

# CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

<b><u>Report to:</u></b>	<b>Language Committee</b>
<b><u>Date of meeting:</u></b>	<b>14.11.24</b>
<b><u>Title:</u></b>	<b>Theatr Felinfach Annual Report</b>
<b><u>Purpose of the report:</u></b>	<b>Updating members on the activity of Theatr Felinfach April 2024 - September 2024 and an overview of the highlights and work programme October 24 - March 2025.</b>

## **Background**

Creativity, the arts and participation are an integral part of Ceredigion's culture and Theatr Felinfach acts as a focal point for the energy and creative ambition that features throughout the county's rural communities and areas.

We are a welcoming, creative, Welsh and bilingual space and venue for individuals, groups and organisations, participants and audiences.

Our Values are:

Community  
Creativity  
The Welsh Language and its Culture  
Open Door and Accessibility  
Lifelong Learning  
Joy

- We want to celebrate, realise ambition and creative potential. Within the process of engagement, co-creation and collaboration, come co-operation, respect, a sense of belonging and fun.
- We want to help tackle loneliness and isolation.
- We want people to feel satisfaction and confidence.
- Theatr Felin-fach's door is open as much for creative opportunities, partnerships, ambitious projects and productions, as it is for socialising.

## **Contribution to wider Strategies**

The educational opportunities and artistic, community participation opportunities are developed in the context of:

- Arts Council of Wales Strategy – For the Benefit of All, Inspire
- Being accountable and representing our people and fulfilling our cultural contract
- Ceredigion County Council's Corporate Strategy, especially the corporate objective to strengthen and increase the use of the Welsh language
- Strategy for Tackling Hardship, Ceredigion 2020-23
- The Well-being of Future Generations Act

- Ceredigion Public Services Board's Local Well-being Plan
- Ceredigion Fair and Equal 2020-24 (Ceredigion County Council's Strategic Equality Plan)
- Welsh Language Promotion Strategy, Ceredigion County Council, especially under themes: Learning, Belonging
- Welsh Language in Education CSC Strategic Plan - CSGA
- Promoting the Welsh Language (Welsh Language Standards)

## **Funding**

Theatr Felinfach is a member of the Arts Council of Wales' Arts Portfolio, and receives a revenue grant of just under £60,000 to support the work and service of Theatr Felinfach, as a community arts provider and as a provider that is at the forefront of the Welsh language and promoting bilingualism.

Core funding for the Theater's activity comes from Ceredigion County Council.

We are constantly looking for opportunities to fund various activities and work in partnerships to support the work, for example:

- £28,000 Cynnal y Cardi Grant for carrying out a feasibility study to develop the Ceredigion Creative Centre, identifying opportunities and potential to develop a multi-purpose cultural centre and improve Theatr Felinfach's resources.
- £12,000 for the Llwyddo'n Lleol project, Arfor.
- £5,000 for a Creative Producers development project among young people.
- A £5,000 partnership with the Inclusion Team to support work with Home Educating Families.
- Partnership worth £12,000 with the Additional Learning Needs Team to implement an Expressive Arts project with ALN centres.

The Theatre also has an income target within the budget which includes ticket sales, payments for activities, hire of various equipment and service hire to external organisations, e.g. hold sessions/activities.

## **Structure and Staffing**

A reduction in the staffing level has occurred as a result of corporate savings and vacancies.

Here is the current team:

- Head of Theatr Felinfach and Campus
- Stage Manager / Technician
- Design and Wardrobe Mistress (0.4)
- Senior Creative Officer
- Dance/Theatre Creative Officer
- Groundsman/Caretaker

## **Partners**

Developing active partnerships are key to the theatre's work and are an integral part of our day-to-day activities. Our partnerships include the following:

Arts Council of Wales, Welsh Government,  
Ceredigion Music Service,  
Cered, Menter Iaith Ceredigion,  
Theatr Arad Goch,  
Theatr Mwldan,  
Aberystwyth Arts Centre,  
Ceredigion Museum,  
Various services within CSC,  
Elemental Adventures, Brynhoffnant,  
Arfor,  
Yr Egin, S4C.

## **Theatr Felinfach activity the first 6 months of 2024-25**

Our Main Business Objectives 2024-25

- o Continue to offer a range of artistic, collaborative activities that are accessible and affordable fostering a sense of community and social cohesion among participants
- o Ensure the best possible location and resources for individuals and groups to participate and develop skills and confidence through the arts while continuing to review the infrastructure of Theatr Felinfach
- o Continue to develop educational partnerships and new projects empowering individuals to recognise and unlock their full potential as lifelong learners and citizens through cultural and creative experiences

## **Example of Activities, first 6 months 2024-25:**

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Number of Sessions</b>	<b>Number of Opportunities</b>
Cynefin Ysgolion Dyffryn Aeron	28	1020
Tic Toc – 0 – 3 years old + parents/guardians	20	460
Dramatic – introduction to drama 7+	21	302
Symud a Sŵn – introduction to creativity, age 4-7	2	12
Performing School ages 7-11 / 12-18 oed – developing creative and performing skills	47	801
Dance in Schools – developing skills and confidence within pupils and teaching staff	15	478

Creative Project with ALN centres – 5 ALN centres + film premiere of pupils work	33	164
Llwyddo'n Lleol – Extended Work Experience Project	24	72
Hwyl a Hamdden – cultural sessions for adults 60+	19	406
Scriptwriting Projects	6	30
Creative sessions for women (MYW)	12	96
Theatre Performances 6 months	Number of Performances: 12	Number of Attendees: 1840

**Priorities for the next 6 months:**

Continue to provide artistic opportunities that use, celebrate and give access to the Welsh language for participants of all ages

Continue to provide the open-door participatory opportunities to a wide age range from babies aged 0+ up to older people aged 90+.

Carrying out a Feasibility Study to assess the potential of the location and provision of a Creative Centre for Ceredigion, including continuing conversations with the Arts Council of Wales and the Welsh Government.

Ensuring that we facilitate opportunities for groups who find it difficult to access activity and events.

Develop an action plan that will improve our environmental performance from the point of view of: Productions, Buildings and Day-to-day Operation.

Continue to maintain and develop partnerships to expand opportunities and enrich opportunities, e.g Performance School Project and the Music Service - The Mimosa

**Recommendation(s):**

**That the Language Committee accepts the annual report as a record of Theatr Felinfach's work during the period in question and notes the work of the theatre in promoting and developing well-being, developing skills and the use of the Welsh language in Ceredigion.**

**Contact Name:**

Dwynwen Lloyd Llywelyn

**Designation:**

Head of Theatr Felinfach and Campus

**Date:**

1/11/24