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**EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES**

**Fifth periodical report**  
**presented to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe**  
**in accordance with Article 15 of the Charter**

**UNITED KINGDOM**

### **3 yearly periodical report on the application of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages – 5<sup>th</sup> cycle**

**UK Government submission, October 2017**

#### **Part 1**

##### **1. Number and geographic distribution**

In the 2011 UK census, 557 people in England and Wales declared Cornish to be their main language, 464 of whom lived in Cornwall. The Census asks respondents to state when English is not their main language by writing their main language in a box. Respondents identified above therefore identified Cornish as their main language through this mechanism, however, the returns do not indicate competency. Cornwall Council has requested that a Cornish language option be included in the 2021 Census.

Cornish Language Partnership (CLP) surveys were carried out in 2013 with 799 returns, and in 2014 with 449 returns. Both surveys were self-completion, online surveys distributed through Cornish language community groups and classes. More time was given for responses to the 2013 survey possibly accounting for the higher response rate. No paper surveys were sent out to those who do not use the internet (20% of the population in Cornwall). The 2013 found 768 speakers with some level of competency in the Cornish language. 67% of Cornish speakers live in Cornwall, with 22% living elsewhere in the UK and 10% living outside the UK.

The survey did not claim to capture all speakers but provided a baseline from which Cornwall Council can monitor levels of use.

##### **2. General policies**

The UK Government specified Cornish under the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages in 2002. The Government then further recognised the Cornish as a national minority under the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities in 2014, reinforcing official recognition for Cornish culture and heritage, including the language.

In 2014, Cornwall Council commissioned language consultants, IAITH (the Welsh centre for language planning), to carry out a review of the Cornish Language Strategy and the delivery programme. Following this review, the Cornish Language Partnership was disbanded and Cornwall Council became the lead body for the promotion of the Cornish language in Cornwall. The Council developed a new Cornish Language Strategy 2015-25, which sets out a vision and aims for ensuring the future of Cornish as a living, community language.

Cornwall Council has adopted a Cornish Language Plan (2015).<sup>1</sup> This is a three year plan setting out how the Council will develop and promote use of the Cornish language in its own activities, continuing to provide bilingual street signage, bilingual signage in buildings and increasing the presence of Cornish in publications.

##### **3. Political and budgetary changes**

Previous reporting cycles detail past funding arrangements in relation to the promotion and support for the Cornish language. In 2015/16 the UK Government provided a grant of £150,000 to Cornwall Council for the Cornish language programme. In February 2017,

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/21486274/cc-draftcornishlanguageplan-2016-2018.pdf>

Government announced additional funding to Cornwall Council of £100,000 over two years to provide further impetus to supporting the development of Cornish culture and heritage, including language. This is in addition to Cornwall's £1.7 billion budget over 4 years, from which the Council can choose to fund local priorities.

Cornwall Council has significant flexibility to use this funding how they see fit (under the terms of the grant). Cornwall Council has allocated this funding to raising awareness and monitoring of Cornish national minority status. Cornwall Council have chosen to use local funding to further progress work on language.

**Part II**  
**Article 7**

**Para 1.a) recognition of the regional or minority language as an expression of cultural wealth**

Cornwall Council adopted a policy in 2013 which recognises the importance of the Cornish language as a unique asset which has been central to the defining of Cornwall's distinct heritage and culture and celebrates the Cornish language as a vital part of Cornwall's contemporary culture. In 2015, Cornwall Council adopted a Cornish Language Plan to promote greater use of the Cornish language within the Council's activities.

Following a review of the Cornish Language Strategy in 2015, the Cornish Language Partnership was disbanded and Cornwall Council became the lead body for the promotion of the Cornish language in Cornwall. The Strategy sets out a vision and aims for ensuring the future of Cornish as a living, community language.

While the UK Government does not publish a specific Cornish language policy or strategy document, the Government recognises the importance to people in Cornwall of their proud history and their distinct culture and heritage, including the Cornish language, and supports continued development of the language, heritage and culture through delivery of its commitments under the Framework Convention for National Minorities and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages.

**Para 1.b) The respect of the geographical area of each regional or minority language in order to ensure that existing or new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of the regional or minority language in question.**

Cornwall Council is the lead body for the Cornish language programme and the Council's boundaries correspond with the historically recognised boundary of Cornwall and the traditional territory of the Cornish language.

The Boundary Commission, an independent and impartial non-departmental public body, which is responsible for reviewing Parliamentary constituency boundaries in England, has proposed changes to Parliamentary Constituency boundaries which would result in a North Cornwall/North Devon constituency. Cornwall Council has raised some concern over these changes and what that may mean for future democratic representation of the Cornish language. The proposed changes have not yet been adopted and are still a matter for the Boundary Commission, who have recognised and appreciate local views presented, including at a public meeting in Truro. The final decision will come in due course.

Decision-making for matters such as education and traffic signs is made at the UK level and local media is generally managed at the south-west England level. These decisions are considered key to the development of the Cornish language. Government aims to work with Cornwall Council in order to further progress these and other aims in relation to language and heritage.

**Para 1.c) The need for resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them**

The UK Government is keen to work with Cornwall Council and its partners to encourage the further development of Cornish culture and heritage, including support for the Cornish language, complementing the Devolution Deal already reached with local partners.

The Cornish Language Strategy 2015-2025 sets out how the Council would develop use of Cornish in its own work. In February 2017, the Government announced additional funding to Cornwall Council of £100,000 over 2 years for Cornwall Council to develop its work on culture and heritage, including language. This is in addition to Cornwall's £1.7 billion budget over 4 years, from which the Council can choose to fund local priorities.

Making use of the flexibilities of this grant, Cornwall Council decided to focus the additional funding on advancing culture and heritage-related policies. Local funding will be used to provide a Cornish language officer to coordinate implementation of the language strategy and a small programme of community projects. The Council produces an annual operational plan to protect and develop use of the language, but funding at the local level is short-term and vulnerable to political pressure to provide other services.

A Standard Written Form has been established for Cornish, for use in official documentation, public life and education. This has enabled work to be undertaken with public bodies such as the National Trust and the Environment Agency, and with a wide range of schools and other organisations.

There has been some success in this area, however endorsement and take-up can be fragmented and dependent on individual response rather than a sense of collective responsibility. Government is keen to work with Cornwall Council to further explore how to support future development of this work, including how the protection of the language is promoted in the media and other government department and private sector work, where appropriate.

#### **Para 1.d) The facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of regional or minority languages, in speech and writing, in public and private life**

The Cornish Language Office of Cornwall Council supports a range of ways in which Cornish is encouraged and facilitated in public life. These are set out on the Cornwall Council Cornish Language Office website.<sup>2</sup>

Cornish continues to be used as set out in the 4<sup>th</sup> Report in bilingual signage, official use, business use and community and cultural projects.

The Cornish Language Office makes use of Twitter, Facebook, the website and a monthly newsletter to disseminate information about activities in Cornish and maintains *Kalendar Kernewek*, a website with information about events using the Cornish language. Some councillors use Cornish greetings and phrases at committee meetings and the language is used in some Council publications, such as bilingual forewords to key reports.

Learning resources are also provided on the Cornish Language Office website and a separate site, *Learn Cornish Now* provides information about various ways to learn Cornish.

There is currently no Cornish language on local television stations and no Cornish equivalent to BBC Alba or S4C. Radio content is also currently limited. BBC Radio Cornwall continues to provide a weekly 5-minute news bulletin in Cornish and *Radyo an Gernewegva*, a volunteer web-based radio programme, produces a weekly hour-long programme entirely in Cornish which is also transmitted by two community radio stations. Cornish speakers would like an online platform like BBC Alba to host content in the language, develop capacity to produce Cornish language media and enable wider availability of learning resources.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/the-cornish-language/cornish-language/cornish-language-office/cornish-language-strategy-and-plans/>

Government is keen to work with Cornwall Council to explore options to increase Cornish content on stations where appropriate.

**Para. 1.e) the maintenance and development of links, in the fields covered by this Charter, between groups using a regional or minority language and other groups in the State employing a language used in identical or similar form, as well as the establishment of cultural relations with either groups in the State using different language**

There is direct and regular contact between the Cornish Language Office of Cornwall Council and the various community Cornish language groups which work to promote and use Cornish.

The main forum for discussion of matters relating to regional languages in the British Isles is the British Irish Council Indigenous Minority Language working group. UK Government attends these meetings and Cornwall Council attends as an observer.

**Para 1.f) The provision of appropriate forms and means for the teaching and study of regional or minority languages at all appropriate stages.**

There is demand from some primary schools and parents in Cornwall to teach Cornish and this has been supported where possible by community teachers and resources from the Cornish Language Office. One pre-school group, reliant on volunteers, provides activities in Cornish once a week and some primary schools teach songs in Cornish or use greetings in Cornish.

Under the new Strategy, Cornwall Council has commissioned a contractor to provide sustained support for a small number of primary schools (15 in 2017) to teach Cornish as a modern language, providing support for teachers, developing resources and gradually building up the number of schools. This is supported by a small amount of local funding from Cornwall Council.

Cornish is currently only present in secondary education as part of wider language awareness or diversity classes or activities. It is not taught as a language in any secondary schools and currently the only training provided is through one training session for trainee teachers at a college in Cornwall. The Cornish Language Strategy highlights development of secondary level education as a priority for the future vibrancy of the language.

The Cornish Language Office maintains a website of general learning resources at *LearnCornishNow.com* with information about classes for adults. *Kesva an Taves Kernewek* (The Cornish Language Board) delivers examinations in Cornish from entry level to above A-level equivalent, though these are not nationally recognised. Cornwall Council is introducing a new nationally accredited assessment for entry level Cornish with WJEC (formerly the Welsh Joint Education Committee) in 2017.

**Para 1.g) The provision of facilities enabling non-speakers of a regional or minority language living in the area where it is used to learn if they so desire**

Adult class provision remains steady with classes across Cornwall. Most but not all towns have classes. Most classes are delivered by voluntary community groups and individual teachers. Only one class is provided formally at an Adult Education College.

The teaching of Cornish is heavily dependent on volunteer effort. Many of the teachers are untrained but give their time and expertise freely. Some training is offered through the annual teacher days organised in conjunction with *Kesva an Taves Kernewek* (the Cornish

Language Board). The Cornish Language Office provides some support to private classes to ensure provision of classes across Cornwall.

**Para 1.h) The promotion of study and research on regional and minority languages at universities or equivalent institutions.**

Cornwall Council hosts an annual two day conference to disseminate current research into the Cornish language. *Akademi Kernewek* is a voluntary body providing linguistic expertise on the Cornish language, setting standards for the language and coordinating linguistic research. It is the new corpus planning body for Cornish which is developing its own research programme and working in partnership with the University of Exeter. The Institute of Cornish Studies at the University of Exeter also intends to support further research into use of Cornish through its postgraduate research programme.

There is no longer an undergraduate level course available for Cornish.

**Para 1.i) The promotion of appropriate types of transnational exchanges, in the fields covered by this Charter, for regional or minority languages used in identical or similar form in two or more States.**

The *Kowethas an Yeth Kernewek* (the Cornish Language Fellowship) organised an exchange camp for Cornish and Breton teenagers in Cornwall in summer 2016. The intention is to organise a return camp in Brittany in 2017 for young people to use their (similar) languages together.

Cornish speakers and artists took part in the *TOSTA project* in 2016. This project was part of the San Sebastian European Capital of Culture which brought together 7 regions across Europe to share culture and experience in small language communities.

There are extensive links between Cornwall and the other Celtic languages through events such as the Pan-Celtic Song Contest, the Inter-Celtic Festival in Lorient and *Aberfest*, the Cornish/Breton cultural festival.

**Para 2. The Parties undertake to eliminate, if they have not already done so, any unjustified distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference relating to the use of a regional or minority language and intended to discourage or endanger the maintenance or development of it. The adoption of special measures in favour of regional or minority languages aimed at promoting equality between the users of these languages and the rest of the population or which take due account of their specific conditions is not considered to be an act of discrimination against the users of more widely used languages.**

The Government is committed to creating a fairer society in which all people, of whatever ethnic origin or background, are valued and able to participate fully and realise their own potential.

The Government recognises the importance to people in Cornwall of their proud history and their distinct culture and heritage. The Government is keen to work with Cornwall Council and its partners to encourage the further development of Cornish culture and heritage, including support for the Cornish language, complementing the Devolution Deal already reached with local partners.

**Para 3. The parties undertake to promote by appropriate measures, mutual understanding between all the linguistic groups of the country and in particular the inclusion of respect, understanding and tolerance in relation to regional or minority**

**languages among the objectives of education and training provided within their countries and encouragement of the mass media to pursue the same objective.**

Cornwall Council's promotion of Cornish in schools and in the community is premised on the principle of mutual respect for and between cultures. In many cases, taster and information sessions have been offered as part fulfilment of work on equality, diversity and inclusion and in some cases have formed part of discussions around citizenship. The language is used in events and activities in Cornwall to encourage broad participation and inclusion, and to raise awareness of the language.

Government is keen to work with Cornwall Council to continue to protect the recognition of the importance to people in Cornwall of their proud history and distinct culture and heritage, including the Cornish language.



## **B. The European Charter for Regional or Minority languages**

### **Return by the Isle of Man Government on Manx Gaelic**

#### **Part 1**

**Please provide information about any changes in the general policies, legislation or practice of your state in respect of regional or minority languages. Please also indicate any developments which are expected to occur during the next monitoring cycle, such as envisaged political or budgetary changes, policy plans or any other elements that may have a direct or indirect effect about the regional or minority languages in your State.**

There is no new data on the number of speakers of Manx Gaelic since the 2011 census.

In 2016 the functions of the Gaelic Broadcasting Committee were transferred from the Isle of Man Communications Commission to Culture Vannin (formerly known as the Manx Heritage Foundation). Responsibility for funding the Committee will now rest with Culture Vannin.

The Isle of Man Government's Programme for Government 2016-2021<sup>3</sup>, which was approved by Tynwald (the Isle of Man's parliament) in January 2017, includes the following action:

"Open the Isle of Man's first cultural centre, promoting cultural and political identity and develop a Manx Language Strategy by April 2017."

A Manx Language Network, which includes members from the Bunscoill Ghaelgagh, Department of Education and Children, Culture Vannin and Mooinjer Veggey, has now been established and it is working towards the five-year strategy for the Manx language.

#### **Part 2**

##### **Para 1.a) The recognition of the regional or minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth**

There was a general election in 2016 and, referred to in Part 1, and the Isle of Man Government's Programme for Government 2016-2021, includes the following commitment:

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<sup>3</sup> OUR ISLAND: A SPECIAL PLACE TO LIVE AND WORK PROGRAMME FOR GOVERNMENT 2016-2021: <https://www.gov.im/media/1354840/programme-for-government.pdf>

“Open the Isle of Man’s first cultural centre, promoting cultural and political identity and develop a Manx Language Strategy by April 2017<sup>4</sup>” .

The Minister for Policy and Reform has stated publicly that “the maintenance of a strong national and cultural identity, including the use of the Manx language, is an integral and important part of the Programme for Government 2016-21”.

As indicated in Part 1 above as of January, 2017 key language partners have established a Manx Language Network which will co-ordinate policy towards the language over the next five years. The Network will identify key areas of priority and establish ways in which partners can work closely together. It is anticipated that the five-year strategy will culminate in a year of activities dedicated to the language.

**Para 1.b) The respect of the geographical area of each regional or minority language in order to ensure that existing or new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of the regional or minority language in question.**

No developments since the last report.

**Para 1.c) The need for resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them**

Culture Vannin continues to employ a dedicated Manx Language Officer and provides funding towards language translation and a part-time adult language teacher. Culture Vannin in conjunction with Moinjer Veggey has now established a small playgroup close to the Bunscoill which meets once a week and which is aimed at prospective Bunscoill children. Culture Vannin has also established a small film group for ex-Bunscoill children. Culture Vannin continues to be the lead player in support for the language outside of the Department of Education and Children and its support is crucial to the success of the language.

Culture Vannin recently purchased a building in the centre of the Island which is located adjacent to the Bunscoill Ghaelgagh. This will be officially opened in 2017 as a cultural centre and the Manx language will play a key role. It is anticipated that the centre will allow greater ties with the Bunscoill and will enable both Culture Vannin and the Bunscoill to work closely together to promote and support language use for both young and old as well as communicating the importance of the language to the general public and visitor alike.

See also the information under para 1.a) concerning the establishment of a Manx Language Network.

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<sup>4</sup> OUR ISLAND: A SPECIAL PLACE TO LIVE AND WORK PROGRAMME FOR GOVERNMENT 2016-2021, <https://www.gov.im/media/1354840/programme-for-government.pdf>

## **Para 1.d) The facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of regional or minority languages, in speech and writing, in public and private life**

The Manx Language Development Officer for Culture Vannin aids Members of Tynwald, Civil Servants and Local Authorities who would like to use the language in ways that are appropriate for them.

Culture Vannin continues to develop resources that are suitable for both learners and existing speakers of the language.

In 2016 in conjunction with Say Something in Welsh, Culture Vannin produced a new online learning resource for learners entitled **Say Something in Manx**. This will form the basis for online learning of the language. Culture Vannin in 2016 published a new dictionary for learners entitled **Manx Words** (and a Manx Words App was produced in early 2017 to accompany this); and it has recently produced several books with CDs for good learners such as **Paloma** and **Kemmyrkagh**. It has also provided a series of publications for fluent speakers such as **Slane Lhiat**, **Vabban** whilst it has published a detailed work on the work of 19<sup>th</sup> Century writers of Manx entitled, **Lioar-lhaih Gaelgagh** :

[http://www.culturevannin.im/publication\\_type\\_index\\_1475.html](http://www.culturevannin.im/publication_type_index_1475.html)

Culture Vannin continues to run a dedicated social media presence that incorporates Facebook (2,400 likes) Twitter (1800 followers) and YouTube (220,000 views). Recent projects carried out on behalf of Culture Vannin have included a Manx Language Video-a-day project (<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLY5y-gRhKs8j-k3UDJ6A6QgsrbXLRzmU7>), a 1000 word challenge (<http://learnmanx.com/cms/1000words.html>) and a new online podcast for learners (<http://greinneyder.podomatic.com/>) all as part of the Island's Isle of Culture celebrations.

Coonceil ny Gaelgey, which operates as a sub-committee of Culture Vannin, continues to provide authoritative Manx versions of titles of Government departments etc. These are made available online whilst two new online dictionaries are now available for learners and speakers: <http://taggloo.im/Translate> and <http://www.dictionaryq.com/gaelg/>

Last year the Communications Commission in the Island handed over responsibility of the Gaelic Broadcasting Committee to Culture Vannin and it is now the responsibility of Culture Vannin to support the funding of the Committee's activities.

Culture Vannin is in the early stages of developing a Cultural and Language Awareness Programme with a large business in Douglas. Once this has been trialled it is hoped it can be rolled out to other businesses in the Island which will allow them to engage in both the language and wider Manx culture.

## **Para 1.e) The maintenance and development of links, in the fields covered by this Charter, between groups using a regional or minority language and other groups in the State employing a**

**language used in identical or similar form, as well as the establishment of cultural relations with other groups in the State using different languages.**

Culture Vannin in conjunction with Yn Çheshaght Ghailckagh (Manx Gaelic Society) hosts the annual Ned Maddrell Lecture which sees visiting lectures talk about their experience with other minority languages. The Manx Language Development Officer for Culture Vannin recently attended a British-Irish Council meeting on technology and minority languages whilst, it is hoped, the Cultural Centre presently being developed by Culture Vannin will facilitate closer ties with language centres elsewhere. In 2016 Culture Vannin established the first bursary scheme for fluent young speakers of Manx to enable them to learn Irish in Donegal with Oideas Gael.

2017 will be the first year that the Celtic Media Festival will be held in the Isle of Man and Culture Vannin with the Department of Economic Development will work to ensure that language plays a key part in the celebrations.

There has been some progress with the maintenance and development of links between Manx speakers and other users of minority languages in the British Isles involving social media. Other planned improvements in this area include working more closely with the Scottish Qualifications Authority for formal accreditation of qualifications, improving the links with educators and inspectors who work with Scottish Gaelic and/or Irish.

**Para 1.f) The provision of appropriate forms and means for the teaching and study of regional or minority languages at all appropriate stages.**

Culture Vannin operates a well organised adult language programme that incorporates a wide-range of classes at different levels, online material and conversational groups. The Manx Language Officer for Culture Vannin has developed an appropriate classroom methodology (Manx for busy people) which is linked to the new online course Say Something in Manx (<https://www.saysomethingin.com/manx>).

Several classes have been established next to the Bunscoill Ghaelgagh at times appropriate for parents and there has been a significant increase in the number of parents of Bunscoill children learning the language. The Manx Language Development Officer for Culture Vannin, in conjunction with Pobble (a recently formed organisation that acts to support learners) will be developing a series of programmes to assist parents in using more Manx at home.

Culture Vannin in conjunction with Pobble has also established a series of well attended events aimed at new fluent speakers whilst a Buddy Scheme that enables fluent speakers and learners to meet on a one-to-one basis has been successfully established. It is envisaged that such a scheme will play a key role in increasing fluency amongst learners and speakers.

Culture Vannin has now established a small Manx Language Film group for teenagers who are fluent in the language and this, in part, replaces the now defunct Manx Youth Group, Possan Aeglagh. All parties continue to look for ways to encourage young people to use more of their Manx outside of the classroom although this continues to be challenging.

**Para 1.g) The provision of facilities enabling non-speakers of a regional or minority language living in the area where it is used to learn if they so desire**

In preparation for the Manx language strategy, the Manx Language Network held a series of meetings with interested parties together with an open language forum to gauge areas of concern and interest from those learning and speaking the language. The Manx Language Development Officer for Culture Vannin continues to carry out regular online surveys of learners.

