

# CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

**Report to:** Language Committee

**Date of meeting:** 14.11.24

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

**Purpose of the report:** To update the members on Cered's activities during April 2024 – September 2024, providing an overview of achievements and outlining the programme of work for October 2024 - March 2025

## **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 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:

- To increase the number of Welsh speakers
- To increase the use of the Welsh language
- 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 Culture Service to enable the initiative to achieve its objectives as a driver and facilitator in increasing the use of the Welsh language.

## Funding

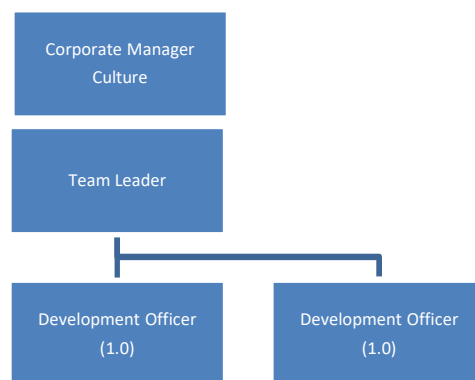
Cered receives core funding through Welsh Government's Grant for Promoting and Facilitating the use of the Welsh Language. In 2023-24 a grant of £120,626.00 was received (a figure which has been consistent since 2015-16). The remainder of Cered's funding comes from Ceredigion County Council.

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 2024-25, Cered received Cynnal y Cardi funding to develop our Lego Clubs, which offer a popular opportunity for children to use their Welsh outside of school hours. Arfor funding was received to hold *Gŵyl Fach Aberporth* and enable one of our officers, who leads our Ar Gered walks, to attend specialist training courses. Cered also benefited from Arfor funding received by *Mentrau Iaith Cymru*, which enabled a student from Aberystwyth University to join the Cered team for a work placement over the summer months.

## Structure and Staffing

During the six-month period in question, the structures and management lines of the initiative were as follows:



## 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. Over the past few months, the Initiative has worked in partnership with the Aberporth community to establish a new Welsh-language festival in the village, namely *Gŵyl Fach Aberporth*.

Cered's partners include the following: Welsh Government, Mentrau Iaith, Aberystwyth University, Cymraeg i Blant, Cymraeg i Oedolion, Health Board, Theatr Felinfach,

Ceredigion Library, Ceredigion Museum, Urdd, Careers Wales, The Arts Centre, Community Committees, Schools etc.

## Cered Activities 2024-25

KPIs (to the end of Quarter 2)

Outputs	Number	
Number of activities for children	45	
Number of children who attended	295	
Number of activities for young people (11-25 years old)	20	
Number of young people (11-25 years old) who attended	154	
Number of activities for families	10	
Number of adults and number of children who attended the activities for families	Children 425	Adults 656
Number of activities for adults	93	
Number of adults who attended	1930	

## Details of the Provision

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

### Work with Families

- *Gŵyl Fach Aberporth* – promoting the Welsh language in the village
- *Gŵyl y Castell* – promoting the Welsh language in the town
- *Cered ar y Prom* – Welsh language activities at the Bandstand
- Transitional Schools – Discussing the Welsh language and the support available with parents

### Work with Children and Young People

- *Yr Ardd* – create a booklet of activities for KS2 children
- *Theatr Fach Llandysul* – a drama club for children
- Young Sports Reporters Scheme – an opportunity to try football commentary
- Lego Clubs – five clubs are run for children across Ceredigion
- Clwb Roc Penglais – mentoring three new bilingual bands to perform locally

### Work in the Community

- *Gigs Cymraeg Ceredigion* (Ceredigion Welsh Gigs) – network of gig organisers and monthly schedule
- *Iwcadwli* – Cered's popular ukulele group in Aberystwyth
- *Ar Gered* – Welsh-medium walks in the Elenydd mountains
- Coffee morning and '*Coffi a Chlonc*' sessions – creating opportunities for learners to practice
- Welcome to Ceredigion – post cards and e-book scheme for newcomers
- *Hel Atgofion* – Welsh-medium sessions for groups of the elderly
- *Cefn y Rhwyd* – a Welsh-medium football podcast
- *Hapus i Siarad* – supporting the use of the Welsh language by businesses and learners

- Cymru United – an English-medium podcast for learners
- *Browlan* – a Welsh online community for south Ceredigion and north Pembrokeshire
- Translation equipment – equipment is hired by organisers of various events
- Craft Festival Wales – supporting to ensure the use of Welsh
- Fun and Leisure – Welsh social club for older people
- Local Newspaper Forum – re-establishing the forum after Covid-19

### **Plans for 2024-25: Quarter 3 and 4**

As well as continuing with several projects already identified Cered will also implement the following projects:

- *Clwb Pobl Ifanc* (Young People’s Club) – various Welsh language activities for young people 18+
- *Cwis Dim Clem* (not a clue quiz) – quiz competitions for Welsh and transitional schools
- Y Fari Lwyd Festival – Cardigan and St, Dogmaels January 4 2025
- St David’s Day Parade – Aberystwyth, Lampeter, Tregaron, Aberaeron and Cardigan

### **Cered Priorities for 2024-25**

- 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

### **Appendices:**

None

### **Contact Name:**

Steffan Rees

### **Designation:**

Cered Team Leader

### **Date:**

21 October 2024