

# Public Document Pack



Cyngor Sir  
**CEREDIGION**  
County Council

Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion, Penmorfa,  
Aberaeron, Ceredigion SA46 0PA  
[ceredigion.gov.uk](http://ceredigion.gov.uk)

8 March 2024

Dear Sir / Madam

I write to inform you that a Meeting of the Language Committee will be held at the Council Chamber, Penmorfa, Aberaeron and remotely via video conference on Friday, 15 March 2024 at 10.00am for the transaction of the following business:

1. **Apologies**
2. **Disclosure of personal/ prejudicial interests**
3. **To confirm as a true record the minutes of a meeting of the Language Committee held on 25 May 2023 (Pages 3 - 8)**
4. **Any matters arising from the minutes**
5. **Update on the Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2024-2029 (Pages 9 - 12)**
6. **Update on the Welsh Language - Census 2021 Results (Pages 13 - 26)**
7. **Theatr Felinfach's Annual Report 2023-2024 (Pages 27 - 30)**
8. **Cered: Menter Iaith Ceredigion's Annual Report (Pages 31 - 36)**
9. **Boosting confidence and promoting the Welsh language and Welshness in the workplace (Pages 37 - 38)**
10. **Forward Work Programme**
11. **Any other matter which the Chairman decides is for the urgent attention of the Committee**

Members are reminded to sign the Attendance Register

A Translation Services will be provided at this meeting and those present are welcome to speak in Welsh or English at the meeting.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L Edwards', written in a cursive style.

**Miss Lowri Edwards**  
**Corporate Lead Officer: Democratic Services**

**To: Chairman and Members of Language Committee**  
The remaining Members of the Council for information only.

# Public Document Pack Agenda Item 3

## **Minutes of the Meeting of the Language Committee held at the Council Chamber, Penmorfa, Aberaeron and remotely on Thursday, 25 May 2023**

**Present:** Councillor Catrin M S. Davies (Chair), Councillors Rhodri Davies, Gwyn Wigley Evans, Gareth Lloyd and John Roberts.

**Also in attendance:** Councillor Bryan Davies.

**Officers in attendance:** Lowri Edwards, Corporate Lead Officer- Democratic Services; Nia Jones, Corporate Manager- Democratic Services; Carys Morgan, Language Officer; Non Davies, Corporate Manager- Culture; Steffan Rees, Cered Team Leader; Steffan Jones, Street Naming & Numbering Officer and Neris Morgans, Democratic Services Officer.

(10.00am- 12.03pm)

### **1 Apologies**

- i. Councillor Chris James apologised for his inability to attend the meeting.
- ii. Councillor Gareth Lloyd apologised that he would be late in joining the meeting due to other Council Commitments.
- iii. Lowri Edwards, Corporate Lead Officer- Democratic Services apologised that she would be late in joining the meeting due to other Council Commitments.

### **2 Disclosure of personal/ prejudicial interests**

There were no disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

### **3 To confirm as a true record the minutes of a meeting of the Language Committee held on 5 December 2022**

It was RESOLVED to confirm as a true record of the minutes of the meeting held on 5 December 2022.

### **4 Any matters arising from the minutes**

It was noted that a presentation would be provided focusing on the 2021 Census Welsh Language results in the next meeting. A subject paper had been published and was available on the Council's website.

The Chair thanked all for their effort to increase the use of the Welsh Language in Democratic meetings.

### **5 Welsh Language Standards Monitoring Report April 2022 - March 2023**

The Language Officer outlined the legal framework of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and the requirement to produce a Welsh Language Standards Monitoring Report.

The report outlined the progress the Council had made in addressing the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards across its services and focused on the period 1 April 2022 - 31 March 2023. The report set out the actions that have been taken to comply with the requirements of the Standards, and organised under the 5 Main Standards namely:

- Service Delivery Standards

- Policy Making Standards
- Internal Operations Standards
- Promotion Standards (requirement to develop and publish a 5-year Strategy)
- Record keeping standards.

An overview of the key achievements in 2022-23 was provided. The Welsh Language Commissioner expected that the Council could provide evidence in relation to the performance indicators; a full analysis was provided as part of the report.

It had been recognised that the implementation of the Welsh Language Standards was ongoing, and Ceredigion County Council was committed to continuing to deliver improvements, and to taking action to ensure it fully met the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards.

During the next reporting period, there would be a focus on the following:

- Develop a Welsh Language Promotion Strategy for the next five-year period, in accordance with Standards 145/146.
- Review the Integrated Impact Assessment Guide to assist officers in highlighting any impact on the Welsh language when presenting policy decisions.
- Develop a 'Croeso Ceredigion' project in an attempt to assimilate incomers, with the work emanating from the Bilingual Futures Forum.
- Develop a guide to the use of the Welsh language for Town and Community Councils.
- Update the 'Work Welsh' pages on the Council's intranet site, including guidance and developing additional resources to promote the Welsh language and to help staff to use the language.
- A project to promote awareness of Welsh culture and Welshness in residential homes.

It was noted that Members were encouraged to use the Welsh language in Democratic meetings and facilities were in place to support this which included a guide on chairing and holding bilingual public meetings, but the choice of language was up to each individual.

All local authorities in Wales asked employees to self-assess their language skills. Ceredigion County Council measured the workforce's Welsh language skills using the ALTE Framework (The Association of Language Testers in Europe). It was recommended that a report to explain the process was provided at the next meeting.

Following questions from the floor, it was AGREED:

- To receive Ceredigion County Council Welsh Language Standards Monitoring Report (2022 -23).
- To approve that the full report was submitted to the Council's Cabinet for approval and published on the Council's corporate website, as required by the Welsh Language Standards regime, in accordance with the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.

## 6 Ceredigion Language Strategy Achievement Report 2018-23

Consideration was given to the Ceredigion Language Strategy Achievement Report 2018-23. The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 established a legal framework to impose duties on certain organisations, including Ceredigion County Council to comply with standards in relation to the Welsh language.

- Welsh Language Standard 145 places a duty on the County Council to develop and publish a 5-year strategy that explains how the Council intends to promote the Welsh language and facilitate the use of Welsh within the wider area.
- Welsh Language Standard 146 places the duty to assess the extent to which the Council has followed that strategy and met its set target.

The current Strategy period ends in 2023 and the achievement report had been prepared, with the input of partners.

The report was presented in two parts:

- A Review Welsh Language Strategy Report: which reported on methods of operating as well as the methods of measuring outcomes
- Achievement Report Welsh Language Strategy: which reports on all activities organised to promote the use of the Welsh language (Appendix 1)

The principal aim of Ceredigion's Welsh Language Strategy 2018-23 was to expand the use of the Welsh language in all aspects of life in the county. The strategy identified three strategic areas:

- Increase the language skills of the people of Ceredigion
- Maintain and increase opportunities to use the Welsh language in Ceredigion in a range of contexts
- Create the social conditions that enable the Welsh language to thrive in Ceredigion

A summary of the main achievements of implementing the Language Strategy was provided. It was acknowledged that Covid-19 had impacted much of the work as engagement was one of the main aims.