**Para 1.h) The promotion of study and research on regional or minority languages at universities or equivalent institutions.**

In July 2015 the only university research centre with specific focus on the Manx Language, the Centre for Manx Studies, a department of the School of Archaeology, Classics and Anthropology of the University of Liverpool, relocated to Liverpool. Since that time the Centre has committed to continued research in the field of archaeology, but has made no such commitment to Manx Gaelic.

**Para 1.i) The promotion of appropriate types of transnational exchanges, in the fields covered by this Charter, for regional or minority languages used in identical or similar form in two or more States.**

No developments since the last report.

**Para 2. The Parties undertake to eliminate, if they have not already done so, any unjustified distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference relating to the use of a regional or minority language and intended to discourage or endanger the maintenance or development of it. The adoption of special measures in favour of regional or minority languages aimed at promoting equality between the users of these languages and the rest of the**

**population or which take due account of their specific conditions is not considered to be an act of discrimination against the users of more widely used languages.**

No developments since the last report.

**Para 3. The parties undertake to promote by appropriate measures, mutual understanding between all the linguistic groups of the country and in particular the inclusion of respect, understanding and tolerance in relation to regional or minority languages among the objectives of education and training provided within their countries and encouragement of the mass media to pursue the same objective.**

No developments since the last report.

**Para 4. In determining their policy with regard to regional or minority languages, the Parties shall take into consideration the needs and wishes expressed by the groups which use such languages. They are encouraged to establish bodies, if necessary, for the purpose of advising the authorities on all matters pertaining to regional or minority languages.**

In preparation for the Manx language strategy, the Manx Language Network held a series of meetings with interested parties together with an open language forum to gauge areas of concern and interest from those learning and speaking the language. The Manx Language Development Officer for Culture Vannin continues to carry out regular online surveys of learners.

The Manx language continues to be strongly supported by the Isle of Man Government. There are initiatives supporting, in particular, education and media. Various public activities promote the use of Manx in public, including new social media and the internet.

**C. Council of Europe**  
**Charter for Regional or Minority Languages**  
**Scottish Government Response – Gaelic and Scots.**

**PART I**

**Scots**

Since the time of the last report, statistics from the National Census in Scotland for both Gaelic and Scots languages has been made available. Over 1.5m people identified themselves as being Scots speakers throughout Scotland and a further 400,000 identified themselves as having some skills in Scots. The highest percentage of speakers was found across the central belt, along the North East Coast, and in the Northern Isles; Orkney and Shetland.

In 2015 the Scottish Government, published a Scots Language Policy in line with the SNP Manifesto Commitments of 2011. The policy sets out the Scottish Government's position on Scots, our aims for the language and the practical steps we will take towards fulfilling these aims. As part of our 2015 policy, Education Scotland also produced a number of practical steps that they would take on behalf of the language within their remit.

Creative Scotland has also produced its own Scots language policy. Much like the Scottish Government's, it details the creative context of Scots in literature and the arts as well as Creative Scotland's working environment. The policy influences a number of areas, including funding, and Creative Scotland has established a Scots language fund of £50,000 p.a to support its policy. In 2015 – 2017, approximately half of this funding was be allocated to the appointment of a Scots Scribever.

A Scots Scribever has been appointed to the National Library of Scotland. This partnership appointment between Creative Scotland and the National Library of Scotland is part time over 2 years and the purpose of the Scribever residency is specifically: 1) to produce original, creative work in Scots (any variant or dialect) in any genre or discipline throughout the tenure, and, 2) to have explicit responsibility for raising the profile, understanding and appreciation of creative work in the Scots language, including that held within the National Library's collections.

The Robert Burns Birthplace Museum, part of the National Trust for Scotland, has also produced their own Scots Policy in line with the Scottish Government's. It details the context of Scots language at the museum offering tours in Scots and training for staff who wish to improve their knowledge of Scots language.

In early 2017, Aberdeenshire Council also published its own Doric Policy. Doric, a dialect of Scots, is well known throughout the North East and many in that area who responded to the 2011 Census identified themselves as Scots or Doric speakers. The Policy details the cultural context of Doric to the area and contains a number of practical steps they will take to introduce Doric into local curriculum.

In 2014, the Scottish Government appointed 4 Scots language Co-ordinators to Education Scotland. Three of the 4 co-ordinators, all from different dialectal backgrounds, were seconded from teaching positions within various local authorities and have worked to develop materials, promote and make Scots language more readily available in schools. They have also provided teacher training and advised on Scots language related aspects within the curriculum. At the beginning of 2016, 3 of the secondments ended and the teachers returned to their original posts. There remains 1 co-ordinator in post. The Scottish Government has confirmed funding for the post in this financial year and will soon seek to make this a permanent position.

A Scottish Studies Award and a Scots Language Award are now available from the SQA (Scottish Qualifications Authority) to be studied in secondary schools. The Scottish Studies Award may contain elements of Gaelic and/or Scots, depending on the learner's choice. The Scots Language Award, a smaller award containing 2 modules, focuses on the language and its history. These Awards have now been recognised by the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) and can support students' entry applications into further education.

The Scottish Government are looking at options of how the use of Scots language in schools correlates with attainment. We will explore this further throughout the course of the next monitoring cycle.

#### SNP Manifesto Commitments 2016

- *We support the central role of Gaelic arts in engaging people with the language, and enhancing the relevance of the language to Scottish society. We will also provide support for the Scots language.*

#### **Scottish Gaelic**

Since the time of the last report, statistics from the National Census in Scotland for both Gaelic and Scots languages has been made available. For Gaelic, 57,375 people in Scotland identified themselves as Gaelic speakers and a total of 87,056 people identified themselves as having some skills in Gaelic. Gaelic speakers were largely found in historically strong Gaelic speaking areas: along the west coast on the inner and outer Hebrides as well as the Highlands and in towns and cities across the central belt such as Edinburgh and Glasgow. In 2001, according to the Census, there were 58,650 Gaelic speakers in Scotland, therefore the historical decline in Gaelic speakers somewhat slowed between 2001 and 2011. There was also an increase in the numbers of Gaelic speakers between the ages of 3-18.

The Education (Scotland) Act passed in 2016 contained a number of Gaelic provisions including:

- a duty on local authorities to promote Gaelic education;
- a parental right to a request for Gaelic medium primary education and a duty on the local authority to undertake a viability process in response to such a request; and,
- a duty on Bòrd na Gàidhlig (BnG) to produce Statutory Guidance on Gaelic Education. The Guidance will cover both Gaelic medium and Gaelic learner education from pre-school through to secondary education.

These provisions commenced in on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017.

The Statutory Guidance has been produced by a Core Group of bodies involved in Gaelic education across Scotland and completed a consultation period on 1 November 2016. It was published on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017.

Between February and May 2017, Bòrd na Gàidhlig consulted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Gaelic Language Plan. Close to 100 responses were received. and the draft Plan focuses on a number of key areas including raising awareness, Gaelic language learning and Gaelic language usage. The Plan will be scrutinised by a Scottish Parliamentary committee after summer recess and it is hoped that it will be published later in the year.

The Scottish Government and Scottish Ministers have been working with the BBC and the UK Government's Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) in relation to the BBC Royal Charter renewal, which is a reserved matter. The new BBC Charter Agreement between the BBC and DCMS formally commits the BBC to supporting the Gaelic language broadcaster MG ALBA in the provision of Gaelic language television services. MG ALBA have identified a number of key areas for development – children's programmes, news and current affairs, learning and drama. The BBC announced in spring 2017 that they would invest in a new television channel in Scotland and that this would provide increased co-



commissioning benefits to BBC ALBA including an additional 3 hours of originations per week by 2020.

***CoE Recommendations No.1 - continue taking measures to strengthen Scottish Gaelic education, especially through the training of teachers and the production of teaching and learning materials.***

Teachers

Teacher availability remains challenging. We are continuing to take measures to increase the number of Gaelic teachers. These include;

- targeted advertising campaigns led by Bòrd na Gàidhlig;
- Scottish Government support for the Gaelic Immersion for Teachers (GIIT) course, designed to help teachers who have some Gaelic skills and who are currently teaching in English medium education to transfer to Gaelic medium education (GME);
- Scottish Government support for the STREAP course.
- reconvening the Teacher Recruitment and Retention Group.
- encouraging workforce planning between local authorities;
- working with a variety of Further and Higher Education Institutions to widen access to routes in to teaching through the medium of Gaelic; and,
- support for the e-Sgoil digital delivery initiative launched in 2016.

HM Inspectors have reviewed the partnership working between universities and local authorities in providing Initial teacher education and highlighted effective examples of flexibility and creativity that suit local circumstances. These include ensuring provision for initial training in GME in rural areas, high use of digital technology and opportunities to train as a teacher while also remaining in employment. Education Scotland and Stòrlann continue to provide workshop development of curriculum and resources for teachers at all levels.

Schools

There has been the establishment of further Gaelic medium primary provision throughout Scotland including the establishment of 2 new standalone Gaelic schools in Glasgow and Fort William with another due to open in Portree in 2018. Currently, Glasgow City Council is consulting on a third Gaelic School in its area.

We continue to maintain the Gaelic Schools Capital Fund and we have had recent discussions with Aberdeen City, Argyll and Bute, Glasgow City, Highland and South Lanarkshire Councils who are looking to develop their Gaelic provision.

In February 2015, Education Scotland (ES) published its Advice on Gaelic Education document. This Advice provides important information on the national context, and describes best practice to support practitioners and education authorities in evaluating and planning for improvement in Gaelic Education. It is based on evidence from inspections, reviews and validated self-evaluation. ES will use this Advice along with the recently published Guidance in its inspections.

Resources

In recent years, the Scottish curriculum has been subject to major review. Education Scotland continues to produce resources and advice to support the new curriculum and improvement in Gaelic Education. This includes a number of online services. There has been the establishment of a National Improvement Hub which now houses new and revised resources. There is also a website to keep parents informed of new resources and developments to support parental engagement with children's learning in GME. It also promotes GME to parents considering this option.

Stòrlann, the Gaelic resource agency, have produced a national framework for teaching Gaelic to learners in primary schools. It contains an overview of teacher training and a full suite of resources for introducing Gaelic as a 2nd or 3rd language. The first cohort of teachers were trained on the resource in 2015-16 and we are exploring options to create a universal approach to delivery. There has been interest from other local authorities looking to deliver their own training on the resource including Highland Council, Argyll and Bute and the Western Isles. There has also been the development of text to speech software for children with additional support needs and the development of a new website, Fileanta, containing a wealth of new resources for Gaelic medium teachers in secondary school. Its subjects include history, modern studies, literature and music.

#### SNP Manifesto Commitments 2016

- *We will also implement new legal duties and rights to support Gaelic Medium Education as part of our ongoing commitment to stabilise and increase the number of Gaelic speakers.*
- *We support the central role of Gaelic arts in engaging people with the language, and enhancing the relevance of the language to Scottish society. We will also provide support for the Scots language.*
- *We will maintain our investment in BBC Alba as a vital part of Scottish broadcasting output, and in recognition of its contribution to the development of the Gaelic language.*
- *By 2021, we will almost double the number of hours of free early years education and childcare to 30 hours a week for vulnerable 2 year olds and all 3 and 4 year olds.*

#### BBC and UK Government Framework Agreement

- *Through its partnership with MG Alba, the BBC must continue to provide a television service supporting MG Alba's function of securing that a wide and diverse range of high-quality programmes in Gaelic are broadcast or otherwise transmitted so as to be available to persons in Scotland*

#### Statistics

	<u>2012/13</u>			<u>2016/17</u>		
	<b>Groups/schools</b>	<b>Children</b>	<b>Teachers</b>	<b>Groups/schools</b>	<b>Children</b>	<b>Teachers</b>
<b>GM Early Years (age 0-3)</b>	65	718	91	74	868	*
<b>GM Nursery (age 3-5)</b>	59	835	126	54	1039	153
<b>GM Primary (age 5-12)</b>	60	2500	193	57	3145	213
<b>GM Secondary (12+)</b>	33	1104	105	31	1272	101
<b>Gaelic learners (Primary)</b>	**	**	**	127**	7029**	**
<b>Gaelic learners (Secondary)</b>	29	2703	56	28	3195	56

\*Early Years groups are mostly voluntary and privately run so gathering information has proved difficult. Teacher data not available for 2016/17.

Data was not gathered on Gaelic learners in the primary school in 2012/13 and has only been gathered in recent years. The figures above are from 2015/16. Data for 2016/17 is not yet available.

## **PART II**

### **Article 7 – Objectives and Principles**

#### **Paragraph 1**

***In respect of regional or minority languages, within the territories in which such languages are used and according to the situation of each language, the Parties shall base their policies, legislation and practice on the following objectives and principles:***

***Para 1.a) the recognition of the regional or minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth;***

### **Scots**

In 2015 the Scottish Government published a Scots Language Policy in line with the SNP Manifesto Commitments of 2011. The policy sets out the Scottish Government's position on Scots, our aims for the language and the practical steps we will take towards fulfilling these aims. The policy was developed in association with Education Scotland who made further commitments to the practical steps that it would take.

Creative Scotland has also produced its own Scots language policy. Much like the Scottish Government's, it details the creative context of Scots in literature and the arts as well as Creative Scotland's working environment. The policy will influence a number of areas, including funding, and Creative Scotland has established a Scots language fund of £50,000 p.a to support its policy. In 2015 – 2017, approximately half of this funding was allocated to the appointment of a Scots Scribever.

A Scots Scribever has been appointed to the National Library of Scotland. This partnership appointment between Creative Scotland and the National Library of Scotland is part time over 2 years and the purpose of the Scribever residency is specifically: 1) to produce original, creative work in Scots (any variant or dialect) in any genre or discipline throughout the tenure, and, 2) to have explicit responsibility for raising the profile, understanding and appreciation of creative work in the Scots language, including that held within the National Library's collections. This appointment came to an end in August 2017. Creative Scotland are now reviewing the legacy of the Scribever and looking at options for another appointment.

The Robert Burns Birthplace Museum, part of the National Trust for Scotland, has also produced their own Scots Policy in line with the Scottish Government's. It details the context of Scots language at the museum offering tours in Scots and training for staff who wish to improve their knowledge of Scots language.

In early 2017, Aberdeenshire Council also published its own Doric Policy. Doric, a dialect of Scots, is well known throughout the North East and many in that area who responded to the 2011 Census identified themselves as Scots or Doric speakers. The Policy details the cultural context of Doric to the area and details a number of practical steps they will take to introduce Doric into local curriculum.

### **Scottish Gaelic**

Between February and May 2017, Bòrd na Gàidhlig consulted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Gaelic Language Plan. Close to 100 responses were received. and the draft Plan focuses on a number of key areas including raising awareness, Gaelic language learning and Gaelic language usage. The Plan will be scrutinised by a Scottish Parliamentary committee after summer recess and it is hoped that it will be published later in the year

To date around 60 public bodies and local authorities have now developed Gaelic Language Plans. These contain a variety of commitments to support Gaelic language and culture. Recent additions have included Police Scotland and Scottish Ambulance Service

Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Creative Scotland continue to lead the National Gaelic Arts Strategic Advisory Forum (NGAS) which meets on a quarterly basis.

***Para 1.b) the respect of the geographical area of each regional or minority language in order to ensure that existing or new administrative divisions do***

***not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of the regional or minority language in question;***

### **Scots**

No developments since last report.

### **Scottish Gaelic**

The provisions of the Education (Scotland) Act place a duty on Local Authorities to promote and support Gaelic Medium Education. These provisions came in to force on 1 February 2017.

***Para 1.c) the need for resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them;***

### **Scots**

In 2014, the Scottish Government appointed 4 Scots Language Co-ordinators to Education Scotland. Three of the 4 co-ordinators, all from different dialectal backgrounds, were seconded from teaching positions within various local authorities and have worked to develop materials, promote and make Scots language more readily available in schools. The co-ordinators have established and advised on a number of projects including:

- A Scots ambassadors scheme where volunteers from the community with Scots language skills are paired with schools. They visit learning settings, bringing Scots into the school environment by means of engaging children through storytelling, poetry and discussing features of and the history of Scots language.
- Keen Tae Ken Yir Kin, a scheme which is designed to 'twin' classes from different areas of Scotland putting Scots in a context where it is at the centre of learning. The scheme aims to allow learners, and practitioners, to explore these regional varieties or dialects of Scots; learning about the vocabulary and grammatical structure, common threads and distinctive features of each.
- The Gruffalo and the Gruffalo's Bairn. These books were reproduced in the 5 main regional dialects of Scots with accompanying audio. There have also been a number of other resources produced.
- A teacher training resource for delivering Scots language in the classroom in partnership with the Open University.

The Scriever has been raising the profile of Scots through schools visits, workshops, and public events for all ages. The National Library of Scotland, in partnership with the Scriever, has produced a website entitled – Wee Windaes. It delves into the National Library of Scotland's collection of Scots language through the ages, as far back as the 15th century, and provides translation and learning materials for each of the pieces.

Creative Scotland have sponsored a 1 year project entitled Scots Hoose. This involves a Scots language expert working in partnership with a number of secondary schools to deliver Scots language learning and focus of Scots literature. Results have been positive and the Scottish Government are looking at options for the project's continuity.

The Scottish Government has recently funded a pilot project to develop a 1 day awareness session focussing on Gaelic, Scots and British Sign Language. This will be available to public bodies in 2018.

### **Scottish Gaelic**

The Education (Scotland) Act 2016 contains a number of Gaelic provisions including a duty on local authorities to promote and support Gaelic education. This section of the Act commenced on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017.

The Scottish Government has included Gaelic in new educational campaigns such as Play Talk Read, the First Minister's Reading Challenge, Bookbug and Read Write Count.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig has undertaken a series of Gaelic themed weeks at the Scottish Parliament which has been used to promote the language with Members of Parliament. Gaelic continues to have cross party support.

***Para 1.d) the facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of regional or minority languages, in speech and writing, in public and private life;***

### **Scots**

The Scottish Government's Scots policy outlines its commitment to Scots and both the Scottish Government and Education Scotland will accept any form of communication in Scots. Both organisations also endeavour to respond in Scots to correspondence received in Scots. When producing Scots related works, such as the Scottish Government's Scots policy, we ensure that these are also produced in Scots. We also continue to offer Ministers sections of their speech in Scots when speaking at Scots language events.

The Scriever has been raising the profile of Scots through school visits, workshops, and public events for all ages. This largely takes place through the medium of Scots.

The National Library of Scotland in association with DC Thompson (a historical publisher of Scots graphic novels) has produced a website entitled – Oor Wullie's guide tae the Scots language. It provides learning materials for children to use in the classroom and at home in a family setting.

In 2014, the Scots Language Centre hosted the Scots Touns Award with the aim of encouraging communities promote initiatives to encourage the use of Scots language. There may be potential to host this again during the next monitoring cycle.

### **Scottish Gaelic**

Between February and May 2017, Bòrd na Gàidhlig consulted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Gaelic Language Plan. Close to 100 responses were received. and the draft Plan focuses on a number of key areas including raising awareness, Gaelic language learning and Gaelic language usage. The Plan will be scrutinised by a Scottish Parliamentary committee after summer recess and it is hoped that it will be published later in the year.

The Scottish Government has recently renewed its Gaelic Language Plan in association with Bòrd na Gàidhlig which shows how the Scottish Government will use Gaelic in their areas of operation as required under the 2006 Act. This includes visibility (bilingual logos, letterheads etc), publications (bilingual approach to relevant policies, consultations and press releases particularly in relation to education, culture and early years), staffing (Gaelic awareness and Gaelic language learning) as well as how we fill our commitments to the National Gaelic Language Plan.

The Scottish Government continues to fund MG ALBA, the body responsible for Gaelic broadcasting. MG ALBA has received additional funding over the last monitoring cycle from both the Scottish and UK Governments for a number of projects, programming and capital.

***Para 1.e) the maintenance and development of links, in the fields covered by this Charter, between groups using a regional or minority language and other groups in the State employing a language used in identical or similar form, as well as the establishment of cultural relations with other groups in the State using different languages;***

### **Scots**

The Scottish Government continues to work in association with the British Irish Council in relation to the Indigenous, Minority and Lesser-Used Language Work Sector.

### **Scottish Gaelic**

The Scottish Government continues to work in association with the British Irish Council in relation to the Indigenous, Minority and Lesser-Used Language Work Sector.

***Para 1.f) the provision of appropriate forms and means for the teaching and study of regional or minority languages at all appropriate stages;***

### **Scots**

In 2014, the Scottish Government appointed 4 Scots language Co-ordinators to Education Scotland. Three of the 4 co-ordinators, all from different dialectal backgrounds, were seconded from teaching positions within various local authorities and have worked to develop materials, promote and make Scots language more readily available in schools. There remains one co-ordinator in post. This will be made a permanent position.

A Scottish Studies Award and a Scots Language Award are available from SQA (Scottish Qualifications Authority) for secondary schools. The Scottish Studies Award may contain elements of Gaelic and/or Scots, depending on the learner's choice. The Scots Language Award focuses on the language and its history. The SQA has also introduced a revised syllabus for Higher English. As part of this, a Scottish text must be included. This may contain elements of Scots or Gaelic languages. These Awards have now been recognised by the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) and can support students' entry applications to further education.

Scottish Language Dictionaries has developed an app, downloadable to smartphones, containing the Essential Scots Dictionary. They are also working on the new Concise Scots Dictionary 2 which will be published during the next monitoring cycle.

The Scottish Government has provided funding for the Association for Scottish Literary Studies who produce a number of literature resources for teachers pertaining to both Scots and Gaelic. They have also hosted a number of conferences aimed at developing teachers knowledge around the new Higher English syllabus and the Scottish texts contained therein.

We have also seen a number of new resources translated into Scots. Examples include graphic novels such as Tintin, Asterix and Obelix and Saltire and famous children's books such as Mr Mingin, the Gruffalo, The Sleekit Mr Tod, The Eejits and more.

