

LAMPETER TOWN COUNCIL WELSH LANGUAGE POLICY ANNUAL REPORT 2015

1. INTRODUCTION

- a. Lampeter Town Council adopted a Welsh Language Policy under the Welsh Language Act 1993 on August 30th 2007. Point 6.4 of the policy requires that the council receive an annual report, that the public are able to comment on the report and that it is submitted to the Welsh Language Board.
- b. Cllrs. Rob Phillips, Dorothy Williams, Chris Thomas, Selwyn Walters, Ann Morgan and the Town Clerk were appointed to the council's Welsh Language Committee to prepare the annual report.
- c. This report does not consider every point in the policy but notes individual successes and recommends changes in practice where this is required.
- d. Recommendations to improve the Welsh Language Scheme are made under section 7.

2. PLANNING AND DELIVERING SERVICES

- a. The council has continued to promote the Welsh language in the community in accordance with our policy including financially supporting the Eisteddfod Rhys Thomas James (Pantymedwen) Llanbedr Pont Steffan, Adran and Aelwyd yr Urdd, Llanbedr Pont Steffan (costs for travelling to Eisteddfod yr Urdd), Ceredigion and Bro Dderi Young Farmers' Clubs.
- b. 1,000 fully bi-lingual leaflets in tete-beche format to promote the town to visitors.
- c. No changes to the Welsh language Scheme were proposed during the year.

3. DEALING WITH WELSH SPEAKING PUBLIC

- a. The council has received a number of letter and e-mails in Welsh during the past year and they have all been answered in Welsh. The fact that the council welcomes correspondence in English or Welsh is made clear on each letter sent.
- b. The council has continued to operate a bilingual website, with all council minutes and static content available in both English and Welsh.
- c. A simultaneous translation service was provided at the Mayor's Installation Ceremony.
- a. During the year the council decided to provide simultaneous translation facilities at the regular monthly meetings and as a result more Welsh is spoken during these meetings.

4. THE COUNCIL'S PUBLIC FACE

- a. Headed paper, the website and council e-mails are all bi-lingual. A message on council headed paper and e-mails states that correspondence is welcomed in English or Welsh.
- b. The Council published a bi-lingual programme for the Remembrance Sunday ceremony.
- c. The council considers the Welsh Language when awarding grants. A form, to be completed by those applying for funding asks how they will reflect the linguistic character of the area.

5. IMPLEMENTING AND MONITORING THE SCHEME

- a. It is recommended that a press release is supplied to the *Cambrian News*, *Ceredigion Herald* and *Carmarthen Journal* and an advert is placed in *Clonc* drawing attention to the annual review of the Welsh Language Scheme and asking for comments.
- b. It is further recommended that copies are placed in the town library and on the website. Copies should also be available from the Town Clerk.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. That the council continues with simultaneous translation arrangements in regular monthly meetings.
- b. That the council should work with *Clonc* to support the paper and promote Welsh language events.
- c. That the council supports Ras yr iaith when it visits in 2016
- d. That the Welsh Language Committee considers further ways to increase the number of Welsh speakers and the use of Welsh in the town.
- e. That the council supports 'Siop Siarad' and all other similar initiatives of Welsh speakers in the town, which promote the Welsh Language.
- f. That the council supports and develops the 'Shw mae' day in town on October 15th.
- g. That the council considers holding a St David's Day parade.

**Welsh Language Sub Committee
12 May 2016**