The Strategy also set a target to increase the number of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion from 47.5% to 48.5%, an increase of around 1,500 by 2023. Since the 2011 Census, results from the 2021 Census reported a decrease of 3,286 people (2%) who declared themselves as able to speak Welsh. Despite an overall decrease, the proportion of adults between 16-44 years old able to speak Welsh had increased by 2.2% by 2021. It must be noted that care was required when interpreting the Census data as the picture was very complex. Other surveys including the Annual Population Survey indicated that the percentage of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion had increased. The Welsh Government was currently carrying out a survey on the different data that existed for measuring the number of Welsh speakers and trying to define the inconsistency in the data.

In reviewing the attainment of the Welsh Language Strategy, it was important to recognise that language planning was a long-term process and developing

initiatives to increase the use of Welsh took time to foster, however, the Council felt confident that the Language Strategy had laid the right foundations for progressing to the next 5-year period. A workshop was held on 20 March 2023 to discuss the new Welsh Language Strategy and was well attended by members of the Bilingual Futures Forum.

The following main points were raised during discussions:

- Following approval by Scrutiny and Cabinet, a consultation process would commence soon around changing the language medium in the Foundation Phase at Comins Coch, Llwyn yr Eos, St Padarn's, Plascrug and Cei Newydd School.
- Despite Welsh Government's Helo Blod Project ending in April 2022, it continued to provide a free translation service of up to 500 words per month for businesses and community organisations. The Welsh Language Commissioner are now focusing their efforts on 'The Welsh Offer Scheme' to support businesses to make more use of Welsh within their business.
- There is a focus in the Arfor programme on encouraging young people to remain and succeed locally. There are work opportunities in Ceredigion, but greater promotion is needed to ensure people are confident enough to apply for the roles. It was noted that there were many projects underway with the Growth and Enterprise team.
- Given that the Urdd and the Young Farmers' Clubs were two strong youth organisations in Ceredigion, it was unfortunate that the Urdd National Eisteddfod and the Young Farmers' Clubs Rally clashed.

Following questions from the floor, it was AGREED to receive the report, and recommend submitting the Report to Cabinet for approval, and for information at the Ceredigion Public Services Board meeting.

## **7 Cered: Menter Iaith Ceredigion Language Initiative- Targets for 2023-24**

A presentation was provided to the Committee outlining the following:

- Cered's Aim
- Strategic contribution
- Budget
- Staffing and Structure
- Partners
- 2023-24 Targets
- Themes (Children, Young People, The Community, Welsh Learners and Infrastructure)
- Summary

The following main points were raised during discussions:

- An invitation to attend Ras yr Iaith in Aberystwyth on 22 June 2023 had been extended to the schools in Ysgol Penglais and Ysgol Gyfun Gymunedol Penweddig's catchment area.
- The numbers involved in different projects varied (5 in the Young Sports Reporters Scheme for football fans and 25 on 'Ar Gered'). Cered were eager to develop projects further subject to funding and capacity.

- Training had been provided in the past to enable people to use the translation equipment available to be loaned by communities; this could possibly be looked into again in the future.

Following questions from the floor, it was AGREED to accept the report on Cered's targets for 2023-24 and note the work of the Initiative in promoting and developing the use of the Welsh language in Ceredigion.

**8 Street Naming and Numbering Policy Update**

Consideration was given to the report updating Members on Ceredigion County Council's Street Naming and Numbering Policy. The report outlined how the Street Naming and Numbering function had progressed over the last year (April 2022- March 2023).

Following questions from the floor, it was AGREED to note the report.

**9 Forward Work Programme**

The following items were suggested by Committee Members:

- Presentation on the ALTE Framework
- Report on Ceredigion's Social Media accounts (December meeting)
- New Welsh Language Strategy
- 2021 Census Welsh Language results

**10 Any other matter which the Chairman decides is for the urgent attention of the Committee**

None.

**Confirmed at the Meeting of the Language Committee held on 15  
March 2024**

**Chairman:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

**Report to:** Language Committee

**Date of meeting:** 15th March 2024

**Title:** Update on the Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2024-2029

**Purpose of the report:** To present an update on the Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2024-2029 and share the consultation timetable.

### **Background:**

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 established a legal framework to impose duties on certain organisations, including Ceredigion County Council to comply with standards in relation to the Welsh language.

Standard 145 places a duty on the County Council to develop and publish a 5-year strategy that explains how the Council intends to promote the Welsh language and facilitate the use of Welsh within the wider area. As part of the Strategy, it is required to set a target for maintaining or increasing the number of Welsh speakers within the area by the end of the 5 year period in question.

In line with the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards, this Strategy sets out how the Council will go about promoting the Welsh language and to facilitate wider use of Welsh within the local area, by working together with organisations that are members of the Ceredigion Bilingual Futures Language Forum. The Strategy supports the Welsh Government's vision, to create one million Welsh speakers in Wales by 2050.

### **Update on Ceredigion's Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2024-2029:**

The current Strategy period ended in 2023 with an attainment report prepared and presented to the Language Committee. We are therefore required to prepare a new Strategy in accordance with the statutory requirements.

The new Strategy will build on the foundations laid by the 2018-23 Language Strategy and the special work done by the Council and its partners to increase the opportunities to use the Welsh language across the County.

In June 2023 a meeting was held with stakeholders and members of Bilingual Futures to discuss the 2024-29 Strategy. Following that meeting the comments and proposals were brought together as the basis for the new Strategy.

That Strategy is in the process of being refined so that the first Draft can be presented to the Language Committee at the meeting dated June 2024 (new date to be confirmed).

The initial draft has set the following goal for the new Strategy:

**Increase the use of the language in all aspects of County life. Our vision is that the Welsh language and Welshness will belong to everyone in Ceredigion and will be a source of pride among all residents of the county.**

In addition to making the vision a reality we set 4 strategic themes - Ceredigion is a place where it is possible to **learn, live, belong and succeed** through the medium of Welsh.

By carrying out the actions highlighted in this Strategy:

1. We want to see everyone within the County valuing the Welsh language and giving it prestige as a living community language.
2. We want to see increased use of it in all aspects of public life in the county; where residents can live, learn, belong and succeed through the medium of Welsh.
3. We want to ensure that bilingualism is promoted completely naturally, and that the Welsh language is protected so that future generations can use and enjoy it.
4. We assume that the percentage of Welsh speakers will increase by 1 percentage point from 45.3% in 2021 to 46.3% in 2029, this will lead to a further 267 Welsh speakers off the 2021 baseline.