### **Scottish Gaelic**

The Education (Scotland) Act passed in 2016 contained a number of Gaelic provisions including: a duty on local authorities to promote Gaelic education; a parental right to request Gaelic medium primary education for their child and a duty on the local authority to undertake a viability process in response to such a request; and, a duty on Bòrd na Gàidhlig to produce Statutory Guidance for Gaelic education. These provisions commenced on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017. The Guidance, which also came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> February, covers both Gaelic medium and Gaelic learner education from pre-school through to secondary education.

Over the last monitoring cycle, the Scottish Government has managed to increase its funding for teacher training. The Scottish Government is currently working on a 1+2 approach to language learning with an aim of providing the opportunity for every child to learn 2 languages in addition to their mother tongue by the time they leave primary school. This has provided increased opportunities for introducing Gaelic into primary schools and as a result, this has led to increased demand for teacher training. The Scottish Government has increased its funding to the GLPS (Gaelic Language in the Primary School) Consortium, a group of local authorities that collectively provide training on Gaelic language learning and pedagogy and, as a result, over the last 3 years, approximately 100 teachers have been

trained. We are seeing an increase in the teaching of Gaelic as an additional language at the primary stages and Education Scotland has produced guidance on how A 1+2 Approach to Language Learning could be maximised in relation to Gaelic.

In recognising that a national approach was necessary to teaching Gaelic in primary schools, the Scottish Government set up a GLPS Focus Group. In response to their recommendation that a national learning resource was needed, Stòrlann, the Gaelic resource body, produced Go!Gaelic, a national framework which contains a suite of resources and an 18 day teacher training programme. It is available free of charge and is being publicised in local authorities. Phase 2 of the resource is currently underway which will contain further resources to reinforce children's learning. This resource is primarily for learners but can be used for Gaelic medium nursery and the early years of Gaelic medium primary. It is currently being introduced to 0-3 and nursery groups by Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Comunn nam Pàrant and discussions have taken place about the possibility of further developing the resource for use in the home. The GLPS Consortium now delivers training on this resource.

Scottish Government supports the Gaelic Immersion for Teachers (GIfT) course which is designed to help teachers who have a some Gaelic skills, but who are currently teaching in English medium education, to transfer to Gaelic medium education. Since the introduction of the course in 2014, there have been between 25-30 teachers trained. The Gaelic Local Authority Network meets regularly and workforce planning and the GIfT course are regularly discussed with the aim of matching teachers to the best posts in a national context.

A new initiative, e-Sgoil, has been funded by the Scottish Government and Bòrd na Gàidhlig. It was first thought of as a solution to a staffing crisis on the outer Hebrides but has since been expanded. It allows live lessons to be delivered throughout the country, broadcast from a central hub in Stornoway. Subject specialist teachers are able to deliver teaching through the medium of Gaelic in places where the same level of provision may not have previously been available. For example, e-Sgoil recently delivered Gaelic medium education to 16 secondary school pupils of various ages in Aberdeen. A teacher based in the Western Isles provided lessons three days a week, as well as visiting her class in Aberdeen once a month. Pupils have been supplied with equipment and training on its use. This service was paid for by Aberdeen City Council. The E-Sgoil initiative has since increased its activity and a new hub was opened on 16 August. This initiative will help address immediate gaps but will not be considered as a long term solution or replacement to traditional teaching methods.

***Para 1.g) the provision of facilities enabling non-speakers of a regional or minority language living in the area where it is used to learn it if they so desire;***

### **Scots**

The Open University are currently producing an teacher training resource for Scots language. This will be available online, free of charge, to adults wishing to increase their knowledge of the Scots language. Although it is aimed primarily at teachers looking to deliver Scots in the classroom, it will contain information available free of charge to members of the public wishing to develop their Scots language skills. It is expected to be ready in December 2017.

### **Scottish Gaelic**

Bòrd na Gàidhlig are currently developing an Adult Learning Strategy. They seek to appoint someone over the next monitoring cycle to focus solely on adult learning who will assess the provision available and focus on how more adults can be encouraged and supported towards learning Gaelic language to fluency. Public bodies and local authorities also include Gaelic language learning for relevant staff within their Gaelic language plans.

MG ALBA are currently reviewing their learning materials. This will allow them to address resource gaps in their current website. As part of this they have announced a LearnGaelic Masters Scholarship. This will involve a Gaelic language learner committed to making fast

progress towards fluency who can bring a learner's approach to the language and held code and develop resources for the site.

BBC ALBA currently broadcasts approx. 2 hours per week of programmes for learners. The new regulator, Ofcom, has requested that this be increased to 5 hours per week. BBC ALBA will look to address this during the next monitoring cycle.

There continues to be a variety of Gaelic language learning provision available in communities. This consists of a mix of private and publicly funded (through Bòrd na Gàidhlig) organisations and individuals. MG ALBA continues to maintain [learngaelic.scot](http://learngaelic.scot).

Education Scotland and Sabhal Mòr Ostaig have produced literacy assessments to help learners know how to improve their fluency.

***Para 1.h) the promotion of study and research on regional or minority languages at universities or equivalent institutions;***

**Scots**

The Scottish Government will look to examine further the links between Scots language and attainment in schools throughout the next monitoring cycle. Education Scotland have carried out 2 reviews that focus on certain aspects of Scots and its relation to literacy and attainment. These reviews, published in 2015 and 2017 have shown positive correlations.

**Scottish Gaelic**

Soillse is the National Research Network for the Maintenance and Revitalisation of Gaelic Language and Culture. Its members include the University of the Highlands and Islands, Aberdeen University, Edinburgh University and the University of Glasgow. Its ongoing research centres around 3 themes: Gaelic as a family/community language; Gaelic in education; and, Policies for Gaelic.

Recent studies they have undertaken include further examination of the data gathered on Gaelic speakers and communities in the 2011 census and the impact of the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Gaelic Language Plan (2012 – 2017).

***Para 1.i) The promotion of appropriate types of transnational exchanges, in the fields covered by this Charter, for regional or minority languages used in identical or similar form in two or more States.***

**Scots**

No developments since last report.

**Scottish Gaelic**

The Scottish Government continues to provide support for Gaelic students in Nova Scotia through a Bursary Scheme. Approaches have been made by Ontario about an extension of the Scheme and we are currently considering this request.

Ongoing partnership between Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Foras na Gaelige by means of the Colmcille partnership.

***Para 2. The Parties undertake to eliminate, if they have not already done so, any unjustified distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference relating to the use of a regional or minority language and intended to discourage or endanger the maintenance or development of it. The adoption of special measures in favour of regional or minority languages aimed at promoting equality between the users of these languages and the rest of the population or which take due***



***account of their specific conditions is not considered to be an act of discrimination against the users of more widely used languages.***

**Scots**

No developments since last report.

**Scottish Gaelic**

Bord na Gàidhlig have developed guidance on recruitment policy for posts when Gaelic language is considered to be either essential or desirable to the role. This work has included legal consultation.

***Para 3. The parties undertake to promote by appropriate measures, mutual understanding between all the linguistic groups of the country and in particular the inclusion of respect, understanding and tolerance in relation to regional or minority languages among the objectives of education and training provided within their countries and encouragement of the mass media to pursue the same objective.***

**Scots**

No developments since last report

**Scottish Gaelic**

No developments since last report

***Para 4. In determining their policy with regard to regional or minority languages, the Parties shall take into consideration the needs and wishes expressed by the groups which use such languages. They are encouraged to establish bodies, if necessary, for the purpose of advising the authorities on all matters pertaining to regional or minority languages.***

**Scots**

No developments since last report.

**Scottish Gaelic**

No developments since last report..

**PART III**

**For each regional or minority language chosen at the moment of ratification, as follows from paragraph 2 of Article 2 of the Charter, please indicate how the undertakings have been implemented (see Appendix), focusing in particular on the following aspects:**

**- Please provide information on new developments that have occurred since the last monitoring round.**

**With reference to the most recent evaluation report of the Committee of Experts concerning the implementation of the Charter in your State:**

**- For undertakings for which the Committee of Experts did not have sufficient information to properly evaluate the implementation, please provide detailed information;**

- For undertakings which the Committee of Experts considered were not fulfilled, please indicate what steps your state has taken, for each regional or minority language, to implement these undertakings;

- For the encouragements and box recommendations of the Committee of Experts, please give a detailed account of the legal and/or practical measures that your State has taken.

## Scottish Gaelic

### Article 8 – Education

#### **Paragraph 1a(i) To make available pre-school education in Scottish Gaelic**

Over the next monitoring cycle, the Scottish Government will expand the number of free childcare hours from 600 to 1140 per year for 3-4 year olds and vulnerable 2 year olds. Consideration will be given to parents wishing to have their child immersed in Gaelic medium early learning and childcare, particularly in areas where there is potential to follow on to Gaelic medium primary education.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig are currently renewing their Early Years Strategy and assessing Gaelic pre-school provision throughout Scotland. This will be implemented throughout the course of the next monitoring cycle.

The Statutory Guidance on Gaelic Education includes advice on Gaelic medium early learning and childcare. Education Scotland's Advice on Gaelic Education also supports improvement in early learning and childcare settings.

#### **Paragraph 1b(i) To make available primary education in Scottish Gaelic**

##### Gaelic Medium Education

The Education Scotland Act passed in 2016 contained a number of Gaelic provisions including: a duty on local authorities to promote Gaelic education; a parental right to a request for Gaelic medium primary education and a duty on the local authority to undertake a viability process in response to such a request; and, a duty on Bòrd na Gàidhlig to produce Statutory Guidance for Gaelic education. These provisions commenced on the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017.

There has been the establishment of further Gaelic medium primary provision throughout Scotland including the establishment of 2 new standalone Gaelic schools in Glasgow and Fort William with another due to open in Portree in 2018. Glasgow City Council is currently consulting on the potential for a third Gaelic school in the City.

##### Gaelic Learner Education

The 1+2 Approach to Language learning is a new initiative being taken forward by the Scottish Government. It aims to equip every child with 2 languages in addition to their mother tongue by the time they leave primary school. This has led to increased funding by the Scottish Government for training teachers to deliver Gaelic language in primary schools. Training and teaching revolves around the new Go!Gaelic resource, produced by Stòrlann.

In 2015, Education Scotland produced advice to assist education authorities and schools in their planning for the place of Gaelic within the 1+2 policy. This advice is used alongside Education Scotland's Advice on Gaelic Education and the Statutory Advice on Gaelic Education.

#### **Paragraph 1c(i) To make available secondary education in Scottish Gaelic**

##### Gaelic Medium Education

A new initiative, e-Sgoil, has been funded by the Scottish Government and Bòrd na Gàidhlig. It was first thought of as a solution to a staffing crisis on the outer Hebrides but has since been expanded. It allows live lessons to be delivered throughout the country, broadcast from a central hub in Stornoway. Subject specialist teachers are able to deliver teaching through the medium of Gaelic in places where the same level of provision may not have previously been available. For example, e-Sgoil recently delivered Gaelic medium education to 16 secondary school pupils of various ages in Aberdeen. A teacher based in the Western Isles provided lessons three days a week, as well as visiting her class in Aberdeen once a month. Pupils have been supplied with equipment and training on its use. This service was paid for by Aberdeen City Council. The E-Sgoil initiative has since increased its activity and a new hub was opened on 16 August. This initiative will help address immediate gaps but will not be considered as a long term solution or replacement to traditional teaching methods.

The Scottish government continues to support local authorities by means of Gaelic Specific Grant and Gaelic Capital Grant.

### Gaelic Learner Education

Ongoing encouragement and support to local authorities for the promotion and establishment of Gaelic learner education in their areas. This includes offers of support with costs for teacher training and the provision of resources.

**Paragraph 1d(iv) To apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient.**

The Education (Scotland) Act passed in 2016 contained a number of Gaelic provisions including:

- a duty on local authorities to promote Gaelic education;
- a parental right to a request for Gaelic medium primary education and a duty on the local authority to undertake a viability process in response to such a request; and,
- a duty on Bòrd na Gàidhlig to produce Statutory Guidance for Gaelic education. The Guidance covers both Gaelic medium and Gaelic learner education from pre-school through to secondary education.

These provisions commenced in February 2017.

**Paragraph 1e(iii) if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, sub-paragraphs i and iii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in relevant regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study relevant regional or minority languages as university or higher education subjects.**

No developments since the last report.

**Paragraph 1f(iii). If the public authorities have no direct competence in the field of adult education, to favour and/or encourage the offering of such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education.**

Bòrd na Gàidhlig set up a working group to look at adult learning across Scotland. This has resulted in the development of an Adult Learning Strategy which will be implemented throughout the next monitoring cycle.

MG ALBA are currently reviewing their learning materials. This will allow them to address resource gaps in their current website. As part of this they have announced a LearnGaelic Masters Scholarship. This will involve a Gaelic language learner committed to making fast progress towards fluency who can bring a learner's approach to the language and held code and develop resources for the site.

In addition, public bodies with Gaelic Language Plans support adult learning by including commitments to provide Gaelic language learning for staff where appropriate.

**Paragraph 1g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language.**

The Scottish Studies Award, made available by the SQA for secondary schools in 2014, provides learners with the opportunity to study certain subjects 'in a Scottish context'. This offers a number of opportunities for those wishing to study Gaelic related subjects such as music, history or literature.

**Paragraph 1h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party**

The Gaelic Immersion for teachers (GIFT) course, funded jointly by the Scottish Government and Bòrd na Gàidhlig, is a yearlong course designed to give teachers intense Gaelic language immersion with an aim of transitioning from English medium education to Gaelic medium. Applicants are required to have a basic understanding of the language.

The Scottish Government is working with Stakeholders to consider other potential routes that individuals may wish to enter Gaelic Teacher education.

The Scottish Government is currently working on a 1+2 approach to language learning with an aim of providing the opportunity for every child to learn 2 languages in addition to their mother tongue by the time they leave primary school. This has led to increased demand for teacher training and the Scottish Government has increased its funding to the GLPS (Gaelic Language in the Primary School) Consortium, a group of local authorities that collectively provide training on Gaelic language learning and pedagogy. Over the last 3 years, approximately 100 teachers have been trained.

Stòrlann, the Gaelic resource agency, continues to host an annual 2 day conference for Gaelic medium teachers which provides training on new school resources. Education Scotland has provided a wide range of professional learning opportunities, such as conferences, GLOW sessions and resources to support teachers with improvement in Gaelic Education.

**Paragraph 1i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of Scottish Gaelic and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public**

Education Scotland continues to monitor Gaelic medium schools and units through inspection and review. There is a specialist HM Inspector, or Associate Assessor, on teams specifically to inspect GME. Gaelic Learner Education (GLE) is sampled in inspections.

Education Scotland has published new self-evaluation frameworks available in Gaelic and English. HM Inspectors published their findings from inspections of all Gaelic Education provisions in the publication, Education Scotland's Advice on Gaelic Education

**Paragraph 2 with regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which Scottish Gaelic is traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a Scottish Gaelic justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the Scottish Gaelic at all the appropriate stages of education**

The Education (Scotland) Act passed in 2016 contained a number of Gaelic provisions including:

- a duty on local authorities to promote Gaelic education;
- a parental right to a request for Gaelic medium primary education and a duty on the local authority to undertake a viability process in response to such a request; and,

- a duty on Bòrd na Gàidhlig to produce Statutory Guidance for Gaelic education. The Guidance will cover both Gaelic medium and Gaelic learner education from pre-school through to secondary education.

These provisions commenced in February 2017.

### **Article 9 - Judicial Authorities**

#### **Paragraph 1b (iii) In civil proceedings to allow documents and evidence to be produced in Scottish Gaelic**

An Act of Court was passed in 2001 in Grampian, Highlands and Islands enabling parties in civil cases to apply to court to be allowed to address or give oral evidence to the court in Gaelic. In cases where Gaelic is used, the court must provide and pay for an interpreter. Some courts such as Lochmaddy Sheriff Court in North Uist and Portree Sheriff Court in Skye are able to conduct civil cases in Gaelic and have bilingual signage to indicate this. The Land Court also allows submissions in Gaelic and has Gaelic in its ranks to facilitate this.

### **Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services**

#### **Paragraph 1c to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in Scottish Gaelic**

Under the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005, Bòrd na Gàidhlig can request authorities and bodies to prepare Gaelic language Plans. There is formal Guidance in place for this which provides advice on the use of Gaelic in publications and communications.

#### **Paragraph 2a the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority**

Under the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005, Bòrd na Gàidhlig can request authorities and bodies to prepare Gaelic language Plans. All Plans are produced by public authorities in conjunction with Bòrd na Gàidhlig and are tailored to suit the specific demographic and geographic nature of their activities.

The Scottish Government continues to offer a range of grant schemes to support Local Authorities in their developments of Gaelic education. Each application reflects the specific needs of the local areas.

#### **Paragraph 2b the possibility for users of Scottish Gaelic to submit oral or written applications in these languages**

Under the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005, Bòrd na Gàidhlig can request authorities and bodies to prepare Gaelic language Plans. There is formal Guidance in place for this which provides advice on the use of Gaelic in publications and communications. Bòrd na Gàidhlig works to ensure that commitments include equal respect for both Gaelic and English languages.

#### **Paragraph 2d the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in Scottish Gaelic**

Under the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005, Bòrd na Gàidhlig can request authorities and bodies to prepare Gaelic language Plans. There is formal Guidance in place for this which provides advice on the use of Gaelic in publications and communications. Bòrd na Gàidhlig works to ensure that commitments include equal respect for both Gaelic and English languages.

**Paragraph 2e the use by regional authorities of Scottish Gaelic in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State**

Members of Scottish Parliament may use any Gaelic in proceedings but formal notification of a request to do so must be made in advance. This is to ensure that the relevant translation is available to other Members. Parliamentary Committees will also accept oral and written evidence in Gaelic.

**Paragraph 2f the use by local authorities of Scottish Gaelic in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State**

Both Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (the Western Isles Council) and Highland Council have standing Gaelic Committees which oversee the delivery of their Gaelic Language Plans. Parts of these meetings are held through the medium of Gaelic. Comhairle nan Eilean Siar now normalises the use of Gaelic across many of its formal meetings

**Paragraph 2g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s) of traditional and correct forms of place-names in Scottish Gaelic**

Ainmean Àite na h-Alba (AÀA) determine authoritative forms of Gaelic place-names across Scotland with reference to both research into historical forms and consolidation on current usage. They continue to work in partnership with the Scottish Government and local authorities to produce bilingual signage. The Scottish Government funded the replacement of their website in 2016.

**Paragraph 5 The Parties undertake to allow the use or adoption of family names in the Scottish Gaelic , at the request of those concerned**

No developments since the last report.

**Article 11 – Media**

**Paragraph 1a(ii) to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in Scottish Gaelic**

The Scottish Government continues to fund MG ALBA which delivers BBC ALBA (the Gaelic language television channel) in partnership with the BBC. BBC ALBA is the first partnership television service to operate under a BBC licence. MG ALBA also funds Radio nan Gàidheal, the Gaelic radio station, and other local community radio stations.

**Paragraph 1b(ii) to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of radio programmes in Scottish Gaelic**

MG ALBA works in partnership with the BBC to commission Gaelic radio programmes for Radio nan Gàidheal and other local community radio stations..

**Paragraph 1c(ii) to encourage and/or facilitate the broadcasting of television programmes in Scottish Gaelic on a regular basis**

The Scottish Government continues to fund MG ALBA which delivers BBC ALBA (the Gaelic language television channel) in partnership with the BBC. BBC ALBA is the first partnership television service to operate under a BBC licence.

Over the past year, Scottish Ministers, the Scottish Government and MG ALBA have pressed the BBC for a commitment for a move towards parity for indigenous language programming and for the BBC to provide 10 hours of original Gaelic language programming to BBC ALBA as it does for S4C in Welsh. We will continue to do so over the next monitoring cycle.

### **Paragraph 1d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in Scottish Gaelic**

FilmG is MG ALBA's Gaelic short film competition which is delivered by MG ALBA in partnership with Cànan, the multi-media company based on the Isle of Skye. FilmG was launched in 2008 in order to develop new talent and encourage Gaelic and non-Gaelic speakers to use Gaelic at all stages of film development. Over this time it has received more than 400 Gaelic short films entries and seen many young people begin their careers in Gaelic television broadcasting.

LearnGaelic.scot has been developed in partnership between MG ALBA and Bòrd na Gàidhlig. It includes a variety of online learning resources.

### **Paragraph 1e(ii) to encourage and/or facilitate the publication of newspaper articles in Scottish Gaelic on a regular basis**

BBC ALBA's news page regularly contains Gaelic news articles. A number of local newspapers also accept articles in Gaelic.

A number of Public Bodies including the Scottish Government and Scottish Parliament, who have produced Gaelic Language Plans provide some news releases and statements in Gaelic for news media to use. This is often backed up in social media through the medium of Gaelic.

### **Paragraph 1f(ii) to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in Scottish Gaelic**

The Scottish Government provides financial support to MG ALBA for Film G and LearnGaelic.scot. Creative Scotland has also provided funding for the production of Bannan, the new Gaelic drama. MG ALBA maintain partnerships with other Gaelic organisations and have worked with Comhairle nan Leabharraichean to produce a number of audio visual works particularly for children.

### **Paragraph 1g) support the training of journalists and other staff for media using Scottish Gaelic**

MG ALBA continue to support the training of journalists for BBC ALBA and Radio nan Gàidheal.

**Paragraph 2 The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to Scottish Gaelic.**

No developments since the last report.

## **Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities**

### **Paragraph 1a to encourage types of expression and initiatives specific to Scottish Gaelic and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages**

Bòrd na Gàidhlig are currently developing a National Gaelic Drama Strategy which will be implemented during the next monitoring cycle.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Creative Scotland continue to lead the National Gaelic Arts Strategic Advisory Forum (NGAS) whose members consist of a number of strategic and

developmental public bodies including: Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Creative Scotland, Scottish Government, MG ALBA, BBC ALBA, Highlands & Islands Enterprise, VisitScotland, Education Scotland. The forum is particularly focussed on drama and international development for Gaelic artists and audiences. NGAS meets quarterly.

The Scottish Government is developing a National Cultural Strategy. Scotland's languages will be feature as part of this.

