsh Language Strategy 2022- 27
MEETING: Strong Communities Select
DATE: 10th February 2022
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: All

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To present the Welsh Language Strategy for 2022 – 2027, which has been produced in line with the requirements of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and specifically Standards 145 and 146.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That Strong Communities Select endorse the ambitions set out in this 5 Year Strategy which is legally required by Standard 145 set out in the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 This is our second 5 Year Welsh Language Strategy and sets out to build on the positive progress made by the first strategy which covered the period 2017-2022.
- 3.2 The standard requires us to review how we did in achieving our targets that were set in the first strategy and this is noted in the appendix within the report.
- 3.3 This strategy is closely linked to our Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) 2022 2032 which has been scrutinised by the Children and Young Peoples Select Committee. In order to ensure a consistency of approach and to ease performance monitoring, some of the performance measures have been shared.
- 3.4 When producing this strategy, we were mindful of the requirements of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011
- 3.5 We are committed to ensure that Monmouthshire are playing their part and having a positive impact towards achieving the Welsh Government's ambitious strategy of having a million Welsh speakers by 2050. These two strategies have given added impetus to the targets set out in this strategy.
- 3.6 This strategy is a challenging one, but is achievable with the appropriate level of planning, commitment and support from our officers, our partners in the Council's Welsh Language Forum, other Welsh Language organisations and of course the residents of Monmouthshire

3.7 It is worth noting at this point that the targets in this 5 Year Welsh Language Strategy and the WESP 2022-2032 may be subject to change dependent upon whether amendments are made in the light of comments or suggestions made in the public consultations that are ongoing at the time of this report.

3.8 The official public consultation ended on the 30th of January 2022 and in total there were 30 responses received from a mixture of members of the public, schools and Welsh Language groups. A report on the responses received will be made available to view before the meeting of the scrutiny committee on the 10th of February.

4. REASONS:

Monmouthshire County Council has a statutory responsibility to produce a 5 Year Welsh Language Strategy 2022 – 2022 under the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 There are potentially some additional financial resource implications arising out of this strategy.

6. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS:

There are no significant equality impacts identified and this strategy is designed to have positive impacts on the Welsh Language.

The actual impacts from this report's recommendations will be reviewed annually.

7. CONSULTEES:

7.1 The strategy is currently the subject of a formal consultation that is running between the 13th December 2021 and the 30th of January 2022. Strong Communities Select, Menter Iaith Blaenau Gwent Torfaen Mynwy (MIBGTM), the Urdd, Mudiad Meithrin, Rhieni Dros Addysg Gymraeg (RHAG). A public consultation exercise was published on the Council website, Facebook and Twitter and sent also to Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni, Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin, Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw and Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed and all English medium schools in Monmouthshire.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Monmouthshire County Council's Welsh Language Standards

9. AUTHOR:

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10. CONTACT DETAILS:

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