There will be an action plan associated with each of the four themes.

**Timetable:**

Following the presentation of the draft document to the Language Committee in June the document will be presented to Cabinet before opening a period of public consultation during July and August 2024. The intention is to publish the final Strategy in December 2024.

**Recommendation:**

**To approve that the document will be presented to Cabinet before opening a period of public consultation during July and August 2024.**

**Appendices:**

Appendix 1- Ceredigion Welsh Language Promotion Strategy Consultation Timetable 2024-29

**Contact Name:**

Carys Lloyd-Jones

**Designation:**

Ceredigion County Council's Language Policy Officer

**Date:**

26/2/2024

<b>Timetable for [Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2024-2029]</b>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Engage with the stakeholders to assess current opinion. Conduct desktop research	3/1				3/5							
Write your analysis report about the results of the engagement campaign, prepare the initial Integrated Impact Assessment, and formulate the strategy	3/1				3/5							
Present the draft strategy, the initial Integrated Impact Assessment, and the analysis report to the Scrutiny Committee						/6						
Present the strategy, analysis report and initial Integrated Impact Assessment to Cabinet. Request approval to hold a public consultation (for statutory consultations)							2/7					
Public consultation on the draft strategy							2/7		1/9			
Write a report analysing the consultation, amend the Integrated Impact Assessment if necessary and prepare the final strategy									1/09	1/10		
Present the final strategy, Integrated Impact Assessment and analysis report to the Scrutiny Committee											14/11	
Present the final strategy, the analysis report, and the Integrated Impact Assessment for Cabinet approval												3/12
Publish the final strategy on the Council's website and email it to the stakeholders and relevant Council teams												4/12

Note: It is necessary to allow at least 3 weeks for the translation of the documents in each of these phases

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# Ystadegau ar yr Iaith Gymraeg

## Statistics on the Welsh Language

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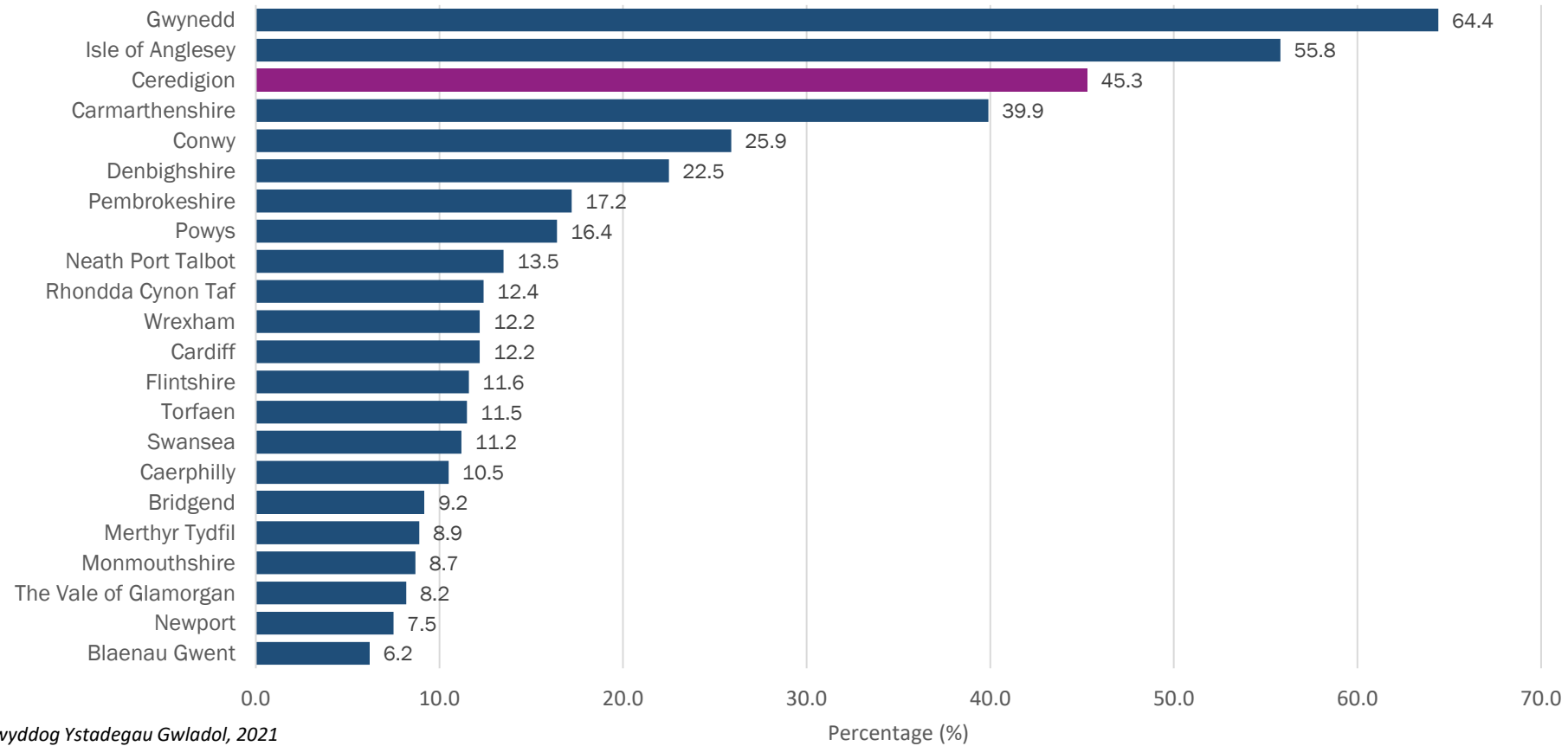
# Cyflwyniad / Introduction



- Wedi cyflwyno ein papur pwnc ar yr Iaith Gymraeg
- Bwriad y papur pwnc:
  - Cefnogi dealltwriaeth y Cyngor o sgiliau'r Gymraeg yn y Sir
  - Sylfaen dystiolaeth i Strategaeth y Gymraeg 2023-2028
- Edrych ar y prif ganlyniadau o'r Cyfrifiad heddiw
- Edrych ar ganlyniadau'r Arolwg Blynnyddol o'r Boblogaeth hefyd

- Have published our topic paper on the Welsh Language
- Aim of the topic paper:
  - Support Councils understanding of Welsh language skills in the County
  - Evidence base for Welsh language strategy 2023-2028
- Look at some of the main results from the Census today
- Look at the results from the Annual Population Survey also