Ongoing Scottish Government support for the Royal National Mòd, Fèisean nan Gàidheal and other Gaelic arts and culture projects.

**Paragraph 1d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of Scottish Gaelic and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing**

Creative Scotland (CS), the public body responsible for Scotland's arts, screen and creative industries, has a Gaelic Language Plan and a Gaelic Arts and Culture Officer who works jointly with Bòrd na Gàidhlig to ensure a strategic approach to enhancing Gaelic arts and culture across Scotland and internationally. Creative Scotland continues to support Regular Funded Organisations (RFOs): Fèisean nan Gàidheal, The Gaelic Books Council, An Lanntair and others that work with Gaelic artists and audiences. CS also maintains a targeted budget for strategic Gaelic arts development.

**Paragraph 1e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of Scottish Gaelic concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population**

Public bodies that have Gaelic Language Plans, including Historic Environment Scotland, Creative Scotland, Visit Scotland and various local authorities, often consider the appointment of a Gaelic Development Officer to take forward their Plans. Many of these Development Officers have a level of Gaelic.

**Paragraph 1f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of Scottish Gaelic in providing facilities and planning cultural activities**

Communities can apply directly to Bòrd na Gàidhlig for community funding. Taic Freumhan Coimhearsnachd (the community support fund) is designed for small groups to apply to for small community projects up to the value of £5000.

Taic Freumhan Coimhearsnachd is specifically designed to be as accessible to as wide a range of organisations as possible, in order to encourage and increase the day to day use of Gaelic in communities. Voluntary community organisations, social enterprises, small businesses, sporting, religious, arts and school groups have previously received assistance through this avenue of funding.

**Paragraph 1g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in Scottish Gaelic**

Bòrd na Gàidhlig provide on-going support to the Gaelic Books Council which publishes literature for fluent speakers and learners of Gaelic. The National Library of Scotland has a duty to collate all material released and continues to keep copies of Gaelic literature.

**Paragraph 1h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in Scottish Gaelic**



Bòrd na Gàidhlig has established Buidheann Stiùiridh Corpais (the corpus management group) to coordinate the standardisation of Gaelic grammar and vocabulary and to take forward projects to close gaps in provision.

An Seotal continues to gather and standardise terminology for education. Ainmean Àite na h-Alba (AÀA) determine authoritative forms of Gaelic place-names across Scotland. Ongoing support for Faclair na Gàidhlig.

**Paragraph 2 In respect of territories other than those in which Scottish Gaelic are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of Scottish Gaelic justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph**

Local authorities and Public Bodies continue to support cultural activities through their Gaelic Language Plans. These range from simple inclusion of Gaelic in promotion to full engagement with Gaelic festivals such as the Royal National Mod.

**Paragraph 3 The parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad for Scottish Gaelic and the cultures they reflect**

The Scottish Government maintains links with countries in the British Irish Council, including Wales and Ireland while expanding our cultural and educational links with Nova Scotia. Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Creative Scotland also maintain international links. BBC ALBA broadcasts some events internationally.

### **Article 13 – Economic and social life**

**Paragraph 1a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of Scottish Gaelic in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations**

There has been sensitivity in employing Gaelic speakers over non-Gaelic speakers for certain roles that directly relate to Gaelic language or culture. Therefore employers sometimes label Gaelic language skills as 'Desirable' and can find themselves open to accusation of discrimination for employing a non-Gaelic speaker who may be just as competent. Bòrd na Gàidhlig have developed guidance in relation to advertising Gaelic language skills as 'Desirable' or 'Essential' criteria for Gaelic related posts. This work has included legal consultation.

**Paragraph 1c to oppose practises designed to discourage the use of Scottish Gaelic in connection with economic or social activities**

The Scottish Government continues to defend financial decisions in relation to funding for Gaelic language and to combat negative media and press.

The recent research carried out on behalf of Highlands and Island Enterprise (HIE) and Bòrd na Gàidhlig has shown that the economic value of Gaelic to Scotland is between £80m and £140m per annum. Bòrd na Gàidhlig and other organisations are beginning to highlight the economic benefits that result from the National Gaelic Language Plan and the use of Gaelic in the economy.

### **Article 14 – Transfrontier exchanges**

**Paragraph a) to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts**

**between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information vocational training and permanent education.**

Ongoing support for Gaelic students in Nova Scotia. Ongoing association with the British Irish Council in relation to the Indigenous Minority and Lesser-Used Language Work Sector.

**Paragraph b) for the benefit of regional or minority languages to facilitate and/or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between Scottish Gaelic in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.**

Ongoing support for Gaelic students in Nova Scotia. Ongoing association with the British Irish Council in relation to the Indigenous Minority and Lesser-Used Language Work Sector. Ongoing partnership between BnG and Foras na Gaeilge by means of the Colmcille partnership.

## D. Welsh Government contribution – European Charter for Regional or Minority Language: 5th Cycle Report

### Part I

**Please provide updated information, if any new data exists, about the number and geographic distribution of speakers of regional or minority languages, and the general demographic situation.**

The first results on the Welsh language from the 2011 Census were published in December 2012.

<http://llyw.cymru/statistics-and-research/census-population-welsh-language/?skip=1&lang=en>

This showed that between 2001 and 2011, there was a decrease in the number and proportion of people aged three and over able to speak Welsh in Wales. The decrease was due to demographic changes in the population (including fewer children, more older adults and the loss of older cohorts with higher levels of Welsh speakers), migration and changes to people's skills between Censuses.

The results also showed that:

- the proportion of people able to speak Welsh decreased from 20.8 per cent in 2001 to 19.0 per cent in 2011. Despite an increase in the size of the population, the number of Welsh speakers decreased from 582,000 in 2001 to 562,000 in 2011.
- although lower than 2001, the proportion and number of Welsh speakers in 2011 were higher than the equivalent figures for 1991 (18.7 per cent and 508,000 people).
- differences between 2001 and 2011 varied by age group – with considerable increases for younger children (aged 3-4), a slight increase for adults aged 20-44, and decreases for other age groups.
- the proportion of people aged three and over able to speak Welsh decreased in nearly all local authorities. The largest decreases were in areas with higher proportions of Welsh speakers.
- nearly three quarters of the population (73.3 per cent) had no Welsh language skills in 2011. This is an increase from 71.6 per cent in 2001.

Welsh Language Use in Wales, 2013-15<sup>5</sup> presented the main findings from the Welsh Language Use Survey 2013-15, a survey funded jointly by the Welsh Government and the Welsh Language Commissioner. The survey is not intended to provide new estimates of the number of people who speak Welsh in Wales. It does however provide information from Welsh-speaking adults and young people about how well they can speak Welsh, how often they speak the language, and where, when and with whom they use it.<sup>6</sup>

Some of the key results from the survey showed that:

- both the percentage and number of fluent Welsh speakers are fairly similar to those in the Welsh Language Use Surveys of 2004-06, although 130,700 more people now say that they speak Welsh but not fluently.

<sup>5</sup> <http://gov.wales/docs/statistics/2016/160301-welsh-language-use-in-wales-2013-15-en.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> <http://llyw.cymru/statistics-and-research/Welsh-language-use-survey/?skip=1&lang=en>

- the percentage of people in Wales who speak Welsh daily has not changed since the Welsh Language Use Surveys of 2004-06, and there is a clear link between fluency and frequency of Welsh language use.
- the highest concentrations of fluent Welsh speakers, and daily Welsh speakers, are found in local authority areas in west Wales. However, some of the largest decreases in the number of fluent Welsh speakers, and daily Welsh speakers, were seen in these areas. In contrast, the largest increases were seen in south-east Wales, especially in Cardiff and Rhondda Cynon Taf.
- younger Welsh speakers are more likely to have learnt to speak Welsh at school than anywhere else. Older Welsh speakers are more likely to have learnt Welsh at home as a young child than anywhere else.
- just over half of Welsh speakers try to use Welsh, at least occasionally, when dealing with public organisations.
- almost one in five Welsh speakers aged 16 and over who use Facebook do so at least as much in Welsh as in English, while just over one in ten use at least as much Welsh as English on Twitter.

**Please provide information about any changes in the general policies, legislation or practice of your state in respect of regional or minority languages. Please also indicate any developments which are expected to occur during the next monitoring cycle, such as envisaged political or budgetary changes, policy plans or any other elements that may have a direct or indirect on the situation of the regional or minority languages in your State?**

The fifth reporting period has seen substantial developments, both in terms of legislative and policy development and implementation concerning the Welsh language.

### **A living language: a language for living (2012-2017)**

As noted in the fourth periodic report, the Welsh Government's Welsh Language Strategy: *A living language: a language for living* spanned the length of the fifth reporting period. The strategy's period came to an end on 31 March 2017, but was extended until 11 July 2017 until the launch of a new strategy (see below). As per the statutory obligation on the Welsh Government, annual reports have been published on the implementation of the Welsh Language Strategy across the reporting period.

To provide guidance in the evaluation of the A living language: a language for living strategy, an evaluation framework was published in February 2013. The framework provides a basis and sets out a rationale for future research, data collection and analysis.

Following the release of the census data in 2011 which, as set out above, showed a slight drop in the amount of Welsh speakers, the Welsh Government led a public consultation and nationwide discussion on the future of the Welsh language in 2013 via Y Gynhadledd Fawr. Following Y Gynhadledd Fawr, in August 2014, the Welsh Government published the Moving Forward (Bwrw Mlaen)<sup>7</sup> policy statement. The purpose of Moving Forward was to set out the Welsh Government's focus over the last three years of A Living language: a language for living (2014-17). Moving Forward's aims included:

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<sup>7</sup> <http://gov.wales/topics/welshlanguage/policy/living/moving-forward/?skip=1&lang=en>

- making the Welsh language a normal part of everyday life
- challenging us as a Government, along with the wider public sector, businesses, the third sector and individuals, to promote the language
- changing language usage, by using behaviour-change techniques from other areas
- encouraging organisations to take more responsibility for the Welsh language, to plan better and more strategically, and to invest in the language
- increasing our investment in the organisations that promote the use of the Welsh language in the community
- acknowledging that developing the Welsh language goes hand in hand with economic development, and investing in programmes to that end
- ensuring that the Welsh language is at the cutting edge of technological developments.

### **Cymraeg 2050: a million Welsh speakers**

Following the elections to the National Assembly for Wales in May 2016, the Welsh Government formally adopted a target to reach a million Welsh speakers by 2050. As a result, the Welsh Government published a consultation in August 2016 on its draft long-term Welsh language strategy which proposed areas to prioritise in order to reach a million Welsh speakers by 2050<sup>8</sup>. On 11 January 2017, the Welsh Government published a summary of the responses received to the consultation.<sup>9</sup>

Based on this consultation, in July 2017 the Welsh Government published its new Welsh language strategy – *Cymraeg 2050: a million Welsh speakers*<sup>10</sup> – along with a 4-year programme of work<sup>11</sup> to drive the strategy forward in the short term.

The strategy has two overarching targets:

1. The **number of Welsh speakers** to reach 1 million by 2050.
2. The **percentage of the population that speak Welsh daily**, and can speak more than just a few words of Welsh, to increase from 10 per cent (in 2013–15) to 20 per cent by 2050.

To realise these targets, the Cymraeg 2050 strategy identifies three strategic themes:

**Theme 1: Increasing the number of Welsh speakers** – this incorporates work on language transmission in the family; the early years; statutory education; post-compulsory education; and the education workforce, resources and qualifications.

**Theme 2: Increasing the use of Welsh** – this a focus on the workplace; services; and the social use of Welsh.

**Theme 3: Creating favourable conditions (infrastructure and context)** – this includes work in the fields of community and economy; culture and media; Wales and the wider world; digital technology; linguistic infrastructure; language planning; and evaluation and research.

<sup>8</sup> <https://consultations.gov.wales/consultations/welsh-language-strategy>

<sup>9</sup> [https://consultations.gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultation\\_doc\\_files/170110-consultation-responses-en.pdf](https://consultations.gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultation_doc_files/170110-consultation-responses-en.pdf)

<sup>10</sup> <http://gov.wales/docs/dcells/publications/170711-welsh-language-strategy-eng.pdf>

<sup>11</sup> <http://gov.wales/docs/dcells/publications/170711-cymraeg-2050-work-programme-eng-v2.pdf>

The Cymraeg 2050 Work Programme for 2017-2021, published along with the strategy, details the steps the Welsh Government will take in the short term and targets for measuring the progress of interventions towards the ultimate goal of a million speakers.

### **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

The fifth reporting period has also seen a sea change in the legislative underpinning of public services in Wales by the passing by the National Assembly of Wales of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Act aims to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. To deliver this, the Act requires selected public bodies to set objectives to achieve well-being goals described within the Act. One such well-being goal is: 'A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language'. Consequently, public bodies named in the Act are required to publish objectives stating how they will work towards this well-being goal.

Section 10(1) of the Act places a duty on the Welsh Ministers to publish national indicators to be used to measure progress towards the achievement of the well-being goals. National Indicators 36 and 37 deal specifically with the Welsh language.<sup>12</sup> Monitoring of progress is undertaken through public bodies providing annual reports on progress, and by the oversight of the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales.

### **Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and the Welsh Language Standards**

Since the fourth report, substantial work has been completed in the implementation of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 ('the Measure'). The work of the statutory Welsh Language Partnership Council has continued and, at the time of writing, the Council has met 15 times to provide advice to Welsh Ministers.

Following the appointment of its President by the First Minister of Wales in July 2014, the Tribunal Rules of the Welsh Language Tribunal (for which, provision is made in the Measure) came into force in April 2015. From that point onwards, the Tribunal has been fully established to hear cases in accordance with the Measure.

Further landmarks in the implementation of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 over the reporting period have included the introduction of various Regulations which specify Welsh Language Standards. The aims of Welsh Language Standards are:

- to improve the Welsh language services people can expect to receive from organisations
- increasing the use people make of Welsh language services
- making it clear to organisations what they need to do in terms of the Welsh language
- ensuring that there is an appropriate degree of consistency in terms of the duties placed on organisations in the same sectors.

The Welsh Language Commissioner presented a Standards Investigation Report to

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<sup>12</sup> <http://gov.wales/docs/desh/publications/160316-national-indicators-to-be-laid-before-nafw-en.pdf>

Welsh Ministers in June 2014 which dealt with imposing Welsh language duties (by way of standards) on Welsh Ministers, National Parks and Local Authorities. Having given consideration to the report and following public consultation, the Welsh Ministers laid the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015 before the National Assembly for Wales which subsequently approved them.

The Commissioner submitted Standards Investigation Reports on bodies in the second round to Welsh Ministers in 2015. This round included numerous organisations across different sectors including police forces, fire and rescue authorities, health sector bodies, arts organisations and Welsh tribunals. The Welsh Language Standards (No.2) Regulations were approved by the National Assembly for Wales in February 2016, and the Welsh Language Standards (No.4 and No.5) Regulations were approved in March 2016. Collectively, these Regulations brought 80 organisations under the Welsh Language Standards system. Regulations creating Welsh Language Standards applicable to bodies in the education sector (The Welsh Language Standards (No.6) Regulations) were laid before the Assembly in December 2016 and approved in January 2017. Between these Regulations, over 80 bodies are now subject to Welsh language standards.

The Measure sets out that Welsh Language Standards must be specified in Regulations. In order for bodies to have to comply with standards, the Commissioner must issue the body with a Compliance Notice which specifies the standards it must comply with and date from which it must comply (not earlier than 6 months from the date of the Compliance Notice). The Standards for Welsh Ministers, Local Authorities and National Parks superseded the Welsh Language Scheme system for these bodies in March 2016.

The enforcement of the Welsh Language Standards falls to the Welsh Language Commissioner and the processes set out in the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.

The Welsh Government has committed to reviewing the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 during the fifth Assembly term. Following the passing of the Measure, it has become evident that the current processes involved in making Welsh Language Standards have proven to be bureaucratic and questions have also been raised about whether the Measure deals effectively with ensuring that the promotion of the Welsh language.

To this end a White Paper was launched on 9 August 2017, proposing changes to the arrangements for promoting and facilitating the use of the Welsh language, and to improve to the Welsh Language Standards system.

The key proposals are to:

- establish a Welsh Language Commission responsible for promoting the Welsh language and monitoring and enforcing compliance with Welsh Language Standards (the Welsh Language Commissioner would be abolished)
- simplify the processes involved in making and imposing Welsh Language Standards
- remove the restrictions in the current legislation so Standards could be placed on any body, so long as it is within the Assembly's power to do so



The White Paper will be subject to a public consultation until 31 October 2017.

### **Land use and planning legislation and policy**

#### Technical Advice Note (TAN) 20: Planning and the Welsh Language (2013)

In October 2013, the Welsh Government published TAN 20: Planning and the Welsh Language. The purpose of the TAN is to provide guidance on how the planning system considers the implications of the Welsh language when Local Development Plans (LDPs) are prepared, including the important roles of the Single Integrated Plan and LDP Sustainability Appraisal (SA).

Full details on TAN 20 can be viewed on the Welsh Government's website here:

<http://gov.wales/topics/planning/policy/tans/planning-and-the-welsh-language/?lang=en>.

#### Planning (Wales) Act 2015

During the past year, the Planning (Wales) Act 2015 was approved, which includes two specific sections relating to planning and the Welsh language. Those particular sections came into force on 4 January 2016.

Section 11 of the Act amends the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 to impose a duty on every local planning authority to consider the impact of the Local Development Plan on the Welsh language, as part of the Sustainability Appraisal of the plan. In addition, every planning authority must also collect and retain evidence on the use of Welsh in the plan area. This section reinforces the Welsh Government's current planning policy, as outlined in the Technical Advice Note (TAN) 20: Planning and the Welsh Language (2013). This duty will also be relevant when Strategic Development Plans and the National Development Framework are being prepared.

Section 31 of the Act amends the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 so that a local planning authority must have regard to considerations relating to the use of the Welsh language when dealing with an application for planning permission if such considerations are material to the application.

National planning policy, outlined in Planning Policy Wales, reflects the provisions in the Planning (Wales) Act 2015, which consolidate consideration for the Welsh language in the Development Plan-led system. In conjunction with the revised policy, updated TAN 20 planning guidance will be published in the autumn.

### **Language, Work and Bilingual Services**

Over the fifth reporting period, the former Minister for Public Services appointed a Working Group on the Welsh Language in Local Government Administration and Economic Development in December 2015. The Group was asked to consider the role of the Welsh language in local government administration and as the language of the workplace, and local government's role in supporting the Welsh language through its economic development functions.

The Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government published the report on 14 June 2016, inviting responses from local government and other stakeholders.



On 20 October, the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government issued a Written Statement and published the Welsh Government's response to the Report, with a summary of the engagement responses.

The report and the Welsh Government's response can be seen here:

<http://gov.wales/topics/localgovernment/language-work-and-bilingual-services/?skip=1&lang=en>.

### **Welsh-medium education**

The Welsh-medium Education Strategy evaluation report was published on 10 March 2016 and includes 21 recommendations. The aim of the evaluation was to measure the effectiveness and impact of the strategy during the initial five-year period of implementation. This took into account the extent to which it realised the aims, objectives and expected outcomes as set out in the strategy published in 2010.

To coincide with the evaluation report, the Welsh Government published a policy document 'The Next Steps'<sup>13</sup> that will strengthen its commitment and vision for continued growth of Welsh-medium education. The document outlines the priorities and actions for 2016-17 in response to the recommendations of the evaluation.

As noted previously, the Welsh Government has recently launched a new Welsh language strategy with the aim of reaching a million speakers by 2050. The strategy makes it clear that the education system has an important role to play in achieving this goal and our objectives in relation to the future development of Welsh-medium education are included in the final strategy.

As a result of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, local authorities in Wales are now under a statutory duty to prepare Welsh in Education Strategic Plan setting out how each one will carry out its education functions to:

- improve the planning of provision of education through the medium of Welsh in its area together with targets for improvement; and
- improve the standards of Welsh-medium education and the teaching of Welsh in its area together with targets for both.

A Plan must also include a report on progress to meet the targets contained in a previous plan.

A Welsh in Education Strategic Plan must be submitted to Welsh Ministers who may:

- approve it as submitted
- approve it with modifications, or
- reject it and prepare another plan which is to be treated as the local authority's approved plan.

A local authority must take all reasonable steps to implement its approved Welsh in Education Strategic Plan. The relevant sections of the 2013 Act are sections 84 to 87.<sup>14</sup>

The Welsh in Education Strategic Plans and Assessing Demand for Welsh-medium Education (Wales) Regulations 2013<sup>15</sup> made provision in respect of the duration, form and content of a plan, its submission to Welsh Ministers, the publication of a

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<sup>13</sup> <http://gov.wales/docs/dcells/publications/160309-next-steps-en-v2.pdf>

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2013/1/part/4>

<sup>15</sup> <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2013/3048/contents/made>

plan, and consultation and regular review of a plan. In addition, the Regulations set out the circumstances in which a local authority may be required to carry out a survey of demand among parents in its area for Welsh-medium education (known as a Welsh-medium education assessment).

The first statutory Welsh in Education Strategic Plans covered the period 2014 to 2017. All 22 of the original plans were approved by Welsh Ministers in the summer of 2014 as were all subsequent annually revised plans. All local authorities, therefore, currently have approved plans.

In August 2016 Welsh Ministers published revised guidelines for the preparation of new Welsh in Education Strategic Plans covering the period April 2017 to March 2020. Each local authority consulted on and submitted their plans to Welsh Ministers by 20 December 2016, at which point Welsh Ministers will exercise the functions provided for them by the 2013 Act at the beginning of 2017.

Once approved, each local authority must review its progress against its targets annually and submit a revised plan for further approval by Welsh Ministers.

With the launch and publication of the Cymraeg 2050: A Million Welsh Speakers strategy, the Welsh Government has set out its plans and expectations for strengthening and securing the future of the Welsh language. Education is at the heart of the strategy and a strong and fit for purpose planning framework is a priority.

