



EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 14TH FEBRUARY 2023

**SUBJECT: WELSH IN EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN – 5YEAR
ACTION PLAN**

**REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND
CORPORATE SERVICES**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report presents a summary of the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-2032, 5year action plan to enable scrutiny and accountability towards the target by 2032 throughout the life of the plan.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 This Welsh in Education Strategic Plan is made under Section 84 of The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and complies with The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (Wales) Regulations 2019 and The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (Wales) (Amendment) (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020. When setting targets, due regard has been given to the statutory guidance issued by Welsh Ministers.
- 2.2 The minimum target of 26% for learners in year 1 by 2032 is set by Welsh Government in order to meet the 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050 target. In order to meet this ambitious target, we will need to build a new Primary School and expand other to create the places. In addition, we will need a communication plan to increase the take up of those places and our starting point will need additional provision in Ti a Fi and Cylchoedd in the early years, as well as an increase in our Welsh speaking workforce across both Welsh medium and English medium provisions.
- 2.3 This 5year action plan has been developed to enable scrutiny and accountability of our journey towards the 26% target by 2032. The targets and tasks in the action plan will demonstrate if we will be able to achieve the target within the lifetime of the plan. See appendix 1 for detailed plan.
- 2.4 The Welsh Education Forum meets termly to monitor progress towards actions and has identified the need for an ongoing task group under the forum to drive forward and coordinate activities around communication and promotional work linking to the Welsh Language Strategy and forum.

- 2.5 The latecomer immersion unit is being developed in Ysgol Gynradd Gilfach Fargod with the support of the Welsh medium cluster of Primary school head teachers and one of the senior leadership team in Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni. The development is based on the learning from other language units who have also shared resources to support language immersion for our children.
- 2.6 The communication task group has redeveloped the Becoming Bilingual booklet and is currently developing the animation to support promotion and marketing to complement the Welsh Government marketing materials with local videos. The Early Years and Childcare website is being updated using feedback from families.
- 2.7 Flying Start Childcare is being expanded and there is a requirement to develop more Welsh medium or increase the Welsh language access in childcare settings. The Early Years team is working with Mudiad Meithrin and local Cylchoedd to develop and expand provision. In addition, the Early Years team is working closely with Menter Iaith to implement the Road to Bilingualism to move English medium settings along the Welsh language continuum to offer more Welsh language to children in their care.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Members are asked to receive the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan's 5year action plan and comment regarding sufficiency of information and targets to achieve our minimum 26% target in year 1 cohort by 2032.

4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 Compliance with The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (Wales) Regulations 2019 and The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (Wales) (Amendment) (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020.

5. THE REPORT

- 5.1 This Welsh in Education Strategic Plan is made under Section 84 of The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and complies with The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (Wales) Regulations 2019 and The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (Wales) (Amendment) (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020. When setting targets, due regard has been given to the statutory guidance issued by Welsh Ministers.
- 5.2 The minimum target of 26% for learners in year 1 by 2032 is set by Welsh Government in order to meet the 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050 target. In order to meet this ambitious target, we will need to build a new Primary School and expand other to create the places. In addition, we will need a communication plan to increase the take up of those places and our starting point will need additional provision in Ti a Fi and Cylchoedd in the early years, as well as an increase in our Welsh speaking workforce across both Welsh medium and English medium provisions.
- 5.3 This 5year action plan has been developed to enable scrutiny and accountability of our journey towards the 26% target by 2032. The targets and tasks in the action plan

will demonstrate if we will be able to achieve the target within the lifetime of the plan. See appendix 1 for detailed plan. The actions are arranged under thematic areas:

- Promotion and publicity
- Data development, analysis, and monitoring
- Capital programme and provision development
- Workforce development
- Additional Learning Needs provision
- Welsh language qualifications

- 5.4 The latecomer immersion unit is being developed in Ysgol Gynradd Gilfach Fargod, with the support of the Welsh medium cluster of Primary school head teachers and the senior leadership team in Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymini. The development is based using learning from other language units, who have also shared resources to support language immersion for our children.
- 5.5 The communication task group has redeveloped the Becoming Bilingual booklet [Becoming Bilingual in Caerphilly County Borough \(caerphillyearlyyears.co.uk\)](http://caerphillyearlyyears.co.uk) and is currently developing the animation to support promotion and marketing to complement the Welsh Government marketing materials with local videos. The Early Years and Childcare website is being updated using feedback from families of what information they need to have accessible to make informed choices Welsh medium childcare Welsh medium childcare - Caerphilly Early Years Caerphilly Early Years
- 5.6 Flying Start Childcare is being expanded and there is a requirement to develop more Welsh medium or increase the Welsh language access in childcare settings. There is a new Ti a Fi in New Tredegar starting in January 2023 to offer Welsh language opportunities to families in the Phase 1 Flying Start expansion area. We have submitted bids to Welsh Government to develop more childcare provision including for Cylch Meithrin Tedi Twt in Bargoed and the newly developing Cylch Meithrin Bro Sannan in Aberbargoed. We are also looking to develop a new Cylch Meithrin in the Llanbradach/Energlyn area. The new projects will complement the existing ongoing projects to develop bespoke childcare unit on Ysgol Ifor Bach site as well as an extension to create a Welsh medium day nursery incorporating Cylch Meithrin Coed Duon on Pengam library site.
- 5.7 In addition, the Early Years team is working closely with Menter Iaith to implement the Road to Bilingualism to move English medium settings along the Welsh language continuum to offer more Welsh language to children in their care. All Caerphilly CBC maintained setting staff are developing their Welsh language usage in the setting with the aim to move them to category 2 Welsh and English settings in the next five years.

5.8 **Conclusion**

The 5year action plan will enable more detailed annual operational plans to sit underneath it with names of leads and tasks required to achieve each action. The 5year action plan will allow sufficient information to understand if we are on track to meet the 10 year target of 26% of year 1 cohort in Welsh medium education by 2032.

6. **ASSUMPTIONS**

- 6.1 There are no specific assumptions.

7. SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 The Integrated Impact Assessment has been completed. The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan stimulates demand for Welsh medium provision and Welsh language Education to enable positive engagement across all communities with the Welsh language. There are substantive positive impacts for the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan including promoting and supporting development of the Welsh language across communities through Welsh medium schools and Further Education as well wider community support for parents to develop their Welsh language skills. There are substantive links to the Equalities, Sustainable Communities for Learning and CCBC Welsh Language strategies as well as the Welsh Governments strategy for 1 million Welsh speakers by 2050. The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-2032 has updated information regarding the current position in each outcome area and has identified high level actions in order to meet the minimum 26% of the year 1 cohort taught through the medium of Welsh target by 2032.
- 7.2 [Link to Integrated Impact Assessment](#)

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no financial implications of this report as any resources required have been incorporated into existing resources, plans or future bids.

9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are no personnel implications of this report. However, expansion of the workforce across the sector will be considered in the Action Plan and at Welsh Government level.

10. CONSULTATIONS

- 10.1 All views in the consultation are contained within this report.

11. STATUTORY POWER

- 11.1 The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (Wales) Regulations 2019 and The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (Wales) (Amendment) (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020.

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Appendices:

Appendix 1 5year Action Plan