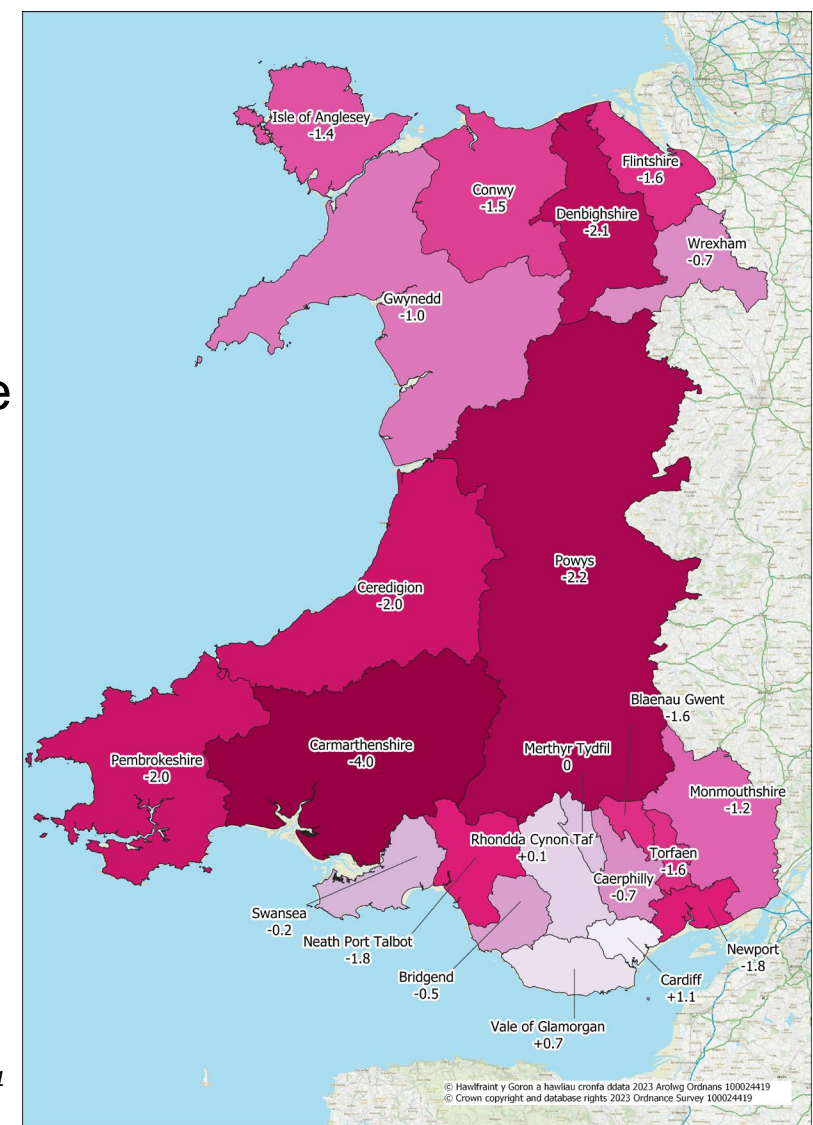
# Y darlun ar draws Cymru / The picture across Wales



Ffynhonnell: Swyddog Ystadegau Gwladol, 2021  
Source: Office for National Statistics, 2021.

# Y darlun ar draws Cymru / The picture across Wales

- Gostyngiad mwyaf yn y canran o siaradwyr Cymraeg, yn **Sir Caerfyrddin (-4.0 pwynt canran)**.
- Cynyddiad mwyaf yn y canran o siaradwyr Cymraeg yng **Nghaerdydd (+1.1 pwynt canran)**.
- Biggest decrease in percentage of Welsh speakers in **Carmarthenshire (-4.0 percentage points)**.
- Biggest increase in the percentage of Welsh speakers in **Cardiff (+1.1 percentage points)**.



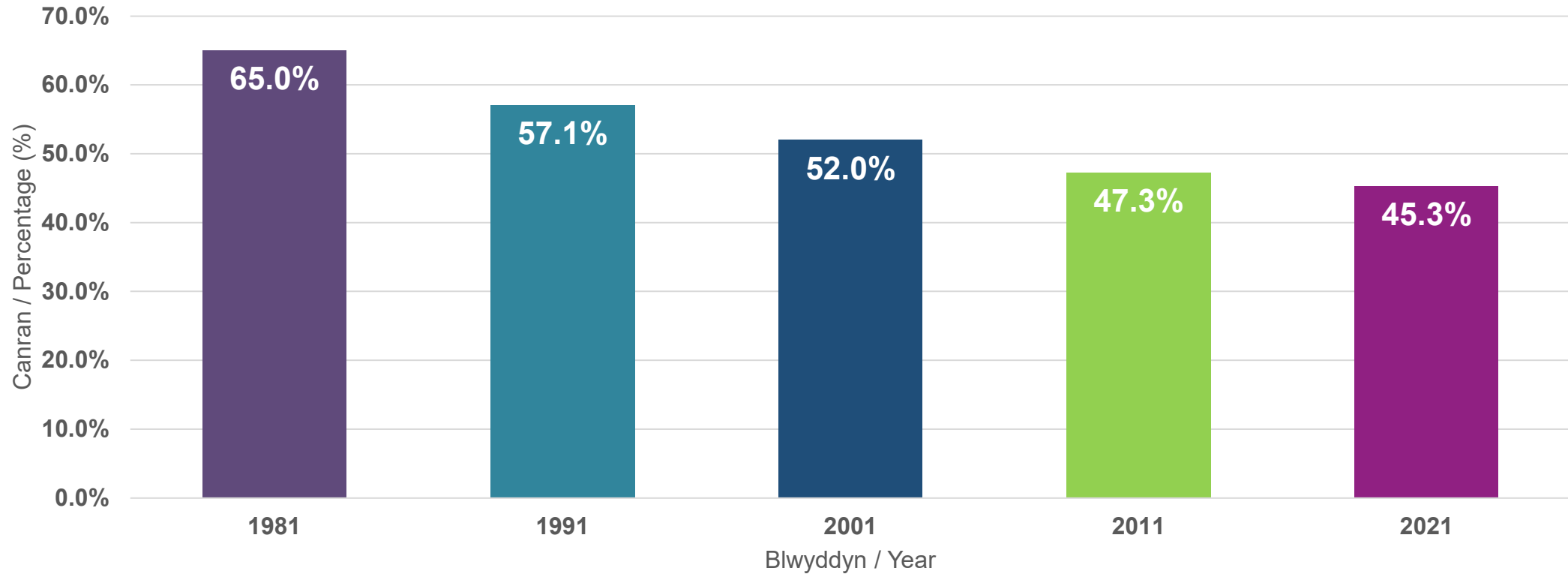
Ffynhonnell: Swyddog Ystadegau Gwladol, 2021  
Source: Office for National Statistics, 2021.