In anticipation of the launch of the new strategy, in March this year an independent rapid review of the 2017-2020 Welsh in Education Strategic Plans was commissioned. The review provided a high level overview of the plans as well as a set of recommendations providing the basis for change. The Welsh Government will respond to the review early in the autumn.

### **More than just words.... follow-on strategic framework**

In March 2016, the Welsh Government launched the More than just words.... follow-on Strategic Framework to strengthen Welsh language services across health, social services and social care.

At its heart is the idea that being able to use your own language must be a core component of care – not an optional extra.

All organisations responsible for providing health and social care services in Wales are expected to mainstream Welsh language services as an integral part of service planning and delivery.

The original More than just words... strategic framework (2013-2016) sought to strengthen Welsh language services in health, social services and social care. This led to a number of initiatives to ensure Welsh speakers received services in their first

language in any care setting. The updated plan builds on the original framework and reflects changes in legislation, including the introduction of the new Welsh Language Standards.

The expectation that NHS Wales and social care staff will offer Welsh language services to patients rather than expect them to have to ask – the Active Offer – remains central to the follow-on framework.

The document is available here:

<http://gov.wales/topics/health/publications/health/guidance/words/?lang=en>

**Please give a detailed account of the legal and/or practical measures that your State has taken to implement each one of the recommendations of the Committee of Ministers?**

**a) take concrete steps to further increase the use of Welsh in health and social care;**

Reference should be had to the response at Part III, Article 13(2)(c).

**b) ensure that the present cuts in public spending do not have a disproportionate effect on the protection and promotion of minority languages.**

The Welsh Government bases spending decisions on an analysis of demands and needs in key public service areas which are of particular importance to those who need it most. The Welsh Budget was set for 4 years by the UK Government in its Spending Review on 25 November 2015. The Welsh Government was given a challenging settlement which has seen the Welsh Budget cut in real terms in the context of cuts which had already been made.

Alongside the challenges posed by austerity and reduced public spending, and the uncertainty surrounding the vote to leave the European Union, the Welsh Government has continued in its efforts to ensure the Welsh language grows and thrives in Wales. To this end, all the responses within this report relating to the Welsh language are testament to the Welsh Government's unwavering commitment to the Welsh language. Indeed, even against the backdrop of difficult financial times and the uncertainty caused by the vote to leave the European Union, we have set ourselves a challenging target to reach a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

In looking to the spending which is undertaken on the Welsh language in Wales, reference should be had to the duties which have been placed on bodies such as the Welsh Government and local authorities through the Welsh Language Standards system. As well as placing a duty to provide certain services through the medium of Welsh, the Welsh Language Standards' policy making standards go to great lengths to mainstream the Welsh language into the bodies' policy development. For a full understanding, reference should be had to the sections in the report which detail the Welsh Language Standards system (such as Part 1 and Part 3 at Article 13 of this report).

Given that the Welsh language is mainstreamed into the operation of some bodies, it is not possible to identify spending which is aimed solely at the Welsh language in

every instance. However, there are some instances where designated funding is aimed specifically at supporting the Welsh language.

Over the fifth reporting period, whilst having to make difficult choices on spending on some projects, the Welsh Government has invested new money to develop and enhance new and already existing projects. The fifth reporting period has seen the Welsh Government invest £2.5 million over 2014-16 through its Moving Forward Policy Statement fund (further information is provided below). Furthermore, the final Welsh Government budget for 2017-18 includes a further £5 million to invest in developing Welsh for Adults provision and the promotion of the Welsh language.

## **Part II**

**Please indicate what measures your State has taken to apply Article 7 of the Charter to the regional or minority languages as defined in paragraph a of the Charter, focusing in particular on the following aspects:**

- **Please provide information, for each regional or minority language, on new developments that have occurred since the last monitoring round concerning the provisions of Article 7;**
- a) the recognition of the regional or minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth;**

### **Sport**

**#amdani** – Sport Wales worked alongside the Welsh Language Commissioner on the development and launch of **#amdani**, guidance for sports clubs and associations in Wales encouraging them to use Welsh during their coaching sessions. The **#amdani** materials were launched in May 2016 by the Commissioner. The **#amdani** packs are also available for download from Sport Wales' new ClubSolutions website.

**Strategic Equality Standards** - In April 2016 Sport Wales launched their Strategic Equality Standards. After 12 months of consultation with partners, including the Welsh Language Commissioner, the new equality standards set out their equality objectives for 2016-2020. Whilst it is recognised that the Welsh language is not a protected characteristic specified under the Equality Act 2010, it is included within the scope of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (this is explained in greater detail at Part I of this report). Sport Wales understands that sport has a role to play in the promotion and protection of the Welsh language; and therefore it is important that customers' needs are understood and met.

**Gemau Cymru** – £60,000 per annum is invested in this bilingual multi-sport event, launched in 2011 as part of a Wales-wide London 2012 Legacy project. It has been established as a partnership between the Welsh Government, National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs), and Sport Wales, with the Urdd being commissioned as the delivery partner. Gemau Cymru is a bilingual signature event for young people in the Welsh sporting calendar enhancing the performance pathway of Olympic, Commonwealth and Paralympic sports. It provides an opportunity for talented young athletes to compete in a high profile multi-sport event while experiencing an athlete village environment.

**Urdd** – £250,000 of Welsh Government funding is invested annually to develop opportunities across Wales for young people to take part in sporting opportunities through the medium of Welsh. Investment is put into the community programme, focussing primarily on children of primary school age. Focus areas include community club development, family opportunities, appropriate competitive opportunities and workforce development.

### **Museums Archives Libraries Division**

The National Library of Wales and Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales are both subject to new Welsh Language Standards (explained in detail previously in this report) from January 2017. Both organisations deliver a range of services (including frontline public services for visitors) and resources in Welsh and English. They care for, and provide public access to a range of cultural heritage and archival material in the medium of Welsh, including multimedia items such as film, tv clips, home recordings, oral history, and popular music. Both organisations have ongoing programmes to increase the accessibility of items in their collections, including material in Welsh, through digitisation and online delivery.

As one of the six UK and Ireland legal deposit libraries, the National Library of Wales is eligible to receive a copy of all printed and non-print publications under UK legislation, and has an extensive collection of published material in the Welsh language.

[www.llgc.org.uk](http://www.llgc.org.uk) – National Library of Wales website

[www.museumwales.ac.uk](http://www.museumwales.ac.uk) – Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales website

### **Major Events Unit**

The Welsh Government's Major Events Unit (MEU) recognises that use and promotion of the Welsh language at public events can not only provide opportunities for Welsh speakers and learners to engage in activities through the medium of Welsh but can also provide a 'sense of place' to the event itself and differentiate it from others in the minds of UK and international visitors. Therefore, whilst one of the main aims of major events funding is to attract UK and international visitors to Wales, the MEU continue to promote and encourage use of the Welsh language through grant agreements with events, whether it be a 'home-grown' Wales based event or one attracted into Wales (e.g. an international sporting event). The extent and range of Welsh language provision by events (e.g. signage, promotional materials, employee awareness/skills) is monitored pre, during and post event through both formal and informal reporting means. Where necessary or appropriate the MEU will facilitate the provision of advice from the Welsh Government's Welsh Language Unit to encourage or extend the use of Welsh at a supported event.

### **Tourism Investment Support Scheme (TISS)**

TISS is an existing investment scheme that supports capital projects in the Tourism Sector in Wales either in the form of repayable or non-repayable business finance (RBF). Funding is aimed at meeting the overall objectives of the Welsh Government's Tourism Strategy Partnership for Growth launched in 2013 to increase visitor spend in Wales by 10% through improving the quality and variety of the tourism product. Support is aimed at tourism products that will create and safeguard jobs and result in best value for the taxpayer as well as demonstrate sustainability, a strong sense of place, including the use of the Welsh language. In approving financial support, the Welsh language conditions of TISS support maximise the

positive impacts of the language and are expressed within Schedule 2 of the offer documentation. Such conditions include having a Welsh website, bilingual signage, and evidence of bilingual customer facing staff.

### **Welsh Books Council**

The Welsh Books Council continues to provide grants to authors of Welsh language books, publishes an annual catalogue of books and educational resources for children, and organises a number of events and a social media campaign under the LlyfrDa/FabBook brand to promote reading and literacy. The materials used in these campaigns are Welsh language books and books from Wales. The Welsh language Children's Poet Laureate raises the profile of poetry amongst children and young people.

### **b) the respect of the geographical area of each regional or minority language in order to ensure that existing or new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of the regional or minority language in question;**

In the report of the Committee of Experts on the Charter under this heading, the Committee noted concerns that changes to council structures could have on the use of Welsh.

The powers in the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011, which enable the Welsh Ministers to amalgamate two or three Local Authorities in Wales, are powers of last resort. They are designed to be used in circumstances where a Local Authority is unable to fulfil its statutory functions and has not been able to improve the situation despite extensive support being made available.

If such a situation did arise, and it was considered appropriate to exercise these powers, careful consideration would be given to which Local Authority it might be appropriate to amalgamate with and the impact on the Welsh language would be a key consideration in making that determination. This would include consideration both of the needs of the population served and to use of the Welsh language in the administration of the Local Authorities concerned. In making any policy decision to amalgamate local authorities, the Welsh Ministers would be required to comply with the Welsh Language Standards that they are required to comply with, in particular standards 88, 89 and 90 (of the No. 1 Regulations).

### **c) the need for resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them;**

#### **Promotion and marketing**

Since the submission of the fourth periodic report to the Council of Europe, substantial efforts have been made in promoting and marketing the Welsh language. Further details are provided at Article 7(d) below.

The final Welsh Budget for 2017-18 provides £5,000,000 of additional funding to support the teaching of Welsh for Adults, with the remainder to be used to promote the Welsh language. The result of this new investment will be the subject of development over the sixth reporting period.

#### **Welsh Language Standards**

As set out in Part I of this report, the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 makes provision for the creation of a Welsh Language Standards system. At section 38(3), the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 permits the creation of promotion standards (*standard (relating to any activity) that is intended to promote or facilitate the use of the Welsh language more widely*<sup>16</sup>) to be made specifically applicable to local authorities, national parks and other bodies who give their consent to having promotion standards placed upon them.

As a result of the promotion standards included in the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015, the Welsh Language Commissioner has placed duties on local authorities and national parks in Wales to adopt strategies to promote and facilitate the use of the Welsh language in their areas.

Furthermore, the Welsh Language Standards Regulations' policy making standards (discussed at Part I) place duties on the bodies to which they apply to consider the effect of their policy on the Welsh language.

### **Welsh Language Strategy and the Welsh-medium Education Strategy**

As stated in Part I of this report, the fifth reporting period has seen resolute action to promote the Welsh language. To avoid repetition, the information provided at Part I concerning the Welsh Language Strategy, the Welsh-medium Education Strategy and their Policy Statements should be understood as resolute action taken during the fifth period within the meaning of this Article 7, paragraph c.

#### **d) the facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of regional or minority languages, in speech and writing, in public and private life;**

##### **Promotion and marketing**

The fifth reporting period has seen the Welsh Government launch new initiatives and marketing campaigns to promote and encourage the use of the Welsh language. In August 2014, the Welsh Government launched the 'Y Llais' as a single brand to be used by the Welsh Government and all partners to promote Welsh language activities, events and services across communities and to reinforce the message that there are opportunities to use the language in every aspect of life. The brand is built on 3 key pillars: to live, to learn and to enjoy life in Welsh.

Furthermore, in August 2014, the Welsh Government launched the Little things in Welsh (Pethau Bychain) behavioural change campaign. The campaign aims to demonstrate small, achievable things that people can do in their day-to-day lives to increase their use of Welsh. The brand was also included in a new website<sup>17</sup> launched by the Welsh Government in March 2015 which provides a hub for information on the Welsh language including opportunities to use the Welsh language socially, information on courses to learn Welsh and Welsh-medium education.

Following the dissolution of the Welsh Language Board in April 2012, the Welsh Government launched a new grants scheme in the summer of 2012 – 'Welsh Government Grants to Promote the Welsh Language'. This grant scheme was to take over from the grant schemes inherited from the Welsh Language Board as

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<sup>16</sup> section 31 Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011

<sup>17</sup> <http://cymraeg.gov.wales/?lang=en>



documented in the 4<sup>th</sup> cycle monitoring round report. The grant scheme was opened originally for the 2013-2014 year only but was extended to cover the period 2014-2016 following successful applications. Applications were invited by September 2013 and in December 2013, grants were awarded to 89 organisations totalling £3,913,357.00 (including the Mentrau Iaith (documented in the 4<sup>th</sup> cycle monitoring round), Urdd, National Eisteddfod of Wales, Merched y Wawr, Cymdeithas Eisteddfodau Cymru, Young Farmers Wales and the Papurau Bro).

In July 2015, the Welsh Government established a new grant fund to run from 2016-2019 – ‘Grants to Facilitate and Promote the Use of the Welsh Language’ to build on the work of the grant scheme operational in 2013-2016. The grant scheme was opened to existing funding partners to apply for further funding for the period of 2016-2019 with applications accepted by October 2015 and grants awarded by December 2015. Grants were awarded for the first year of the scheme to 75 external organisations (including the Mentrau Iaith (documented in the 4<sup>th</sup> cycle monitoring round), Urdd, National Eisteddfod of Wales, Merched y Wawr, Cymdeithas Eisteddfodau Cymru, Young Farmers Wales and the Papurau Bro) and totalled £4,065,491 with this figure to be reviewed annually.

In the Welsh Government’s Moving Forward Policy Statement, the Welsh Government committed to invest capital funds to develop Welsh language centres and/or learning spaces to promote the use of Welsh. Over 2014-16, the Welsh Government invested £2.5 million in capital funding to establish 10 Welsh language centres. The centres provide a focal point where people can practise, socialise and live in Welsh.

Also announced as part of the Moving Forward Policy Statement in August 2014 was the creation of the Moving Forward Innovative Fund. This fund was open to all third sector and public sector organisations in Wales to apply for funding for new and innovative projects to promote and/or facilitate the use of the Welsh language and two separate application rounds were opened for both the 2014/2015 financial year and the 2015-2016 financial year. Grants totalling £600,000 (£300,000 per financial year) were awarded to 17 organisations as part of this scheme.

#### Language use amongst children and young people

A working group of external stakeholders was set up in 2014 to consider how to increase children and young people’s informal use of the Welsh language.

The main focus of the activity to date has been to extend the Welsh Language Charter to all Welsh-medium primary schools in Wales. The main aim of the Welsh Language Charter is to provide a whole-school framework which can be used to promote and increase the use of the Welsh language amongst primary school children in everyday contexts.

In addition, specific campaigns to encourage more young people to use the Welsh language in social contexts have been developed, and the Supporting Young People’s Language Practices Project is being funded in Welsh-medium secondary schools, to address any informal language use challenges in the secondary school age group.

#### Welsh Language Music Day



The Welsh Language Music Day marketing campaign has also been launched during the 5<sup>th</sup> reporting period. Further information is provided at Part III under Article 11(i)(d) which should be read in conjunction with this article.

### **Welsh Language Standards**

The Welsh Language Standards system outlined at Part I (and discussed in more detail at Part III under Article 10) contributes to the facilitation and encouragement of the use of Welsh. Each set of Welsh Language Standards Regulations aim, amongst other policy objectives, to increase the use people make of Welsh language services. In pursuit of this policy objective, some standards include requiring bodies to proactively offer services in Welsh<sup>18</sup>. This is in recognition of the principle that an increase in use of services in a minority language can be achieved through proactively offering them to speakers of the minority language.

Furthermore, the Welsh Language Standards Regulations specify operational standards which place duties on bodies to which they apply to provide Welsh language services to staff when providing corporate functions such as training, recruitment and HR services. This is a step forward in promoting the Welsh language as enabling the use of Welsh in the workplace has the potential to improve people's confidence to use Welsh in the home and the community.

### **The digital sphere**

Ensuring that the Welsh language has a strong infrastructure and that Welsh speakers have access to technology that will support their use of the language in every aspect of their lives are priorities outlined in the Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050 strategy, as well as the previous *A living language: a language for living* strategy (2012-2017) and its associated Policy Statement: Moving Forward.<sup>19</sup>

In 2012 the Welsh Government published its Welsh-language Technology and Digital Media Action Plan<sup>20</sup> which outlined activities to encourage and promote the provision of Welsh language technology and digital media. Alongside the action plan, a fund of £750,000 over three years supported its implementation via more Welsh apps, content and services available on-line and more Welsh software packages.

The action plan and fund, has concentrated on five areas:

- 1 – Marketing and raising awareness of the technology and digital media that already exists through the medium of Welsh.
- 2 – Motivating the main technology companies to increase the Welsh language provision they have available; companies such as Apple, Amazon, Google.
- 3 – Encouraging the development of new Welsh-language apps, software applications and digital services.
- 4 – Stimulating the creation, sharing and consumption of Welsh-language digital content, and giving Welsh speakers the skills to develop and create Welsh content.
- 5 – Supporting good practice in the public, private and third sectors in order to increase opportunities for people to use Welsh-language technology in the workplace.

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<sup>18</sup>For example, standard 2 of the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015 ([http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2015/996/pdfs/wsi\\_20150996\\_mi.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2015/996/pdfs/wsi_20150996_mi.pdf))

<sup>19</sup> See page 10 <http://gov.wales/docs/dcells/publications/140806-living-language-moving-forward-en.pdf>

<sup>20</sup> <http://gov.wales/topics/welshlanguage/publications/welsh-language-technology-and-digital-media/?lang=en>

In the first three years, 25 innovation grants were awarded, 68 apps co-funded, and 11 'how-to' videos were published which show users how to set their Facebook to Welsh, spellcheck in Welsh, etc.

### **Welsh Books Council**

The Welsh Government's support for Welsh language publishing is channelled through the Welsh Books Council.

The Welsh Books Council received grant funding of £1,632,550 from the Welsh Government during 2016-17 to support Welsh language publishing.

This funding was distributed by the Welsh Books Council to:

- support the publishing of new books and magazines
- support authors, illustrators, photographers and designers
- support creative editors in the publishing houses
- support independent booksellers
- provide performance payments to publishers
- support the marketing of new books.

The daily Welsh online news service Golwg360 ([www.golwg360.com](http://www.golwg360.com)), owned by Golwg Newydd, which is a sister company of Golwg Cyf., was launched in May 2009, and use of the site has grown regularly since then. The service was put out to competitive tender during the summer of 2016 and Golwg Newydd were successful and are contracted to provide the service between 2017 and 2020.

As of November 2016 the service regularly attracts an average of 9086 visitors a day to read 76,131 pages; readers typically stay on the site for 4 mins 39 sec, their audience reach is increasingly dependent on social media and they have over 10,099 Twitter and 2435 Facebook followers; they have 564 videos on their YouTube Channel viewed 76,100 times and 156 recordings on Sound Cloud listened to 7195 times.

The Welsh Government continues to provide funding (£190,000 per annum) through the Welsh Books Council, to Golwg 360. This is in addition to the £171,000 currently being spent by the Welsh Government, through the Welsh Books Council, on Welsh-medium news and current affairs publications.

Since 2013 the Welsh Books Council has invested in the production of Welsh-language e-books and in developing apps aimed at assisting access to books and magazines. There are currently 312 Welsh-language e-books which are available via Android, iOS and Flash platforms developed by the Books Council.

The council also supports a variety of magazines with a grant of £343,300. There are a total of 15 titles aimed at the leisure (2850), literary (600), current affairs (2200) and children's (1650) markets. [Sales targets are noted in brackets] Following a tender process conducted in the summer of 2015 there was some change in the supported portfolio which now includes two brand new titles: Mellten a comic for 8-12 year olds, and O'r Pedwar Gwynt a multiplatform literary magazine.

- e) **the maintenance and development of links, in the fields covered by this Charter, between groups using a regional or minority language and other groups in the State employing a language used in identical or similar form, as well as the establishment of cultural relations with other groups in the State using different languages;**

The Welsh Government provides a £90,000 grant to the London Welsh School per academic year to deliver Welsh-medium education in London. This is part of the Government's wider aim to promote the language outside of Wales. The school takes pride in its responsibility to promote the Welsh language and culture in London and pupils participate in several events during the year, for example St David's Day service at Westminster and concerts held at the London Welsh Centre.

### **#Cymraeg2050 – a million speakers conference**

As part of the consultation on the Welsh Government's draft strategy which outlined the vision to reach a million Welsh speakers by 2050, the Welsh Government held an international conference in October 2016 to discuss the Welsh Government's vision. As part of the conference, the Welsh Government invited speakers from the Celtic and Scottish Studies department at the University of Edinburgh, and also the Chair of the NPLD, Patxi Baztarrika Galparsoro who is also the Vice-Minister for the Basque Language. Further details of the conference are provided in the report which summarises consultation responses available here:

<https://consultations.gov.wales/consultations/welsh-language-strategy>.

Over the fifth reporting period, the Welsh Government has retained its membership of the Network to Promote Linguistic Diversity – NPLD ([www.npld.eu](http://www.npld.eu)). The purpose of the NPLD was reported in the fourth monitoring report to which reference should be made. In this reporting period, there has been activity by and between the Network and its members in the following policy areas:

**NPLD General Assemblies:** Over the course of the reporting period, the Welsh Government has continued to participate in the General Assemblies of the NPLD, the most recent of which was held in Bilbao in 2016.

**NPLD2020:** As part of NPLD 2020, two roundtable events were held in January 2015 in the Welsh Government's Brussels office. One focused on Language and the Economy, and the other on Language and Mobility/Migration. In addition, as part of NPLD2020, NPLD consulted on a Roadmap for Linguistic Diversity, the aim of which is to outline a new vision for the future of languages and linguistic diversity in the European Union.

Outside its participation in the NPLD, the Welsh Government has also worked with representatives of other regional or minority languages to share experiences and knowledge. In 2016, the First Minister of Wales met with the Minister for Maori Development from New Zealand and, in a separate meeting, met with a delegation representing the Inuit language to discuss language revitalisation.

