

Draft Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-2032

Consultation document

Date of issue: 27 September 2021

Action required: Responses by 19 December 2021

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Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) consultation

Overview

This consultation is to invite views on Bridgend County Borough Council's WESP 2022-2032.

This consultation aims to seek the views of residents, our workforce, elected members and stakeholders on the proposed WESP for 2022-2032.

The results from this consultation will be used to inform the final WESP which will be implemented in September 2022.

Section 84 of *The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013* ("the 2013 Act") requires a local authority to prepare a Welsh in Education Strategic Plan ("the Plan") and outlines that a Plan must contain:

- a. A local authority's proposals on how it will carry out its education functions to:
 - i. Improve the planning of the provision of education through the medium of Welsh ("Welsh-medium education") in its area;
 - ii. Improve the standards of Welsh-medium education and of the teaching of Welsh in its area;
- b. The local authority's targets for improving the planning of the provision of Welsh-medium education in its area and for improving the standards of that education and of the teaching of Welsh in its area;
- c. Report on the progress made to meet the targets contained in the previous Plan or previous revised Plan.

Section 84 also sets out with whom a local authority is required to consult in preparing or revising its Plan and provides the Welsh Ministers with a power to prescribe other persons with which the local authority must consult.

Section 85 of the 2013 Act requires each local authority to submit its Plan to Welsh Ministers for approval.

How to respond

This consultation period will begin on the **27 September 2021** and close on the **19 December 2021**. You can respond or ask further questions in the following ways:

Tel: (01656) 643 643

Email: consultation@bridgend.gov.uk

Online: [Click here to visit Bridgend County Borough Council's consultation page](#)

Post: Communications, Marketing and Engagement, Bridgend County Borough local authority, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB. Alternative formats are also available upon request.

Data protection

Information provided by you on this form will be used to inform the WESP 2022-2032.

The council will take all reasonable precautions to ensure confidentiality and to comply with data protection legislation. Your information may be shared with relevant service areas for the purposes of future policy development. Your information will be retained in accordance with the Council's Data Retention Policy.

You have a number of rights under data protection legislation. You may also withdraw your consent and ask us to delete your personal information at any time by contacting us. Further information about this is available on our website or you may contact the Data Protection Officer.

If you are dissatisfied with the manner in which we process your personal data then you have the option to make a complaint to the Data Protection Officer and the Information Commissioner's Office.

Related documents

- The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011
- Welsh Language Standards
- Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers
- Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
- Welsh Government guidance for Welsh in Education Strategic Plan
- Bridgend County Borough Council corporate plan 2018 -2022
- Education reforms (such as Curriculum and assessment, accountability, workforce development and National approach to professional learning)
- Requirements of the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018
- 21st Century Schools and Education Programme
- School improvement guidance: a framework for evaluation, improvement and accountability
- Childcare Sufficiency Assessments
- Section 106 Agreements, made under Section 106 of the *Town and Country Planning Act 1990*.
- Children and young people's services
- School admissions code
- School organisation code
- Post-16 Education
- The Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008
- 5-year local authority Promotion Strategies, made under standards 145 and 146 of the Welsh Language Standards (No. 1) Regulations 2015
- Local Development Plans

The Purpose of the WESP

Bridgend County Borough Council's vision aligns with Cymraeg 2050-A million Welsh speakers (Welsh Government, 2017). *As a local authority we desire that the Welsh language thrives, and that it is used in every aspect of life. Among those who do not speak Welsh there is goodwill and a sense of ownership towards the language and a recognition by all of its contribution to the culture, society and economy of Wales.*

Our vision is to secure favourable circumstances throughout the local authority that support language acquisition and use of Welsh language skills. We want to see an increase in language transmission in the family, early introduction of Welsh to every child, an education system that provides Welsh language skills for all, and greater appreciation of Welsh language skills in the workplace. At the same time, we are committed to supporting people to use Welsh socially, at work, and when accessing services.

The WESP will ensure that Bridgend County Borough Council's vision becomes a reality. The WESP provides the framework for the implementation of the WESP.

Relevant information we will use

As well as listening to our residents, communities and our staff we will also use a range of information to support us in identifying objectives.

We will look at regional priorities for Bridgend, council priorities, service delivery plans and will review the progress that the council's services have already made in relation to the previous WESP.

How we developed our WESP

In order to develop our WESP we have:

- Reviewed our WESP Plan and action plan;
- Held a WESP panning day with the WESP Forum which involves a range of key stakeholders;
- Considered Welsh Government guidance;
- Used the council's corporate objectives of supporting a successful economy; helping people to be more self-reliant and smarter use of resources to help provide a structure and approach to reviewing our objectives;
- Considered national and local issues;
- Used feedback that we regularly get from residents, groups, partners and other stakeholders;
- Identified key partners who will support us in meeting our objectives;
- Reviewed Welsh language learning provision across Bridgend County Borough;
- Reviewed relevant policies including: Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers, The Well-being of Future Generations Act, More than just words (Welsh Government), Welsh in Education Strategic Plans and Bridgend County Borough Council corporate plan 2018 -2022

Our WESP

To develop the Welsh Language objectives we will engage with residents, staff, elected members and stakeholders and use relevant information and policies. Our draft WESP objectives are detailed below:

Objective one: More nursery children/ three year olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh

Objective two: More reception class children/ five year olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh

Objective three: More children continue to improve their Welsh language skills when transferring from one stage of their statutory education to another

Objective four: More learners study for assessed qualifications in Welsh (as a subject) and subjects through the medium of Welsh

Objective five: More opportunities for learners to use Welsh in different contexts in school

Objective six: An increase in the provision of Welsh-medium education for pupils with an Additional learning need (ALN) (in accordance with the duties imposed by the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018

Objective seven: Increase the number of teaching staff able to teach Welsh (as a subject) and teach through the medium of Welsh

Process

The purpose of this consultation document is to outline the overarching objectives which will then enable us to develop an action plan to support our objectives. This document has been prepared to provide information about the WESP in order to allow residents, our workforce, stakeholders and elected members the opportunity to have their say.

Following the conclusion of the consultation period all comments received will be presented to the local authority's Cabinet and all views expressed will be taken into account in the compilation of the WESP 2022-2032

The timetable for the consultation is:

- Consultation will begin on 27 September 2021;
- The consultation will close on 19 December 2021;
- The WESP will be published on 31 January 2022.

Who is being consulted

This consultation aims to seek the views of residents, staff, elected members and stakeholders on the proposed WESP for 2022-2032.