# Siaradwyr Cymraeg yng Ngheredigion / Welsh speakers in Ceredigion

	2011	2021	Gwahaniaeth / Difference
% Siaradwyr Cymraeg (3 oed neu'n hŷn) / % of Welsh Speakers (aged 3 or older)	47.3%	45.3%	-2.0 pwynt canran / percentage points
Nifer y Siaradwyr Cymraeg (3 oed neu'n hŷn) / Number of Welsh Speakers (aged 3 or older)	34,960	31,680	-3,290 o bobl / people

# Siaradwyr Cymraeg yng Ngheredigion 1981-2021/ Welsh Speakers in Ceredigion 1981-2021



Ffynhonnell: Swyddog Ystadegau Gwladol, 1981, 1991, 2001, 2011 a 2021  
Source: Office for National Statistics, 1981, 1991, 2001, 2022 and 2021.

# Ceredigion – Siaradwyr Cymraeg yn ôl oedran / Ceredigion – Welsh speakers by age

	3 – 15 mlwydd oed / years	16-64 mlwydd oed / years	65+ mlwydd oed / years	Pawb dros 3 mlwydd oed / Everyone over 3 years
<b>2011</b>	78.4% (7,175)	41.9% (20,503)	46.4% (7,286)	47.3% (34,964)
<b>2021</b>	71.8% (6,123)	42.4% (18,219)	39.9% (7,347)	45.3% (31,678)
<b>Gwahaniaeth / Difference</b>	-6.6 pwynt canran / percentage points (-1,052)	+0.5 pwynt canran / percentage points (-2,284)	-6.5 pwynt canran / percentage points (+61)	-2.0 pwynt canran / percentage points (-3,286)

Ffynhonnell: Swyddog Ystadegau Gwladol, 2011, 2021

Source: Office for National Statistics, 2011, 2021.

# Ceredigion – Siaradwyr Cymraeg yn Ward Etholiadol / Ceredigion – Welsh speakers by Electoral Ward

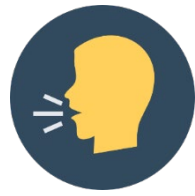
Ward Etholiadol / Electoral Ward	% y siaradwyr Cymraeg / % of Welsh speakers
<b>Canran uchaf o siaradwyr Cymraeg / Highest percentage of Welsh speakers (%)</b>	
Ystwyth	57.2
Aberaeron & Aberarth	56.3
Tregaron & Ystrad Fflur	56.1
Mwldan	54.8
Llanfarian	53.2
<b>Canran isaf o siaradwyr Cymraeg / Lowest percentage of Welsh speakers (%)</b>	
Llanbadarn Fawr	33.8
Aberystwyth Penparcau	32.3
Aberystwyth Morfa a Glais	29.5
Faenor	27.7
Aberystwyth Rheidol	27.6

Cymraeg

31,678

Siaradwyr Cymraeg yng Ngheredigion / Welsh Speakers in Ceredigion

(Mawrth/March 2021)



45.3%

o boblogaeth Ceredigion yn dweud eu bod yn gallu siarad Cymraeg / of Ceredigion's population can speak Welsh



2.0

Gostyngiad pwynt canran yng nghyfran y siaradwyr Cymraeg ers 2011 / Percentage point decrease in Welsh speakers since 2011



-3,286

o siaradwyr Cymraeg yng Ngheredigion ers Cyfrifiad 2011 / Welsh language speakers in Ceredigion since 2011 Census



46.7%

o breswylwyr Ceredigion yn nodi "Cymreig yn unig" fel eu cenedligrwydd / "Welsh only" as their National identity

(cynnydd o 0.1 pwynt canran ers Cyfrifiad 2011)



57.2%

Yn gallu siarad Cymraeg yn Ward Ystwyth, y gyfran uchaf o siaradwyr Cymraeg ar draws y Sir / Can speak Welsh in the Ystwyth Ward, highest in County



**Dadansoddiad o Sgiliau / Analysis of Skills**

Siarad Cymraeg / Speak Welsh – 45.3%  
Gallu siarad Cymraeg, darllen Cymraeg ac ysgrifennu yn Gymraeg / Can speak Welsh, read Welsh and write in Welsh – 37.3%