### **Celtic Language Technology Workshop (CLTW)**

In August 2014, co-located with COLING 2014, the Celtic Language Technology Workshop was held in Dublin. The aim of the CLTW workshop was to provide a forum for researchers interested in developing NLP (Natural Language Processing) resources and technologies for Celtic languages. The goal of the CLTW is to

encourage collaboration and communication between researchers working on language technologies and resources for Celtic languages. The CLTW included a session on developing further speech recognition resources for Welsh, and also looked at DECHE and the Welsh National Corpus Portal. Further information on the event can be found here: <http://fionlive2.dcu.ie/cltw2014/>.

### **The Place for our Language in Higher Education Conference**

On 1-3 July 2014, the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol held an international conference in Cardiff under the heading: 'The Place for our language in Higher Education Conference. The conference included the presentation of papers from lecturers sponsored by the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol and also from speakers from other parts of Europe. Amongst others, there was representation from the European Commission, University of the Basque Country and the Basque Institute of Sciences.

### **f) the provision of appropriate forms and means for the teaching and study of regional or minority languages at all appropriate stages;**

The National Literacy and Numeracy Programmes published in 2012 set out the actions that Welsh Government and our partners would take to transform standards of literacy and numeracy in Wales, these included the introduction of the Literacy and Numeracy Frameworks and introducing national reading and numeracy testing. In March 2016, Welsh Government published the National Literacy and Numeracy Programme – A Strategic Action Plan which builds on the 2012 version.

The National Literacy and Numeracy Framework (LNF) became a statutory curriculum requirement in September 2013 for learners aged 5 to 14 years old. From September 2015, the LNF was extended to cover 3-4 year olds and 14-16 year olds (on a non-statutory basis). Oracy, reading and writing are set out as year-on-year expectations within the LNF and the programmes of study for English and Welsh (first language). The LNF describes the skills that we expect pupils to acquire and master from ages 3 to 16.

The literacy components within the LNF were developed so that the expectations in English and Welsh are similar. There are a few distinctive aspects in the Welsh language version to reflect the unique requirements of the Welsh language but, apart from these, the skills to be applied are almost identical and are transferable from one language to the other.

In Welsh-medium primary schools it is recognised that language and literacy skills acquisition in the early years may follow a different pattern. Immersion methodology will develop children's Welsh language skills and by Key Stage 2 there will be increasing parity in the development of both Welsh and English literacy skills. As a consequence in Reception to Year 3 inclusive, Welsh-medium schools will only be required to use the Welsh literacy component of the LNF (alongside numeracy). From Year 4 onwards we expect Welsh-medium schools to use both the English and Welsh components. This will in effect mean that the English literacy component will be used when English is being taught, and the Welsh literacy component being used across the curriculum. Schools can also use the English component in Reception and Years 1–3 if they wish.

Formal assessment against the LNF became a statutory requirement in September 2014 and gave schools a full academic year to focus on embedding the LNF into

their curriculum planning and their learning and teaching before being required to assess learners' progress against it.

In 2015, the Welsh Government revised the Areas of Learning (AoL) for Language, Literacy and Communication Skills and Mathematical Development and the Programmes of Study (PoS) for English, Welsh (first language) and mathematics. These strengthen the teaching and learning of literacy and numeracy by complementing, and aligning them with, the approach taken in the LNF to create a continuum of learning within these subjects.

The programmes of study for English and Welsh were developed side by side. A statement outlining that learners should be encouraged to use translingual skills has been included in the programmes of study for English and Welsh (first language). Learners can use translingual and dual literacy skills to develop both languages so that a strength in one language reinforces the other.

Annual National Reading Tests for learners in years 2 to 9 were introduced in May 2013. Learners in English-medium schools take the English reading tests only. Learners in Welsh-medium schools take the Welsh reading test from year 2 and are also required to take the English reading test from year 4. Our National Reading Tests are first and foremost diagnostic. The central focus of future assessment arrangements will continue to ensure learners understand how they are performing and what they need to do next. Online adaptive assessments will be phased in from the 2018-19 academic year to replace the current paper-based tests.

Following a review of Welsh second language at Key Stages 3 and 4 commissioned by the Welsh Government, the One Language for All report by Professor Sioned Davies, was published in September 2013, and made recommendations for changes to teaching and assessment of Welsh second language to enable more learners to use the language. Many of the recommendations relating to the curriculum were considered by Professor Donaldson as part of his independent review of curriculum and assessment arrangements in Wales.

Professor Donaldson's Successful Futures report, published in June 2015, identified the commitment to the Welsh language as one of the strengths of the curriculum in Wales. The report made 68 recommendations to address these and improve how children in schools in Wales are taught and assessed. 10 of the 68 recommendations within the report refer specifically to the Welsh language and include the recommendation that Welsh remains a statutory subject in the new curriculum to age 16. The then Minister for Education accepted all 68 recommendations and the current Cabinet Secretary for Education has reaffirmed the Welsh Government's acceptance, in full, of these recommendations.

A curriculum for Wales – a curriculum for life was published in October 2015 setting out the steps Welsh Government will take, working with the teaching profession, to realise the recommendations of Successful Futures. It focuses on eight essential Building Blocks for our new curriculum for 3 to 16-year-olds. Building Block 5 of A curriculum for Wales – a curriculum for life focuses on the Welsh language.

In 2016 the First Minister made clear his intention that Welsh second language will not feature in the new curriculum for Wales and that a Welsh language continuum will be developed to ensure that all children and young people in Welsh-medium,

bilingual and English-medium settings and schools from age 3-16 years make progress in learning Welsh and are able to use their Welsh language skills. It is the Welsh Government's intention that all schools and settings will be basing teaching and learning on the new curriculum from 2021.

### **Creative Learning**

The Creative Learning Through the Arts Plan 2015-2020 promotes the Welsh language by ensuring that there is scope to provide all administrative contact and project support through the medium of Welsh. In both work strands within the programme, the Lead Creative Schools and All Wales Offer, policy documentation, planning forms and promotional activity are all provided bilingually.

The Lead Creative Schools Programme provides creative agents and practitioners to schools to support them in the development of creative learning practices. During the recruitment process for these agents and practitioners, special attention is paid to ensuring a sufficient number and range of Welsh-medium creative professionals are available to any school that requests them. Additionally, projects carried out by schools can focus on supporting skills in Welsh, both as a 1st and 2nd language.

The All Wales Offer aims at forging long lasting relationships between the creative and education sectors, with grants provided to schools and creative organisations to support the forming of collaborative partnerships and encourage engagement with cultural experiences. The Creative Learning Zone, which underpins the offer, is fully bilingual and promotes Welsh-medium creative resources, the work of Welsh language creative partners and arts, heritage and cultural events across Wales.

### **g) the provision of facilities enabling non-speakers of a regional or minority language living in the area where it is used to learn it if they so desire;**

Since the last report, an independent review of the Welsh for Adults programme has been undertaken and the Welsh Government, in response to the recommendations, has restructured the programme. The National Centre for Learning Welsh was established in 2015 and is now responsible for providing strategic direction and leadership to a network of 10 providers who deliver courses. The Centre is currently in the process of developing a new curriculum and also Welsh in the workplace courses, amongst other priorities.

The fifth reporting period also saw the creation of a Welsh course on the online language learning service, Duolingo. Duolingo gives people the chance to learn a language at their own pace through their own phone, tablet or computer.

### **h) the promotion of study and research on regional or minority languages at universities or equivalent institutions;**

The Welsh Government promotes research on Welsh language policy and sociolinguistics through its engagement with the Wales Institute of Social and Economic Research, Data and Methods (WISERD), a collaborative network comprising the universities of Aberystwyth, Bangor, Cardiff, South Wales and Swansea. This provides opportunities for the Welsh Government to contribute to strengthening the research infrastructure in Wales, and to facilitate an understanding of the contribution of research to policy development. The Welsh Government also



promotes research activity at universities by commissioning work as part of its research programme for Welsh language planning policy.

The Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol, which was established in 2011, provides independent oversight, management and development of Welsh-medium higher education across Wales. Working with and through higher education institutions in Wales, funding has been provided via the Higher Education Council for Wales (HEFCW) to support the development of Welsh-medium higher education and during 2016-17; £5.8m was invested in developing the provision.

The main expenditure can be split into three distinct activities:

- a. Academic Staffing Scheme – The funding of lecturing posts in Welsh HE institutions to develop the capacity of the sector to offer higher education through the medium of Welsh;
- b. Core activities – Which include, academic planning, promotion of Welsh-medium higher education, funding branch officers within HE institutions, research and the development of the Welsh Language Skills certificate, and the;
- c. Scholarship Scheme – financial incentives for student to complete or all of their studies in Welsh.

Further information is available on the work of the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol is available on the Coleg's website: [www.colegcymraeg.ac.uk/en/thecoleg/](http://www.colegcymraeg.ac.uk/en/thecoleg/)

A task and finish group was set up during the summer of 2016 to review the future role of the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol, and make recommendations on the way forward. The review will inform future policy and budget decisions and the group was also been requested to consider the relationship between the Coleg and the further education sector. The report was published in July 2017.<sup>21</sup>

**i) the promotion of appropriate types of transnational exchanges, in the fields covered by this Charter, for regional or minority languages used in identical or similar form in two or more States.**

The Welsh Language Teaching Project in the Chubut province of Argentina reported in the fourth monitoring report under this heading came was renewed for another period when the project came to an end in 2015. The year 2015 became the most successful year in the project's history with the highest number of people having undertaken Welsh courses and the highest amount of Welsh classes having been offered in the history of the scheme. Further information on the project and its annual reports are available on the British Council Wales' website.

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/study-work-create/opportunity/work-volunteer/welsh-language-project>

### **Museums Archives Libraries Division**

During 2015, the Casgliad y Werin Cymru / People's Collection Wales digital heritage programme delivered digital heritage training and established digital heritage hubs for activities in Welsh-speaking communities in Patagonia, in

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<sup>21</sup> <http://gov.wales/topics/educationandskills/allsectorpolicies/welshmededuca/review-of-the-activities-of-the-coleg-cymraeg-cenedlaethol/?skip=1&lang=en>

partnership with (and funded by) the British Council. Some of the material digitised by community groups and individuals in Patagonia is accessible on the People's Collection Wales website. The People's Collection Wales programme also has active ongoing relationships with expatriate communities in North America who also contribute digitised material to the website.

[www.casgliadywerin.cymru](http://www.casgliadywerin.cymru) – Casgliad y Werin Cymru website (Welsh)

[www.peoplescollection.wales](http://www.peoplescollection.wales) – People's Collection Wales website (English)

### **Patagonia 150**

Patagonia 150 in 2015 which marked the anniversary of the first Welsh settlers arriving in Patagonia was an opportunity to showcase the Welsh culture and language in Argentina.

**Article 7 para. 2 The Parties undertake to eliminate, if they have not yet done so, any unjustified distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference relating to the use of a regional or minority language and intended to discourage or endanger the maintenance or development of it. The adoption of special measures in favour of regional or minority languages aimed at promoting equality between the users of these languages and the rest of the population or which take due account of their specific conditions is not considered to be an act of discrimination against the users of more widely-used languages.**

Developments related to this article are contained throughout this report where the Welsh Language Standards system and the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 are referenced, particularly at Part I and Part III at Article 10. Reference should therefore be made to these sections of this report at this point.

**Article 7 para. 3 The Parties undertake to promote, by appropriate measures, mutual understanding between all the linguistic groups of the country and in particular the inclusion of respect, understanding and tolerance in relation to regional or minority languages among the objectives of education and training provided within their countries and encouragement of the mass media to pursue the same objective.**

No developments since the last report.

**Article 7 para. 4 In determining their policy with regard to regional or minority languages, the Parties shall take into consideration the needs and wishes expressed by the groups which use such languages. They are encouraged to establish bodies, if necessary, for the purpose of advising the authorities on all matters pertaining to regional or minority languages.**

As outlined in greater detail within Part I of this report (to which, reference should be made in the monitoring of compliance with this provision of the Charter), the fifth reporting period has seen substantial engagement take place between the Welsh Government and Welsh speakers in the adoption of its Welsh language policies. The Moving Forward policy statement was published in August 2014 following extensive consultation with the public via Y Gynhadledd Fawr (<http://gov.wales/topics/welshlanguage/welsh-language-events/a-living-language/?lang=en>). Furthermore, in August 2016, the Welsh Government published its draft Welsh language strategy which outlined the vision and proposed work to



reach a million Welsh speakers by 2050. Both Y Gynhadledd Fawr and the 2016 consultation were launched pursuant to a duty on the Welsh Government to consult contained at section 78(5) of the Government of Wales Act 2006.

Following both Y Gynhadledd Fawr and the 2016 consultation, consultation reports were drafted to summarise the responses received. Copies of the reports are available here:

Y Gynhadledd Fawr: <http://gov.wales/docs/dcells/publications/131022-a-living-language-have-your-say-en.pdf>

Summary of responses of the consultation on the vision for a million Welsh speakers by 2050:

[https://consultations.gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultation\\_doc\\_files/170110-consultation-responses-en.pdf](https://consultations.gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultation_doc_files/170110-consultation-responses-en.pdf)

Following the public consultation, the final strategy – Cymraeg 2050: a million Welsh speakers – was launched in July 2017.

Furthermore, consultations have been held with the public in relation to the Welsh Language Standards Regulations. Further information on the Welsh Language Standards is provided at Part I and III of this report to which reference should be made. Following the consultations held with the public, reports have been published which are available on the Welsh Government's website at:

[www.gov.wales/consultations](http://www.gov.wales/consultations).

Bodies are under various duties in relation to the use of the Welsh language in consultations (if they are required by the Commissioner in their compliance notice to comply). Reference should be had to Standards 91, 92 and 93 of the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015 as examples.

As noted at Part I of this report and mentioned in the fourth report, the Welsh Language Partnership Council continues to meet to advise and make representations to Welsh Ministers on the same basis as set out in the fourth report. To date, 14 meetings have been held.

- **Please give a detailed account of the legal and/or practical measures that your State has taken to implement the encouragements and box recommendations of the Committee of Experts given in the previous evaluation report(s).**

None applicable to the Welsh language in the Committee of Experts' 4<sup>th</sup> monitoring cycle evaluation report.

### **Part III**

**For each regional or minority language chosen at the moment of ratification, as follows from paragraph 2 of Article 2 of the Charter, please indicate how the undertakings have been implemented (see Appendix), focusing on the following aspects:**

- **Please provide information on new developments that have occurred since the last monitoring round.**

**With reference to the most recent evaluation report of the Committee of Experts concerning the implementation of the Charter in your State:**

- **For undertakings for which the Committee of Experts did not have sufficient information to properly evaluate the implementation, please provide detailed information;**
- **For undertakings which the Committee of Experts considered were not fulfilled, please indicate what steps your State has taken, for each regional or minority language, to implement these undertakings;**
- **For the encouragements and box recommendations of the Committee of Experts, please give a detailed account of the legal and/or practical measures that your State has taken.**

**Article 8 – Education paragraph 1 – With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:**

**Paragraph 1 (a)(i) to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages;**

The consultation document on the Welsh Government's draft strategy to promote and facilitate the use of the Welsh language (discussed at Part I of this report) identified Welsh-medium early years and childcare provision as an essential part of the growth needed to reach the target of a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

Specifically, the draft strategy referred to:

- the importance of Welsh-medium early years provision to increase numbers of children in Welsh-medium education – the earlier a child comes into contact with the language, the more opportunity he or she has to become fluent
- the need to significantly increase the number of workers in the childcare and early years sectors able to work through the medium of Welsh
- the need to improve rates of progression from early years on to statutory education and beyond.

These aims were translated into the final long-term strategy, Cymraeg 2050, which included the following target:

- Make rapid progress to expand Welsh-medium early years provision by 150 nursery groups over the next decade to facilitate a seamless transition into Welsh-medium education

The Welsh Government is currently also developing a new childcare offer, consisting of 30 hours of free childcare for 48 weeks of the year for 3-4 year old children whose parents are in employment. These 30 hours will include a minimum 10 hours of early years education (the Foundation Phase) currently provided across Wales for 3-4 year olds. The main goal is to ensure families whose parents are in employment, or wish to return to work, are supported to do so by ensuring suitable and affordable childcare is available across Wales. The offer will be trialled in five areas across Wales from September 2017. As there are clear links between these two policies, expanding Welsh-medium childcare provision is a key part of the development of the new childcare offer for Wales, and the aim is to ensure that choosing Welsh-medium early years provision is not a barrier to access as well as encouraging greater numbers of parents to choose Welsh-medium childcare as a first step to Welsh-medium education and beyond.

The Foundation Phase Action Plan, published in November 2016 set out the need to improve the level of Welsh language across all schools and settings and an increased use of Welsh language resources.

A number of programmes are in place to increase numbers of early-years practitioners able to work through the medium of Welsh. The 'Progress for Success' programme, jointly funded by Welsh Government and the European Social Fund, was launched in summer 2016. It will enable practitioners over the age of 25, who currently work within the sector to gain recognised childcare or play qualifications.

Specific targets for the delivery of learning through the medium of Welsh have been incorporated into the programme to ensure that childcare workers in Welsh-medium settings have opportunities to maintain and develop their Welsh language skills for use within the sector.

Support is offered for both parents and children with the aim of increasing numbers of children in Welsh-medium education as well as progression from early years on to statutory education. The 'Cymraeg for Kids' programme, established in April 2016, builds upon the work undertaken by 'Twi' since 2001 to provide support and advice to parents and their children to use Welsh. The programme operates on a national and local level. The Welsh Government works with a number of partners, including the health service, in order to promote messages regarding language transfer on a national level. On a local level, a contract has been awarded to Mudiad Meithrin to offer intensive support aimed at encouraging Welsh language transfer within families and promote the benefits of bilingualism to parents and prospective parents.

**Para 1(b)(i) to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages;**

The 21st Century Schools programme is a partnership between the Welsh Government, Local Government, the Welsh Local Government Association, Diocesan Directors of the Voluntary Aided Sector and Colleges-Wales. It is overseen by the 21st Century Schools Programme Board. The Programme has an investment value of £1.4billion.

All Strategic Outline Programmes in the first wave of investment (Band A) through the 21st Century Schools Programme have been approved. Since 2013/2014, local authorities have been submitting their business cases to seek the Welsh Government's approval for 50% of the funding to implement their proposals. Amongst other priorities, the Programme supports Local Authorities to address sufficiency of Welsh-medium places to support the next generation of Welsh speakers. All projects and their associated Business Cases go through a robust assessment process. This process includes consultation with Welsh language policy officials, who are given the opportunity to comment on alignment with Welsh Government policy. Under the first band of investment, c.29.5% of the funding either committed or earmarked to date is for Welsh-medium schools.

Along with local authorities across Wales, the Welsh Government through investment in schools will continue to ensure that schools are of the right type, in the right location and of the right size. As well as the aforementioned criteria, for some local authorities, the linguistic consideration will be the main focus of their proposals for capital investment due to the authority's language policy. However, in some cases, (particularly where less than 50% of children are in Welsh-medium education) an assessment of the demand for Welsh-medium education further ensures that local authorities retain the Welsh language at the heart of community focussed planning for education and learning across Wales.

A local authority must carry out a Welsh-medium education assessment of the whole county or a particular area as the Welsh Ministers determine. The criteria for deciding whether a local authority needs to undertake an assessment including the questions for inclusion in any assessment are set out in the Welsh in Education Strategic Plans and Assessing Demand for Welsh Medium Education (Wales)

Regulations 2013.

When planning and developing new projects for investment, local authorities need to be mindful that new learning environments within schools in Wales can be responsive to the need for successful implementation of strategies for school improvement and to increase and sustain the demand for Welsh-medium education. This will potentially lead to better outcomes both linguistically and against key educational objectives.

**Para 1(c)(1) to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages;**

The Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (WESPs) have established a sound basis for the planning of Welsh-medium education across Wales, this includes bilingual and Welsh language education. It is the Welsh Government's intention therefore to build on this good work in the next iteration embedding any lessons learnt.

The second key outcome within the WESP's (more learners continuing to improve their language skills on transfer from primary school to secondary school) is the section where local authorities must provide the numbers transferring within key stages as well as their targets for the next three years and what they're doing to promote and encourage linguistic progression.

Local authorities are required to provide information about the transfer of pupils at the following stages:

- a) Funded non-maintained nursery education to funded nursery education;
- b) The foundation phase to the second key stage;
- c) The second key stage to the third key stage; and
- d) The third key stage to the fourth key stage

These stages are critical especially so at KS2 to KS3 as this is where the number of pupils attending Welsh-medium schools and assessed in Welsh as a first language seem to dip in some local authorities. We want to know why these dips occur and what local authorities do to ensure the dips are addressed. This provides us with a county, regional and national trend so that we as a government may see where the critical points are and provide the necessary support and challenge.

**Para 1(d)(i) to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or**

(ii) to make available a substantial part of technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or

(iii) to provide, within technical and vocational education, for the teaching of the relevant regional or minority languages as an integral part of the curriculum; or

**(iv) to apply one of the measures provided for under i to iii above at least to those pupils who, or where appropriate whose families, so wish in a number considered sufficient;**

**Further Education**

The Bilingual Champions project (established as a pilot in 2005/06) has been rolled out to all the remaining further education colleges during 2013/14 to 2015/16. The purpose is to establish an infrastructure to increase their Welsh-medium and bilingual provision ensuring linguistic continuity from statutory education into further

education. All further education colleges received the grant for three academic years to employ a dedicated officer to plan provision and to hold activities to develop the students' Welsh language skills. The grant to the last four colleges joining the project will end during 2016-17. Every further education college has continued with the role of the Bilingual Champion, either as a single post, or by distributing the responsibilities between one or more college staff.

In September 2014, a study of the work of the Bilingual Champions in Further Education<sup>22</sup> was published under the auspices of the Welsh-medium Education Strategy evaluation. Based on the evidence collated, the Bilingual Champions work "has led to a clear increase in the attention given to the planning of Welsh-medium provision. This increase would not, in all likelihood, have been seen if it were not for the existence of the Champions."

