

Welsh Language Scheme

Background

1. As a public body the GOC is required by the Welsh Assembly Government, under the Welsh Language Act 1993, to prepare a Welsh Language Scheme. The scheme sets out the measures that the GOC will take to provide a high-quality service to Welsh-speaking stakeholders.

The Welsh Language Scheme

2. The scheme sets out the following:

- The effect of new policies and initiatives on the scheme;
- Delivery and standards of service in Welsh;
- Written and telephone communication in Welsh;
- Meetings and other dealings with the public in Welsh;
- Welsh publications and corporate image;
- Recruitment and training policies;
- Administration and monitoring of the scheme;
- Timescales; and
- Publicity for the scheme

Process

3. The scheme was approved by the Welsh Language Board for consultation on 27 May 2009. The consultation launched on 5 June 2009 and closed on 11 September 2009. It was sent to key stakeholders groups in Wales as well as being advertised in the Welsh press.

4. Following feedback received in the consultation process, the GOC made some adjustments to the scheme. The adjusted scheme was sent back to the Welsh Language Board with a consultation report and received approval on 4 November.

Action

5. Following Council's approval the scheme must go back to the Welsh Language Board for final sign-off. It will then become GOC policy and the scheme will be implemented according to the timetable on the final page.

6. The Chief Executive and the Director of Communications & Information will be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the scheme.