Dim sgiliau Cymraeg / No Welsh skills – 43.6%

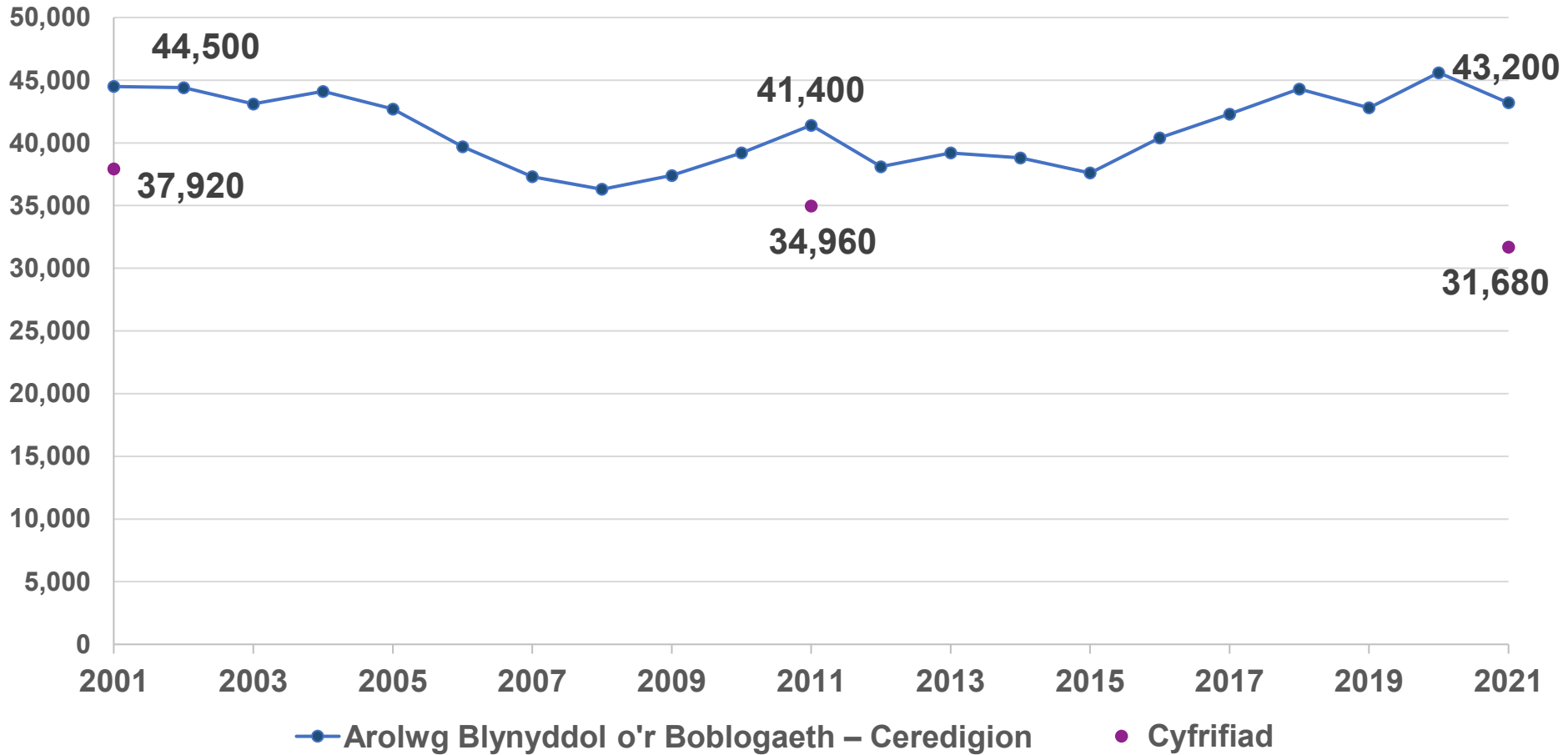


**Dadansoddiad o siaradwyr Cymraeg yn ôl oedran / Analysis of Welsh speakers by age**

3-15: 71.8%  
16-64: 42.4%  
65+: 39.9%



# Arolwg Blynyddol o'r Boblogaeth / Annual Population Survey



# Arolwg Blynyddol o'r Boblogaeth / Annual Population Survey

- Methu cymharu ffigurau'r ABB a'r Cyfrifiad oherwydd methodoleg gwahanol.
- Fel yr adlewyrchir ar y sleid blaenorol— mae ffigurau'r ABB wedi bod yn gyson uwch na'r hyn a gofnodwyd gan y Cyfrifiad.
- Cynnydd dros y degawd, gan godi o 41,400 (54.4%) i 43,200 (60.4%), cynnydd o 1,800 o siaradwyr Cymraeg.
- Dylid trin cymariaethau rhwng data'r ABB gyda gofal oherwydd y newid yn y dull arolygu ers canol mis Mawrth 2020 oherwydd pandemig COVID-19.
- Y flwyddyn yn diweddu 30 Medi 2023 - 56.8% o bobl 3+ oed yn gallu siarad Cymraeg (42,700 o bobl).
- 1.3 pwynt canran yn is na'r flwyddyn flaenorol (y flwyddyn yn diweddu 30 Medi 2022), (600 yn llai o bobl).
- Cannot directly compare figures from the APS and Census because of differing methodologies.
- As shown on previous slide – APS figures consistently higher than those collected by the Census.
- Should view comparisons between APS data with caution because of a change in surveying method since the middle of March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Increase over the decade, rising from 41,400 (54.4%) to 43,200 (60.4%), increase of 1,800 Welsh speakers.
- Year ending 30 September 2023 - 56.8% of people aged 3+ can speak Welsh (42,700 people).
- 1.3 percentage point lower than the previous year (year ending 30 September 2022), (600 less people).

# Casgliad / Conclusion

- Gostyngiad yn y nifer a'r % o siaradwyr Cymraeg yng Ngheredigion.
- Amrywiaethau rhwng y grwpiau oedran.
- Cofio bod y Cyfrifiad wedi cynnal yn ystod Pandemig COVID-19
- Rhesymau i fod yn optimistaidd – Cymraeg 2050 yn weddol newydd pan gynhaliwyd Cyfrifiad 2021.
- Llywodraeth Cymru'r a'r SYG wedi bod yn edrych ar y gwahaniaethau rhwng data ar yr iaith Gymraeg.
- Decrease in the number and % of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion.
- Variation between age groups.
- Remember that the Census was held during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Still reasons to be optimistic – Cymraeg 2050 was relatively new when the Census 2021 took place.
- Welsh Government and ONS have been looking at the differences between data on the Welsh language.



**cyfrifiad** 2021

**census** 2021

**Diolch am wrando/  
Thanks for listening**

**Unrhyw gwestiynau? /  
Any questions?**

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## CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

**Report to:** Language Committee

**Date of meeting:** 15/3/2024

**Title:** Theatr Felinfach's Annual Report 2023-2024

**Purpose of the report:** Report on the activity of Theatr Felinfach 2023-2024

### **Background:**

#### **Theatr Felinfach – Our Work:**

Theatr Felinfach hosts and develops thousands of arts opportunities every year. We use informal education methods along with the disciplines of drama, dance, film and technical theatre. We develop opportunities and experiences that promote creativity, skills, knowledge and understanding of the culture and arts of Wales and the world.

Although four years have passed since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the impact of the lockdowns is still evident in a number of areas, including the arts. Since 2022, Theatr Felinfach's Artistic Team has seen the impact of the pandemic on individuals and groups of participants. Among children and young people, we see that a lack of confidence is evident in many, and we also see that the lack of experience of working in a group, face to face has had an impact on participants as well. Participating in theatre and arts disciplines develops personal confidence, physical confidence to move in a space / on a stage, confidence to use one's voice and to contribute ideas – from our experience, there is work to be done with our partners, schools and organisations to restore and build confidence. Despite the challenges, it has been an exciting time as demand for our participation work has increased.

#### **Some of the highlights of 2023-24:**

- Developed 3 projects under the banner of '*Gorwel a Gwreiddiau*' (Horizon and Roots) – which included the development of a multi-media performance by 2 cohorts of young people who usually struggle to engage with activities, and *Pasio Fflam Pont Llanio* film, an inter-generational project with individuals and Ysgol Henry Richard.
- Led Dance Lessons as part of the provision of the new curriculum at Ysgol Bro Pedr.
- Increased our ALN provision by working with 4 additional learning needs centres Canolfan y Môr, Canolfan y Bont, Penglais Hearing Resources Centre and Penglais Learning Support Centre – a film premiere of their work was held as a culmination of the project with the support and collaboration of Ceredigion County Council's ALN Team.
- Devised and staged a production for neurodiverse young people in partnership with Canolfan y Môr – '*Cestyll a Dreigiau*' (Castles and Dragons).
- Ran a full range of participatory activities for various ages: *Tic Toc*, *Symud a Sŵn*, *Hwyl a Hamdden*, *Ysgol Berfformio* (Performing School) and Aeron Valley Drama Club, as well as our own productions – e.g. Cwmni Actorion Felinfach's Christmas Pantomime.