Further education colleges will continue to be supported through the Welsh-medium Allowance provided to colleges as part of their annual revenue settlement. Colleges are expected to use the allowance to develop provision to enable learners to continue with their post-16 education through the medium of Welsh. Colleges are required to demonstrate which learning programmes are available through the medium of Welsh and bilingually in their annual planning documentation to the Welsh Government.

Colleges are supported through the Sabbatical Scheme funded by the Welsh Government and since 2013/14, 28 tutors from 9 FE colleges have benefitted from the programme, providing Welsh language training to lecturers. Through the Welsh Government's agreement with Sgiliaith, a dedicated training branch of Grŵp Llandrillo Menai, it provides practical support and methodological training to lecturers to further develop Welsh-medium and bilingual provision.

The development of Welsh-medium and bilingual learning within work based learning continues. The providers are supported through a Welsh Government funded Bilingual Champion and methodological training provided to assessors by Sgiliaith.

The requirement for learning to be delivered through the medium of Welsh or bilingually within WBL has recently been strengthened with specific targets for Welsh-medium learning included within the annual provider allocations agreements. For 2016-17 targets have been set within the childcare, healthcare, agriculture and construction sectors.

Furthermore, the new Welsh language strategy referred to in Part I of this report includes specific reference for the need to work to increase the rates of linguistic continuity between the different stages of education.

### **Welsh-medium vocational qualifications**

Qualifications Wales, the independent regulator for non-degree qualifications in Wales has, through the Qualifications Wales Act 2015, is required to have regard to the desirability of promoting and facilitating the use of the Welsh language.

Awarding bodies are not legally obliged to offer Welsh-medium qualifications; Qualifications Wales works with awarding bodies and sector organisations to strive

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<sup>22</sup> <http://gov.wales/docs/caecd/research/2014/140925-welsh-medium-education-strategy-bilingual-champions-en.pdf>

to meet the demand for qualifications through the medium of Welsh. Qualifications Wales provides extensive grant funding to awarding bodies to help support the availability of Welsh-medium qualifications and assessment for vocational qualifications, including Welsh for Adults qualifications.

**Para 1(e)(iii) if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, sub-paragraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;**

Higher Education provision is available within all Welsh Universities in Wales. Welsh-medium modules can be studied within all the main subject areas and the number of students using Welsh within their studies is increasing. The provision is being developed and promoted through the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol which has been established to provide national oversight and management of Welsh-medium Higher Education provision.

Furthermore, the Welsh language strategy referred to in Part I of this report includes specific reference for the need to work to increase the rates of linguistic continuity between the different stages of education.

**Para 1f(i) to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages;**

The Welsh Government provides funding to local authorities and further education colleges to deliver adult community learning (ACL). The funding enables providers to deliver a range of flexible learning opportunities for adults and is targeted primarily at those aged 25 or over.

As a result of recent reductions in funding, the Welsh Government has asked providers to prioritise their ACL funded provision on the delivery of Essential Literacy, Numeracy, ESOL, Digital Literacy and Employability Skills. The funding is for both English and Welsh-medium adult community learning, and providers are encouraged to consider the language needs of their learners when planning their provision. A number of funded providers sub-contract provision of Welsh-medium delivery to the Mentrau Iaith (Language Initiatives) which are voluntary community organisations which promote the use of Welsh throughout Wales.

A range of other providers, including third sector providers, who are not directly funded by the Welsh Government also provide for adult community learning.

However, across the sector the proportion of Welsh-medium provision is low.

**Para 1(f)(ii) to offer such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education;**

See paragraph 1g in Part II:

Since the last report, an independent review of the Welsh for Adults programme has been undertaken and the Welsh Government, in response to the recommendations,

has restructured the programme. The National Centre for Learning Welsh was established in 2015 and is now responsible for providing strategic direction and leadership to a network of 10 providers who deliver courses. The Centre is currently in the process of developing a new curriculum and also Welsh in the workplace courses, amongst other priorities.

**Para 1(g) to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;**

Wales has a rich culture and heritage and the Welsh Government believes that it is essential that all pupils in Wales get the opportunity to learn about our nation's history.

From the Foundation Phase onwards, teachers and schools are encouraged to develop children's understanding of the cultural identity that is unique to Wales. This helps them to appreciate the different languages and cultural aspects that are integral in Wales today, as well as gain a sense of belonging to Wales and understand our language, Welsh heritage, literature and arts.

During the foundation phase (3 years old to 7 years old) schools will use Areas of Learning, 'Knowledge and understanding of the world' which supports young children in their development and understanding of historical concepts, for example, learners should be given the opportunity to begin to identify differences between ways of life at different times, e.g. by comparing a familiar place at different times in the past.

At key stage 2 and 3, schools follow the Programme of Study for History which gives learners the opportunity to develop their curiosity about the past and the characteristics of different periods, with the opportunity to draw upon examples from their area and Wales as a whole. During these key stages there is also an expectation that learners should acquire these skills through subject areas that concentrate on Welsh history such as "changes to people's daily lives in the locality in the nineteenth century" at key stage 2 and "the change and conflict in Wales and Britain between 1500 and 1760" at key stage 3.

The Cwricwlwm Cymreig (discussed below) also contributes towards educating learners about Welsh culture by providing opportunities, across the curriculum, to develop and apply knowledge and understanding of the cultural characteristics of Wales. For example, in PSE learners can be given the opportunity to develop an understanding of the nature of communities in Wales and the roles, relationships, conflicts and inequalities that affect the quality of life.

In September 2013 the Welsh Government published the findings of the Cwricwlwm Cymreig Task and Finish Group, which looked at how Welsh culture could better be imbedded in the education system. The report, "The Cwricwlwm Cymreig, history and the story of Wales", was considered as part of Professor Graham Donaldson's review of curriculum and assessment arrangements in Wales – *Successful Futures*. Further information about this report is provided above at Part II, Article 7(1)(f).

The report identifies four purposes of the curriculum; that all our children and young people will be ambitious, capable learners; enterprising, creative contributors; ethical, informed citizens and healthy, confident individuals.

Integral to these purposes is the idea that learners become knowledgeable about



their culture, community, society and the world, now and in the past and can communicate effectively in different forms and settings, using both Welsh and English.

**Para 1(h) to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party**

Initial Teacher Education (ITE) provision in Wales is currently delivered via three regional centres: north and mid Wales; south-west Wales; and south-east Wales. Training is offered through the medium of Welsh at each of the three centres.

Training grants are offered to ITE students, targeted at subjects or areas identified as Welsh Government priorities. Welsh (as a subject) is amongst the highest priorities for these grants, with students undertaking training in 2016-17 receiving grants of up to £20,000 (dependent on degree classification and school phase).

A Welsh-language Competency Certificate was developed by Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol in collaboration with ITE centres, allowing students undertaking their training through the medium of Welsh the opportunity to gain a certificate that demonstrates both their oral and written Welsh-language skills, as well as their ability to teach through the medium of Welsh. A total of 145 students undertaking training during 2015-16 sat the certificate.

The Welsh Government's Welsh-language Sabbatical Scheme offers the current education workforce intensive periods of training aimed at improving their Welsh-language skills and confidence in teaching through the medium of Welsh. More than 1,200 practitioners have completed one of the Scheme's courses since it was launched in 2006 in locations across Wales. As well as courses for primary and secondary teachers, FE lecturers and teaching assistants working in English-medium primary schools, the Scheme has recently been expanded to offer a course specifically aimed at teaching assistants working in Welsh-medium primary schools.

The early years workforce's Welsh language skills were supported by the 'Cam Wrth Gam' programme, providing CACHE Level 3 Childcare development to support practitioners in delivering the Foundation Phase. 185 trainees participated in the programme in 2015-16.

The 'Un, dau, tri...hwyl a sbri' programme provided Welsh-language training for 144 practitioners from English-medium non-maintained settings during 2015-16. Whilst these settings do not deliver statutory education, they do form an important part in the language development of children.

**Para 1(i) to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings,**

The Welsh Government has continued to publish annual reports on progress in implementing the Welsh-medium Education Strategy. An independent evaluation of the Strategy was also undertaken over a period of three years, and the final report published in March 2016.

The term of the Ministerial Advisory Group came to an end in March 2016.

## Article 9 – Judicial authorities

**Paragraph 1 – The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:**

**in criminal proceedings:**

**(a)(ii) to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/or**

No additional information since the previous report.

**(a)(iii) to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language;**

No additional information since the previous report.

**in civil proceedings:**

**(b)(i) to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or**

No additional information since the previous report.

**(b)(ii) to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages**

**(b)(iii) in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters**

No additional information since the previous report.

**in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:**

**(c)(ii) to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or**

During the last 18 months the Administrative Court sitting in Wales (Cardiff and Mold) has heard two judicial review cases where the hearings took place predominantly in the Welsh language with the judgements also provided in Welsh. The first case was the Welsh Language Commissioner v National Savings and the second was The Friends of Pentrecelyn School v Denbighshire County Council.

**(c)(iii) to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages**

**(d) to take steps to ensure that the application of sub-paragraphs i and iii of paragraphs b and c above and any necessary use of interpreters and translations does not involve extra expense for the persons concerned.**

No additional information since the previous report.

**Paragraph 2b – not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language, and to provide that they can be invoked against interested third parties who are not users of these languages on condition that the contents of the document are made known to them by the person(s) who invoke(s) it; or**

No additional information since the previous report.

## Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services

**Paragraph 1 – Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:**

**(a)(i) to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages;**

As described in Part I, the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 (the Measure) has brought a sea change in the use of Welsh and provision of Welsh language services by administrative authorities and public services in Wales. The project of developing Welsh Language Standards Regulations and issuing Compliance Notices to organisations subjected to the standards is well underway and outlined at Part I.

Owing to the different nature of administrative bodies to be subjected to Welsh Language Standards, different sets of Regulations have been drafted which relate to different types of bodies. The Regulations contain standards which the Welsh Language Commissioner may require a body to comply with by giving the body a Compliance Notice. The Welsh Language Standards Regulations contain duties (standards) concerning the Welsh language under the following headings:

- Service delivery standards (defined at section 28 of the Measure)
- Policy making standards (defined at section 29 of the Measure)
- Operational standards (defined at section 30 of the Measure)
- Promotion standards (defined at section 31 of the Measure)
- Record keeping standards (defined at section 32 of the Measure)

In relation to the Welsh Government, local authorities and national parks, the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations<sup>23</sup> are applicable.

As reported in the fourth report at Article 10(a)(i), the Welsh Language Schemes of administrative authorities and bodies involved in delivering public services remain in operation if they have not yet been brought under the Welsh Language Standards system. The enforcement of Welsh Language Schemes under the Welsh Language Act 1993 remains the responsibility of the Welsh Language Commissioner.

Schedule 6 of the Measure brings the public services delivered by the UK Government (*‘Ministers of the Crown’* and *‘Government departments’*) within the scope of the Welsh Language Standards system. The Welsh Language Schemes of these administrative bodies and organisations will ultimately be replaced by Welsh Language Standards when Regulations are made in relation to them and when the Welsh Language Commissioner serves the body with a Compliance Notice.

As noted above, a review is currently ongoing relating to revising the Measure which is documented at Part I.

Since the last report, the Welsh language services offered by the UK Government have been grouped on a single page of the UK Government’s website at [www.gov.uk/cymraeg](http://www.gov.uk/cymraeg). A link to the list is provided at the footer throughout the

<sup>23</sup> [http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2015/996/pdfs/wsi\\_20150996\\_mi.pdf](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2015/996/pdfs/wsi_20150996_mi.pdf)

website.

**(b) to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;**

As described above at Article 10(a)(i), the production of documents and forms produced by the Welsh Ministers, local authorities and national parks are included within the Welsh Language Standards regulations, and the Commissioner is able to impose duties in relation to the production of Welsh language versions.

**(c) to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.**

In respect of the administrative authorities and bodies which now come under the Welsh Language Standards system, the fifth reporting period has seen substantial progress regarding this provision. The Operational Standards contained within the Welsh Language Standards aim to increase the role of the Welsh language internally in the administrative organisations and bodies to which they apply. To this end, the Welsh Language Standards make provision to require organisations to develop a policy on the use of Welsh internally with the aim of promoting and facilitating the use of Welsh.

Furthermore, the Operational Standards include duties on bodies to provide certain support material to staff in Welsh. Reference should be had to each body's Compliance Notices for a full understanding of the scope of these obligations for each particular body.

**Paragraph 2 – In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:**

**(a) the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;**

See response above concerning the Welsh Language Standards system at Article 10 paragraph 1.

**(b) the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;**

See response above concerning the Welsh Language Standards system at Article 10 paragraph 1.

**(c) the publication by regional authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;**

See response above concerning the Welsh Language Standards system at Article 10 paragraph 1.

**(d) the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in the**

**relevant regional or minority languages;**

See response above concerning the Welsh Language Standards system at Article 10 paragraph 1.

**(e) the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;**

On the 12 November 2012, the National Assembly for Wales (Official Languages) Bill, referred to at Article 10 paragraph 2(e) of the fourth report received Royal Assent and became law. It makes provision about the use of the English and Welsh languages in proceedings of the National Assembly for Wales and in the discharge of the functions of the Assembly Commission.

**(f) the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;**

See response above concerning the Welsh Language Standards system to which local authorities are subjected to at Article 10 paragraph 1.

**(g) the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place-names in regional or minority languages.**

The below should be read in conjunction with the duties on administrative authorities under the Welsh Language Standards system as at Article 10 paragraph 1.

The Welsh Language Commissioner retains responsibility for the coordination of the standardisation of place names.

**Paragraph 3 – With regard to public services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each language and as far as this is reasonably possible:**

**(a) to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service;**

See response above concerning the Welsh Language Standards system at Article 10 paragraph 1. Specific reference should be made section 28(2) of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.

**Paragraph 4 – With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:**

**(a) translation or interpretation as may be required;**

See response above concerning the Welsh Language Standards system at Article 10 paragraph 1. The Welsh Language Standards Regulations which include the duties which the Welsh Language Commissioner may impose on administrative organisations and bodies make specific references to the use of translation/interpretation facilities.

Furthermore, during the course of the fifth reporting period, responsibility for the development of the translation profession has been transferred to the Welsh Government from the Welsh Language Commissioner.

Given the strategic importance of the translation profession to delivering the policy behind the Welsh Language Standards regime, the Welsh Government provided grant funding to Cymdeithas Cyfieithwyr Cymru (the association of Welsh translators and interpreters) for financial years 2016-17 and 2017-18. The association leads on the development and improvement of the Welsh translation profession.

**(b) recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required**

The Operational Standards included within Welsh Language Standards regulations place specific duties on the administrative organisations and bodies to which they apply concerning the recruitment of Welsh-speaking staff and the provision of basic Welsh lessons to staff. For a full understanding, reference should be made to the Welsh Language Standards Regulations.

**Para 5 – The Parties undertake to allow the use or adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages, at the request of those concerned.**

No additional information since the previous report.



## Article 11 – Media

**Paragraph 1 – The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:**

**(a) to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:  
(i) to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages**

### **Public Service Broadcasting**

Public service broadcasters in Wales, including BBC Cymru Wales, S4C and ITV Cymru Wales continue to play an important role in ensuring that the Welsh language continues to thrive. Although broadcasting is not a devolved matter, the Welsh Government is committed to doing all it can to ensure that Welsh language broadcasting continues to develop and improve.

Since the Comprehensive Spending Review in 2010, the Welsh Government has consistently expressed its ongoing concern to the UK Government about the impact that further funding cuts will have on S4C and the importance of safeguarding the channel's independence. S4C has found itself in a very different position since the 2010 Spending Review. Now, 90% of S4C's funding comes from the licence fee.

During the Welsh Government's input to the BBC Charter Review process during 2015-16, it was regularly stressed to the UK Government that it was vital that S4C had sufficient funding, as well as editorial and managerial independence, for it to maintain its ability to serve the Welsh audience and continue to play a crucial role in supporting both the Welsh language and the creative industries in Wales.

The Welsh Government was pleased that the new Charter provides a renewed commitment to Welsh language services. The accompanying Framework Agreement reaffirms the BBC's partnership with S4C, "working together to observe and safeguard the independence of both". It also provides a strong financial settlement in relation to the licence fee element of S4C's funding, which is vitally important for S4C to continue to develop its services

Although the settlement provides S4C with financial stability until 2022, the fact that there was no increase in funding, as there was no allowance for inflation, will naturally provide significant challenges for the channel.

The uncertainty regarding future funding during recent years has made forward planning very difficult, both for S4C and the independent production companies who are key suppliers to S4C in Wales. The Welsh Government remains very concerned about S4C's financial position and will continue to raise this with the UK Government. The Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport has a statutory duty in the Broadcasting Act 1990, to ensure that S4C receives sufficient funding.

The Welsh Government welcomed the announcement in 2013 that a six-year agreement had been reached between the BBC Trust and the S4C Authority on the

future funding, governance and accountability of S4C. The agreement also, importantly, protected the editorial and managerial independence of S4C. The Welsh Government has been encouraged by the greater collaboration between the BBC and S4C - and also that the Operating Agreement was much wider than the funding and accountability arrangements, extending to a creative partnership at all levels within the BBC and S4C.

It is vital that S4C and the BBC work together to develop a sustainable future for Welsh language broadcasting. We welcome the strengthened partnership which has developed over recent years between Radio Cymru and S4C. There continues to be only one Welsh language radio service and one Welsh language television service. It is therefore essential that the partnership between these two services should be as imaginative and productive as possible. Both the BBC and S4C have performed an important role in helping people from all backgrounds to learn the Welsh language, with a range of broadcast and online resources.

However, it is also noted that there are some online-only Welsh language radio stations which have been developed over the fifth reporting period such as: CymruFM, Radio Beca and BBC Radio Cymru Mwy which was piloted for a limited time and available in a small area on digital radio.

We welcome the UK Government's intention to carry out a comprehensive review of S4C, which we have continually pushed for and was originally promised in 2010. Ideally this should have taken place in parallel with the BBC Charter Review rather than after it. It should also have been part of a broader, more fundamental review of the Public Service Broadcasting needs of Wales.

### **Digital Radio**

Although not a devolved issue, the Welsh Government is fully aware of the problems in relation to receiving digital radio services in parts of Wales. The challenge of providing sustainable and successful radio services in both English and Welsh is made more complex by the need to also ensure the completion of a transmitter network that ensures that those services are available throughout the whole of Wales.

The Welsh Government has continued to stress that we would not be in favour of digital switchover for radio until there is a guarantee of at least 97% coverage for DAB throughout Wales. We welcomed the UK Government's announcement in December 2013 that it will continue to invest (with the BBC and commercial radio operators) in support of digital radio roll out. We recognise that there have been improvements in DAB coverage in Wales in recent years. We welcome the fact that the BBC was rolling out its national DAB network to a further 162 transmitter sites across the UK by the end of 2015. This programme will increase the coverage of its DAB network in Wales from 86% to 92% of homes.

The DAB service in Wales should not be worse than Welsh AM/FM radio coverage at present and should be available in areas where currently the national radio stations can only be received on the AM spectrum. This is particularly important in view of the fact that people in Wales listen to more hours of radio per week than the UK average, with 49 % of the total listening hours being to BBC network stations.

The Welsh Government continues to be concerned that even when the proposed

criteria are met on a UK basis, there would almost certainly be a significantly lower level of DAB penetration in Wales. DAB needs to provide an enhanced service if listeners in all parts of the UK are to be persuaded of its merits.

**(d) to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages**

In 2016, the Welsh Government launched Welsh Language Music Day (*Dydd Miwsig Cymru*). In partnership with large businesses in the music industry such as Deezer, HMV and the BBC, the event consists of working in partnership with Welsh musicians to raise awareness of Welsh language music amongst both Welsh-speaking and non-Welsh-speaking groups and to ensure the Welsh language is portrayed as current and relevant to young people. The event will be hosted again in 2017.

The fifth reporting period has also seen the launch of Apton (<http://apton.cymru/#/dashboard>). Apton is a subscription-based music streaming service that enables the listener to enjoy music from Wales on any device, in any location. Launched by the Welsh record label Sain, with Welsh Government support, Sain says that this service pays higher levels of royalties to composers than Spotify, Apple Music and other competitors.

During the fifth reporting period the Welsh-language technology audio podcast Haeliad has reached its 54th edition.

**The Creative Industries Sector**

In 2010 the Welsh Government established a team dedicated to developing the creative industries sector in Wales, supported by an external advisory panel of experienced professionals from the creative industries. The Creative Industries Sector team sits within the department of Economy and Infrastructure and supports the development of the creative industries. It is committed to supporting and promoting the Welsh language across all sub-sectors, which comprise

- advertising and marketing
- architecture
- crafts
- product, graphic and fashion design
- film, TV, video, radio and photography
- IT, software and computer services;
- publishing
- museums, galleries and libraries
- music, performing and visual arts

The Creative Industries Sector team works across the Government to make best use of the levers available in areas such as education and training, infrastructure, funding and procurement, to support the growth of the creative sector in Wales. It is committed to serving the diversity which exists within Wales, whilst prioritising those activities most likely to contribute to Welsh economic growth. Welsh language projects are represented in all parts of the strategy which seeks to encourage creative businesses in Wales to compete and succeed in local, national and international markets.

Wales is a bilingual nation with a long tradition of delivering successful creative content and is well-placed to take advantage of the opportunities presented by the creative industries.

In addition to the Welsh Government's Welsh Language Strategy (discussed in Part I of this report) the Creative Industries Sector team has drafted a Welsh Language Action Plan specific to the Creative Industries Sector which addresses industry related issues, and ensures that all correspondence and official documentation (to include guidelines) can be accessed both in Welsh and English.

### **Digital Development Fund**

The Digital Development Fund ran from 2011 to 2016 and was aimed specifically at providing seed-funding to support small creative companies to develop new ways of exploiting creative ideas on digital platforms.

The fund was open equally to both Welsh and English language projects and provided non-repayable seed funding for businesses to develop digital opportunities with the aim of accelerating the growth of the creative industries in Wales. Several Welsh language projects were funded including projects to develop Welsh video games and apps.

### **Repayable Business Finance**

Repayable Business Finance is available to support creative businesses which have opportunities to sell their products outside Wales. The level of support offered is discretionary but will always be within state aid ceilings and no more than is necessary to enable the project to go ahead.

The Welsh Government has provided financial support to a number of Welsh language productions, including animation series (Igam Ogam, Rastamouse, Abadas, Iconicles), international selling television programmes (Dan y Wenallt), repeat TV series (Y Gwyll), and films (Y Syrcas, a feature film of cultural significance).

### **Wales Screen**

Wales Screen sits within the Creative Industries Sector team, offering a strong, economically focussed locations service which promotes and facilitates Wales as a filming location.

Wales Screen provides bespoke support, both in English and Welsh, for English, Welsh and international film production with regard to locations, crew, facilities and local support services. Its services are free of charge.

### **International Trade Fairs**

The Creative Industries Sector team supports a Welsh presence at international trade fairs and trade missions, and is focused on ensuring that the international requirements of all sub-sectors are met and developed.

**(e)(i) to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages;**

The Welsh Government through the Welsh Books Council continues to provide

funding to the daily Welsh language news service *Golwg 360*; the weekly news publications *Y Cymro* and the print version of *Golwg*; and *Barn*- the monthly current affairs magazine.

Digidol ar Daith (Digital on Tour) was Cardiff University School of Journalism's series of face-to-face training workshops to inspire people to get publishing online in Welsh, which was held in February/March 2015. 300 people attended the 12 workshops across Wales, funded by the Welsh Government. These workshops aimed to inspire and help volunteer community journalists, including the *papurau bro* (community newspapers) to take advantage of digital tools. Over the fifth reporting period, the Welsh Government continued to provide grant funding to 51 of the *papurau bro* in 2014-15, 2015-16, rising to 52 in 2016-17.

In 2013, the same university worked with Cardiff's *papur bro*, *Y Dinesydd*, and a team of new volunteers to launch the Welsh-language local news website *Pobl Caerdydd* (<http://poblcaerdydd.com>).

**(f)(ii) to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages;**

In 2014 the Welsh Government entered a collaboration agreement with Pinewood Pictures. Pinewood opened a studio facility in Cardiff, and became advisors to the Welsh Government's new Media Investment Budget (MIB). MIB is an evergreen fund of £30 million supporting film and TV production in Wales. MIB funding is open equally to both Welsh and English language productions which can demonstrate a significant level of spend in Wales and evidence of an international market.

Reference should also be made to the application of the Welsh Language Standards Regulations which make provision about Welsh language duties in connection with applications for grants. Information on the Welsh Language Standards system is provided at Article 10, Part II and elsewhere in this report.

**Para 2 – The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language. The exercise of the above-mentioned freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.**

No further information since the previous report.

**Para 3 – The Parties undertake to ensure that the interests of the users of regional or minority languages are represented or taken into account within such bodies as may be established in accordance with the law with responsibility for guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of the media.**

No further information since the previous report.

## Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities

**Paragraph 1 – With regard to cultural activities and facilities – especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including inter alia the use of new technologies – the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:**

**(a) to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;**

### **Museums Archives Libraries Division**

The fifth Welsh Public Library Standards Framework (2014-17) states that Welsh public library authorities shall ensure that they spend either

a) a minimum average for the three-year period up to March 2014 of £750 per annum per 1,000 Welsh speaking resident population (adults and children under 16) within their authority, from the total library purchasing funds on the purchase of Welsh-language materials

or

b) a minimum of 4% of the library materials budget on the purchase of Welsh-language materials for adults and children under 16.

Access to electronic Welsh language materials is being provided through an all-Wales public library e-books scheme, working in partnership with the Welsh Books Council. At the time of writing discussions were in place to secure Welsh language titles for the similar all-Wales public library e-magazines service, and it is anticipated that these titles will be available from spring-summer 2017. In addition, provision of Welsh-language audio e-books are also being explored for a similar all-Wales e-audio books scheme.

### **Major Events Unit**

The Major Events funding criteria asks applicants to demonstrate how their event might provide opportunities for Welsh artists or athletes to participate and/or to offer Welsh audiences world class experiences. A number of supported events do this through the specific programming of Welsh speaking artists or working with local communities or media to engage local visitors and residents in both English and Welsh.

**(b) to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;**

No further information since the previous report.

**(c) to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-**

**synchronisation and subtitling activities;**

No further information since the previous report.

**(d) to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;**

New information is provided which is relevant to this undertaking under the Major Events Unit heading at Part II, Article 7 paragraph 1(a) of this report.

**(e) to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;**

**Cadw**

As part of the Welsh Government, Cadw are required to comply with standards imposed on the Welsh Ministers. Welsh Language Service Standard (64) required Cadw to provide a Welsh language reception service at its staffed monuments.

Cadw conducted a full bilingual skills strategy in June 2016, and assessed the Welsh language need for all Custodian posts as desirable or essential (albeit initially at a low-intermediate competence level). When a post becomes vacant, Cadw make Welsh speakers aware of vacancies by advertising them on Welsh language media such as Papurau Bro and Golwg, and signposting vacancies on the Welsh Government / Cadw's bilingual website, and Facebook and Twitter feeds.

All Custodians are encouraged to learn Welsh and, as part of the Welsh Government, permanent Cadw employees are eligible to enrol on WJEC Welsh language training courses whilst at work. Cadw has held language workshops to provide custodians with a basic vocabulary to meet and greet visitors in Welsh.

To build capacity, Custodians at monuments have been issued with desk aids, a phonetic "script" and Welsh-speaker and Welsh-learner badges for the benefit of customers who wish to use Welsh. Custodians have also self-organised a Welsh language forum to improve use, frequency of use and mentoring, and have a nominated north Wales and south Wales "champion".

Regional managers have adapted working patterns, so that Welsh speaking staff are rota'd appropriately, and short term transfer policy to provide Welsh language cover for special events, Welsh medium school visits etc.

Further new information is provided which is relevant to this undertaking under the Major Events Unit heading at Part II, Article 7 paragraph 1(a) of this report.

**(f) to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;**

New information is provided which is relevant to this undertaking under the Major



Events Unit heading at Part II, Article 7 paragraph 1(a) of this report.

**(g) to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages;**

### **Wikipedia**

The number of Welsh language Wikipedia articles rose from 50,000 to 80,000 from 2013 to 2016 (<https://stats.wikimedia.org/>). The Welsh Government is working with, and funding organisations which encourage the activity of writing and publishing Wikipedia articles in Welsh such as the National Eisteddfod and Menter Môn's WiciMôn programme of writing articles about science for young people.

### **Museums Archives Libraries Division**

As stated in its Supplemental Royal Charter of 2006, the object (or purpose) of the National Library of Wales is to “collect, preserve and give access to all kinds and forms of recorded knowledge, especially relating to Wales and the Welsh and other Celtic peoples, for the benefit of the public, including those engaged in research and learning.”

The National Library is also one of the six UK and Ireland legal deposit libraries, and eligible to receive a copy of all printed and non-print publications under UK legislation. It has an extensive collection of published material in the Welsh language.

The Supplemental Royal Charter 2006 for Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales states that its object (or purpose) is the advancement of the education of the public, both generally and also by “the comprehensive representation of science, art, industry, history and culture of, or relevant to, Wales”

**(h) if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.**

The fifth reporting period has seen a continued commitment to developing the infrastructure which supports the Welsh language. The Welsh language strategy (detailed at Part I of this report) makes the importance of developing the language's infrastructure clear in making progress towards a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

The fifth reporting period has seen the following principal developments:

- The Welsh historical dictionary Geiriadur Prifysgol Cymru is available to search on the web and as an app (<http://www.welsh-dictionary.ac.uk/>)
- The National Assembly of Wales is working in partnership with Microsoft to use, moderate and improve the quality of Microsoft Translator. ([http://www.assembly.wales/en/abthome/about\\_us-commission\\_assembly\\_administration/Pages/machinetranslation.aspx](http://www.assembly.wales/en/abthome/about_us-commission_assembly_administration/Pages/machinetranslation.aspx))
- Bangor University's Language Technologies Unit has built a smart virtual assistant called Macsen which responds to questions in Welsh about subjects such as news and weather. Macsen 'understands' certain spoken questions and uses synthetic speech to reply. (<http://techiaith.cymru/2016/05/introducing-macsen/?lang=en>)

- Steps forward have been taken in the morphological analysis and tagging of Welsh via the University of South Wales's Welsh Natural Language Toolkit. (<http://hypermedia.research.southwales.ac.uk/kos/wnlt/>)
- The Welsh Government's term dictionary TermCymru is now available for download under open license (<http://cymraeg.gov.wales/btc/cofaucyfieithu/tcarmetashare/?lang=en>)
- In 2016 the National Corpus of Contemporary Welsh (CorCenCC) project began which aims to create an open access corpus of how the Welsh language is used today. Data to feed into the corpus is sourced via an innovative app. CorCenCC also aids the development of technologies such as predictive text production, word processing tools, machine translation, voice recognition and web search tools which will have an increasingly important role in working towards a million Welsh speakers. (<http://sites.cardiff.ac.uk/corcenc/>)
- Information on developments in language infrastructure in terms of the delivery of health services is detailed under the Cognitive Assessment Toolkit heading under Article 13 paragraph (2)(c) of this report.

**Para 2 – In respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.**

In respect of this paragraph, reference should be made to Part II Article 7 paragraph (i).

There continue to be several active Welsh language societies and networks in cities in the UK outside Wales, and around the world.

The SaysomethinginWelsh service also offers different ways which allow people to identify other Welsh speakers in their country across the world. (<https://www.saysomethingin.com/welsh/info/map>)

**Para 3 – The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.**

#### **Wales Arts International (WAI)**

Wales Arts International (WAI) is the international team of Arts Council of Wales which is funded by the Welsh Government. Its international strategy places equal value to artistic work either created bilingually, or in the Welsh language, or in the English language. It recognises that the use and promotion of the Welsh language is integral to the representation of Wales internationally through arts and culture and that it is important to enable artists and cultural organisations from Wales to present their work in the Welsh language, to increase awareness overseas of Welsh as a living language, and to facilitate exchange and dialogue across a diversity of languages.

WAI aims to ensure an equality of access to support and representation for artists and cultural organisations from Wales working internationally. It works to ensure that Wales and the Welsh language is appropriately represented within wider UK cultural promotion abroad and works closely with Welsh Government and UK agencies. It also works to ensure that the selection of artists and cultural organisations from Wales at international trade events is representative of the linguistic environment of Wales, providing visibility and an international platform for cultural activity in Welsh. All international funding opportunities for artists and cultural organisations are promoted in Welsh and English and all promotional material – digital and online – are produced in Welsh and English as minimum.

Wider Arts Council of Wales support enables the development of initiatives to increase access to artistic work created in the Welsh language and these are used to engage international audiences with the Welsh language.

WAI is active within a number of European and international networks and projects with a focus on artistic activity through minority languages, thus stimulating greater exchange and the sharing of best practice.

### **Wales and the World**

The Welsh Government's international agenda "Wales and the World" (2015) highlights the contribution made by the Welsh language and by culture transmitted through the medium of Welsh, such as the National Eisteddfod, to our "unique cultural 'DNA'".

The Welsh Government promotes a wide range of cultural events overseas, where provision is made for the Welsh language in a myriad of ways depending on the nature of the event and the audience. They include the use of the language in performances, in speeches, in artworks, in the branding used and/or the literature on the event, such as the brochure, the programme or the menu. Below is a range of non-exhaustive examples to illustrate how the language is used abroad.

Firstly, the Government organised a ceremony in 2014 for the unveiling of a memorial to all those of Welsh descent who took part in the First World War, where the brochure was in four languages including Welsh, part of the First Minister's speech was in Welsh as were half of the hymns sung. There will be an even greater emphasis on the Welsh language in the 2017 commemoration event at the memorial because there will be a focus on our Welsh language poet, "Hedd Wyn", who died at the Battle of Passchendaele in 1917 and we will also organise a literary event where Welsh, English and Dutch will all be spoken.

Secondly, the menu for our annual St David's Day celebration is always bilingual and all policy and cultural events held in the Welsh Government's Brussels Office systematically begin with a welcome in the Welsh language from Ministers or officials.

Thirdly, the Brussels office also facilitates the use of Welsh at European Union institutions (the Council of the European Union, the Committee of the Regions and the European Economic and Social Committee) in that interpretation is available to those who wish to speak in Welsh at those bodies and translation for members of the public who wish to write to the EU Institutions in Welsh, thus implementing

agreements signed between the UK and the Institutions. This provision has, to date, been used twice a year on average.

Fourthly, the Welsh Government supports Welsh participation in the Inter-Celtic Festival in Lorient where performers sing in Welsh and reflect Wales' musical tradition.

Fifthly, some of the branding used on our exhibition stand in Paris during the 2016 European Championships in football was in Welsh.

In a similar vein, language planning is one of the areas of co-operation between Wales and Quebec and has been discussed at both political and official level since 2013.

To take some examples from further afield, the First Minister participated in Patagonia 150 in 2015, which marked the anniversary of the first Welsh settlers arriving in Patagonia and was an opportunity to showcase the Welsh culture and language in Patagonia and Argentina more widely. In addition, the Welsh Government's memorandum of understanding with China, which was signed in September 2015, refers to the "promotion of Welsh Culture in Chinese classrooms" while the brochure produced by the Government, "The Welsh and America", has a significant focus on the impact and influence of the Welsh language and culture in the story of Welsh emigration to the United States. Additionally, the Government's Trade and Investment team highlight the fact that we have our own distinct language and culture in presentations to potential investors worldwide.

Finally, the Welsh Government is a member of the Network for the Promotion of Linguistic Diversity which aims to raise awareness at a European level on the vital importance of linguistic diversity and facilitate the exchange of best practice with regard to regional and minority languages.

## Article 13 – Economic and Social Life

**Paragraph 1 – With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:**

**(a) to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;**

No additional information since the previous report. However, reference should be had to the operational standards within the Welsh Language Standards system which are discussed at Article 10 of this report.

**(c) to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;**

No additional information since the previous report.

**Paragraph 2 - With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:**

**(b) in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;**

Reference should be had to all sections within this report which discuss the Welsh Language Standards system and their impact on the bodies to which they apply is discussed, particularly Part II Article 7 paragraph 1 (c), and Part III Article 10.

**(c) to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons**

### **Welsh Government's More than just words.... strategic framework**

The original More than just words...., a strategic framework for Welsh language services in health, social services and social care was published in 2012 to ensure a coherent and systematic approach to strengthening Welsh language services in these areas. The first strategic framework covered the period April 2013 until April 2016. At the time of the launch of the first strategic framework, a commitment was given that a further action plan would be published at the end of the three year period.

The follow-on strategic framework to the original More than just words.... was launched in March 2016 to further build and progress the work and the good practice established under the original framework. The follow-on strategic framework to further ensure an integrated approach to the delivery of health and social services

and social care established one single action plan for both sectors.

Alongside the need to carry forward some of the actions from the previous strategy, there have also been changes to the policy and legislative landscape in Wales, for example the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the My Language, My Health inquiry into Welsh language provision in primary care have all strengthened the need and commitment for the follow-on strategic framework. The follow-on strategic framework also reflects the need to have a greater focus on outcomes to ensure that key stakeholders including the health boards and local authorities remain focussed on delivering More than just words.... and clearly understand the actions they need to take and by when.

### **Progress with More than just words....**

Early feedback on the implementation of the first year of the More than just words.... follow-on framework (2016-17) shows that early progress has been made but challenges remain to be overcome. Some Local Health Boards have completed certain actions, others have completed them to a degree and others have completed them in certain geographical locations.

As for Social Services, there is a clear and genuine desire and intention for Local Authorities to support *the More than just words....* agenda. We have seen good, robust progress in most authorities. They recognise some challenges are difficult to resolve in the short term but there are opportunities to make some tangible decisions which would really make a difference at a national level.

Other stakeholders, especially in the care and education sectors are making good progress against the actions outlined in the framework.

A review on progress will be undertaken in April 2017

### **More than just words.... Engagement and Communication Plan**

An engagement and communication plan has been developed to coincide with the follow-on strategic framework. The plan maps out key stakeholders that the Welsh Government and partners need to engage with to deliver on the objectives and actions in the framework over the next 18 months.

To build on activities that will be undertaken at a local and regional level the intention is to hold a showcase event in autumn 2017, where the aim is to invite keynote speakers from Wales and internationally to showcase good practice and successful approaches to strengthen language provision and mainstream the active offer. The event will celebrate the success of ventures within individual health boards and trusts, the social care and the education sector, which can be shared and used as a training tool across sectors.

### **Welsh Language in Health and Social Services Partnership Board**

A Welsh Language in Health and Social Services Partnership Board has recently been established to replace the former Welsh Language in Health and Social Services Task Group and its constituent Implementation Group.

The new Partnership Board will oversee, encourage and support the implementation of More than just words...., ensure that Welsh language issues are mainstreamed into health and social services policies and provide focus to the sectors to prepare and comply with the Welsh language standards. The Partnership Board includes

partners from across the sectors and relevant Welsh Government lead officials.

### **Active Offer**

One of the key principles of *More than just words...* is the Active Offer. This simply means providing a service in Welsh without someone having to ask for it and taking the responsibility away from the individual to ask for a service in Welsh by placing the responsibility on service providers.

Over the past few years there has been a growing understanding about the importance of the Active Offer. In 2015 an information and training pack was published with the aim of supporting all staff across NHS Wales and social services in making an Active Offer which has helped raise the profile and understanding of the principle.

### **E-resource Centre**

An e-resource area has been created on the Welsh Government's Cymraeg website which includes a number of useful resources for those working and using health, social services and social care in Wales.

<http://cymraeg.gov.wales/services/Services/HealthSocialCare/?lang=en>

### **Welsh Language Commissioner's inquiry into primary care**

The Welsh Language Commissioner published a report in June 2014 following her inquiry into the Welsh language in primary care. The report made 33 recommendations for improving the delivery of primary care services in Wales. Many of the actions set out in the Welsh Government's response to the Welsh Language Commissioner's inquiry have been completed. As primary care is part of an integrated health and social care service, ongoing themes for action are now an integral part of the follow-on *More than just words* framework published in March 2016.

### National leadership

The national professional lead for primary care is meeting regularly with the Welsh Language Commissioner. This is about the importance of Welsh language and culture to individuals in both maintaining and supporting their health and wellbeing.

Directors have agreed to establish a baseline of Welsh language provision across services and to discuss this with the Commissioner.

To highlight the importance of the Welsh language in primary and community care settings, the national professional lead for primary care met NHS Welsh Language Officers. This meeting explored how their role can develop to support improved access for people in primary and community care.

### Contracted primary care services

Welsh Government and NHS Wales are using a common approach on Welsh Language in the negotiations for the 2017-18 national contracts for general medical services, pharmacy, dentistry and ophthalmic services. This is designed to encourage contractors to take up Welsh Language resources, training and other support offered by health boards to make the 'active offer' and improve access for their patients.

### Locally led service and workforce planning

The 64 primary care clusters have been established by health boards as very local and collaborative mechanisms to assess population need and to plan and deliver integrated care to meet that need. This will help make the best use of funding, workforce and other resources available from the NHS, local authorities, third sector and the community.

Clusters offer a way of working collaboratively to secure a very locally sensitive understanding of the Welsh Language health and wellbeing needs of individual communities. Clusters can also help to identify, encourage and make best use of the Welsh speaking primary care workforce. Further information is given on the process of creating Welsh Language Standards Regulations for the health sector at Part I of this report.

### **Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014**

Welsh Ministers are required under the Act to issue a statement of well-being outcomes to be achieved for people who need care and support and carers who need support and this includes whether people can get care and support through the Welsh language if that is their choice.

The Codes of Practice under the Act require local authorities to ensure Welsh language services are built into service planning and delivery and that services are offered in Welsh to Welsh speakers without them having to request it as required by the Active Offer.

### **Examples of recent good practice initiatives in health and social services**

#### Cognitive Assessment Toolkit

Considering the importance of early diagnosis of mental health problems to a patient's care, the use of standard measures in language which isn't the patient's first language can lead to a diagnosis which may negatively affect a patient's treatment. As mental health problems (such as dementia) can affect the ability of patients to use their second language, it was vital to have these standard measures in Welsh for Welsh speaking patients. The Alzheimer Society's Cognitive Assessment Toolkit was translated by Bangor University and three standard measures were linguistically certified. As a result, Welsh speaking patients can be assessed in Welsh wherever appropriate.

#### Meddygfa Teifi

After conducting a survey of the practice's patients, an action plan was created to increase the practice's provision of Welsh language services. Part of the plan included encouraging staff to use their Welsh or to learn Welsh, and a new computer system was developed to record patient's language choice.

#### Ward B2

To answer the demand for Welsh language services by patients, a ward was created in a hospital with delivering Welsh language skills as its goal. The ward is staffed by clinical staff with Welsh language skills and Iaith Gwaith (Working Welsh) materials are used extensively. After a successful period as a pilot, this has since been made a permanent element of healthcare and hard work is being done to promote the ward.

The initiative showed that it is possible, even in area that is not considered to be traditionally Welsh speaking to ensure that Welsh speakers can receive healthcare



services in their first language by making use of the skills and resources of staff.

#### Makaton

'Dwylo'r Enfys' is an innovative television programme which is a public platform for children with communication needs in Wales. The programme uses Welsh Makaton language to help Welsh speaking children with special learning needs. Following the success of the programme a workshop and resources were developed to accompany the programme as previously there was nothing available in Welsh.

**(e) to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.**

Reference should be made to the duties on local authorities under the Welsh Language Standards system which is reported at Part III Article 10 and elsewhere in this report.