- Established and started an Expressive Arts pilot project with Ciliau Parc, Dihewyd and Felinfach schools, as part of the preparations for merging as Ysgol Dyffryn Aeron.
- Extended our projects with and for home-educated children and young people with some elements completed in collaboration with Ceredigion County Council's Inclusion Team.
- Planned an Expressive Arts pilot project with the schools in the Aeron Valley in preparation for merging as a district school.
- Hosted the Little Mill, Cardi-gân and Aeron Gardening Club projects.
- Supported other services' projects e.g. hosting The ABC of Opera with the Music Service. Held participation sessions at Language Fairs under the banner of the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP).
- Developed 2 original performances with members of the Performing School, including a site-specific production at Longwood Woodland.
- Worked with Theatr Arad Goch to host an international performance, as part of the Opening Doors Festival 2024.
- 3 staff have completed an Introduction to BSL course.
- Hosted and supported 14 YFC clubs at the Ceredigion YFC Drama Festival.
- Theatr Felinfach's Pantomime was part of the Welsh Lives programme on ITV.

#### **Arts Council of Wales:**

A Revenue Portfolio Investment Review was held in March 23 and decisions on the new Arts Council of Wales portfolio were announced in September. Theatr Felinfach retained its status within the portfolio with the same level of investment. However, the Arts Council of Wales have reviewed their funding proposal with a 2.5% reduction per grant.

#### **Theatr Felinfach Resource Development:**

Presentations were made to Welsh Government and the Arts Council of Wales on the vision for improving Theatr Felinfach's resources by investing in a new building. A further meeting will be held on 5/3/24 with representation from Welsh Government and the Arts Council of Wales.

#### **Staffing:**

5 full-time staff members: Sound Technician / Stage Manager, Senior Creative Officer, Marketing and Front of House Coordinator, Caretaker / Groundsman.

3 part-time staff: Costume Department Coordinator, 2 x Creative Officers (maternity leave)

Positions not filled: Lighting / Digital Technician, Business / Marketing Officer, Culture Officer

#### **Recommendation(s):**

**Accept the report as a record of Theatr Felinfach's activity and its aim to promote the use of the Welsh language and culture through arts participation programmes.**

#### **Background Papers:**

None

**Appendices:**

None

**Contact Name:**

Dwynwen Lloyd Llywelyn

**Designation:**

Head of Theatr Felinfach and Felinfach Campus

**Date:**

22/2/24

**Acronyms:**

ALN – Additional Learning Need

WESP – Welsh in Education Strategic Plan

BSL – British Sign Language

YFC – Young Farmers Club

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## CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

**Report to:** Language Committee

**Date of meeting:** 15 March 2024

**Title:** Cered: Menter Iaith Ceredigion's Annual Report

**Purpose of the report:** To update the members on Cered's activities during April 2023 – March 2024, providing an overview of achievements and outlining the programme of work for 2024-25

### **Background:**

#### **The Aim of the Initiative / Menter Iaith**

Cered is the name for Ceredigion's Welsh Language Development Initiative or Menter Iaith, and as part of Ceredigion County Council's Schools and Culture Service we provide activities, information, advice and guidance to maintain and develop the use of the Welsh language as a vibrant community language in Ceredigion.

Since our inception in 1999, Cered's officers have successfully developed an exceptionally wide range of projects, events, and activities to promote Welsh as a living language in Ceredigion.

While the majority of the Mentrau Iaith in Wales are independent language development enterprises, Cered is one of three that are currently run by a local authority. This means that Cered's staff are central to the language planning work done by Ceredigion County Council, and they work closely with officers across the authority.

#### **Cered's Contribution to Broader Strategies**

Cered implements schemes that deliver its own aims as well as the strategic priorities of the Welsh Government's Language Strategy - Cymraeg 2050: A Million Welsh Speakers, namely: to increase the number of Welsh speakers, to increase the use of the Welsh language, and to create favourable conditions – infrastructure and context.

Cered's work also reflects the priorities of the Ceredigion Language Strategy for 2018-2023, which states that the sustainability of the Welsh language is dependent on the process of strengthening Welsh-speaking communities by providing sufficient educational, cultural, and social opportunities to use the language on a daily basis.

Additionally, Cered's work supports the Ceredigion Local Wellbeing Plan for 2023-2028 and the corporate objective to strengthen and increase the use of the Welsh language. As a Menter Iaith that operates as part of Ceredigion County Council there are clear opportunities to collaborate and co-plan closely with a number of Council services including the Schools and Lifelong Learning services to enable the initiative

to achieve its objectives as a driver and facilitator in increasing the use of the Welsh language.

## Funding

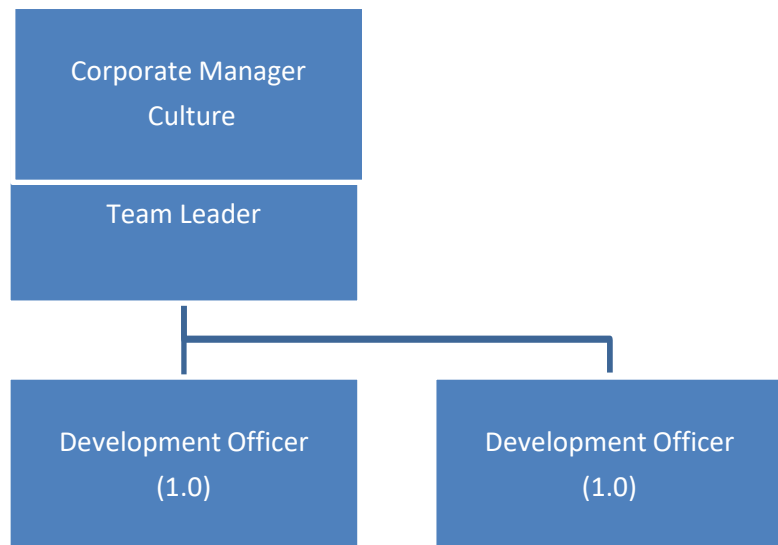
Cered receives core funding through Welsh Government's Grant for Promoting and Facilitating the use of the Welsh Language. In 2023-24 a grant of £120,626.00 was received (a figure which has been consistent for nearly 10 years). The remainder of Cered's funding comes from Ceredigion County Council.

The annual grant offered by the Government is based on a series of specific targets which are based on the strategic theme "Increasing the Use of the Welsh Language". Cered is expected to report on the progress made against these targets every quarter.

In 2023-24 Cered received funding from Cynnal y Cardi to develop two schemes namely our Lego Clubs which provide a popular opportunity for children to use their Welsh skills outside of school hours and a Welcome to Ceredigion e-book for newcomers to the county.

## Structure and Staffing

By the end of 2023-24, changes were seen in Cered's structure and line management after losing an experienced part time Development Officer and creating a new full-time role for another part-time officer.



## Partners

Working with partners is an integral part of the Cered's work. By working with the community, we naturally foster effective working relationships with a vast range of partners. This year we established a network called *Gigs Cymraeg Ceredigion* ('Ceredigion Welsh Gigs') to bring together the organisers of Welsh gigs in the county in order to minimise clashing of dates and to plan projects together.



Cered's partners include the following: Welsh Government, Mentrau Iaith, Aberystwyth University, Cymraeg i Blant, Theatr Felinfach, Ceredigion Library, Ceredigion Museum, Urdd, Careers Wales, The Arts Centre, Community Committees etc.

## Cered Activities 2023-24

Main headings (to the end of Quarter 2)

Outputs	Number
Number of activities for children	32
Number of children who attended	735
Number of activities for young people (11-25 years old)	5
Number of young people (11-25 years old) who attended	303
Number of activities for families	17
Number of adults and number o children who attended the activities for families	Children 542 Adults 757
Number of activities for adults	41
Number of adults who attended	324

Outputs	Number
Number of messages / posts published	Cered: 249 posts  Reach of 29,526  Browlan: 254 posts  Reach of 10,277
Number of live online / hybrid activities	23
Number who have participated in live online activities	120

## Details of the Provision

A varied programme of digital activity was delivered including the following:

### Work with Children and Young People

- Events and sessions for families – e.g. *Bwrlwm Barlys* and Cered on the Prom
- *Iwcadwli i Blant* – an ukulele group for children – a new Welsh opportunity for children in the area
- *Dim Clem* Quiz – a quiz competition for year 6 children in Ceredigion schools
- *Theatr Fach Llandysul* – a popular drama club for children
- Young Sports Commentators Team – an opportunity to try football commentary
- Lego Clubs – three clubs are run for children in Lampeter, Aberaeron and Aberystwyth

## Work in the Community

- Cymru United – an English-medium podcast for learners
- *Cefn y Rhwyd* – a Welsh-medium football podcast
- Coffee morning and ‘*Coffi a Chlonc*’ sessions – creating opportunities for learners to practice
- Language Fairs – events to open the door to opportunities to use the Welsh language
- Welcome to Ceredigion – post cards and e-book scheme for newcomers
- *Ar Gered* – Welsh-medium walks in the Elenydd mountains
- *Hel Atgofion* – Welsh-medium sessions for groups of the elderly
- *Gigs Cymraeg Ceredigion* (Ceredigion Welsh Gigs) – developing an audience for Welsh music
- Y Fari Lwyd Festival – a mass event in Cardigan and St. Dogmaels
- *Browlan* – a Welsh online community for south Ceredigion and north Pembrokeshire
- St. David’s Celebrations – organised parades and competitions
- *Ras yr Iaith* – a mass event for the area’s children on Aberystwyth Promenade
- Translation equipment – equipment is hired by organisers of various events
- *Hapus i Siarad* – supporting the use of the Welsh language by businesses and learners
- Iwcadwli – Cered’s popular ukulele group in Aberystwyth

## Plans for 2023-24

In December 2023, an application was submitted to Welsh Government for a Grant for Promoting and Facilitating the use of the Welsh language in 2023-2024.

Some additional targets are included such as the following:

- Family Events – concentrate on developing fewer but larger events in locations across the county.
- Music Workshops – provide sessions to develop new Welsh bands and artists in the secondary schools.
- *Hwyl a Hamdden* – imitate the successful model of this Welsh club for the elderly in the Aeron Valley by developing similar groups where there are gaps.
- *Hapus i Siarad* – develop this scheme in other towns in Ceredigion after the pilot period in Cardigan and Lampeter.
- *Gwreiddiau Gwyllt* – arrange activities that inspire people of all ages to enjoy nature through the medium of Welsh and raise awareness of local Welsh words and sayings that are connected to nature.

## Cered Priorities for 2023-24

- Continue to provide activities, information, advice, support, and guidance to maintain and develop the use of Welsh as a vibrant community language in Ceredigion.

To achieve this, we will:

- Work towards achieving the targets agreed with the Government;
- Raise awareness about Cered through staff engagement with communities.

**Recommendation(s):**

That the Welsh Language Committee accepts the annual report as a record of Cered's work during the period in question and notes its work in promoting and developing the use of the Welsh language in Ceredigion.

**Background Papers:**

None

**Attachments:**

None

**Contact Name:**

Steffan Rees

**Designation:**

Cered Team Leader

**Date:**

14 February 2024

**Acronyms:**

None

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## CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

**Report to:** Language Committee

**Date of meeting:** 15th March 2024

**Title:** Boosting confidence and promoting the Welsh language and Welshness in the workplace

**Purpose of the report:** Talk about the developments of the E-Newsletter

### **Background:**

One of the duties of the **Language Policy Officer** is to organise activities in order to promote innovation and continuous improvement as a point of view of increasing the Welsh language in the workplace. It can include normal activities to raise the confidence of colleagues to use the Welsh language. In January an electronic newsletter was created to celebrate Saint Dwynwen's Day. The link was opened 352 times.

<https://new.express.adobe.com/webpage/4MH8ziwJADuEI>.

Following a discussion with Steffan Rees Team Leader Cered and Huw Owen Work Welsh Training Officer we have developed the idea to create an electronic newsletter that will go out on CERINET only on the first Friday of every month – **GWENA 'Mae'n ddydd Gwener'**. A 'Monthly Newsletter' like this is something that could be beneficial for promoting the Welsh language within the workplace and a means for the employees who learn Welsh with Huw to practice their skills in listening, reading and writing Welsh. This time we will review the newsletter within 4/5 months by creating a short questionnaire. **GWENA 'Mae'n ddydd Gwener'** was published on CERINET on March the First.

### **Here is an example of the content:**

Quiz/Puzzles

Advertising events to promote the Language/Welshness around Ceredigion

Spur/Occasion e.g Saint Dwynwen / St. David's Day / T.Llew Jones Day

Podcasts/Articles

Welsh songs playlist

List of Welsh books

Short videos that will help to pronounce words/sentences (and reinforce Huw Owen's Language lessons)

The main aim of the magazine is to promote the Welsh language and Welshness in a variety of ways by promoting CERED activities – Gigs/various events etc. ensuring that there is a link between Huw the tutor, learners, less confident speakers, Welsh speakers in Ceredigion County Council's workplace, CERED and myself as the Language Policy Officer.

**Recommendations:**

**Continue to develop and evolve this, evaluating the resource in 4 to 5 months.**

**Appendices:**

1. Saint Dwynwen's Electronic Newsletter-  
<https://new.express.adobe.com/webpage/4MH8ziwJADuEI>
2. Gwena's monthly newsletter – 'Mae'n ddydd Gwener'-  
<https://new.express.adobe.com/webpage/pcmiT6SACMuEI>

**Contact Name:**

Carys Lloyd-Jones

**Designation:**

Ceredigion County Council's Language Policy Officer

**Date:**

26/2/2024