



Annual Welsh Language Monitoring Report 2017/18

**Prepared in accordance with the requirements of
The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011**

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1. Introduction

This report is the third Welsh Annual Report produced under the requirements of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, and covers the period 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2108. The table below details the requirements for this report:

Areas	Relevant Standard and/or sub-section
<p>Complaints The annual report must include the number of complaints you received during the year which related to your compliance with the standards with which you were under a duty to comply.</p>	147,148, 156, 158(2), 162, 164(2), 168(a), 170 (2), (d)
<p>Welsh Language Skills The annual report must include the following information (where relevant, to the extent you are under a duty to comply with the standards are referred to) (a) The number of employees who have Welsh language skills at the end of the year in question (on the basis of the records you kept in accordance standard 151)</p>	170(2)(a) 151
<p>Welsh Language Training The annual report must include the following information (where relevant, to the extent you are under a duty to comply with the standards referred to)- (a) The number of members of staff who attended training courses by you in Welsh during the year (in accordance with Standard 128) (b) If a Welsh version of a course was offered by you in accordance with standard128, the percentage of the total number of staff attending the course who attended that version.</p>	152, 170 (2) (b)
<p>Recruitment The annual report must include the following information (where relevant, to the extent you are under a duty to comply with the standards referred to) (ch) the number of new and vacant posts that you advertised during the year which were categorise as posts where (i) Welsh language skills were essential. (ii) Welsh language skills needed to be learnt when appointed to the post, (iii) Welsh language skills were desirable, or (iv) Welsh language skills were not necessary, (on the basis of the records you kept in accordance with standard 154)</p>	170 (2)(ch) 154

2. Complaints

The Corporate Complaints procedure logs all complaints related to the Welsh Language and the Welsh Language Standards. Complaints can be made in any format (e.g. email, letter, in person, telephone, social media etc.). No complaints were received via the Corporate Complaints system during the reporting period.

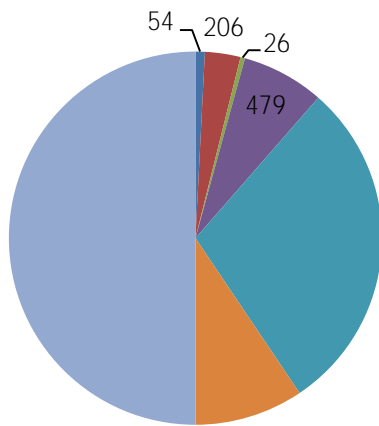
However, during the reporting period, three complaints were received by the

CSG119 Swimming Lessons Investigation into Welsh Language Standards 81, 84 and 86

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council was subject to an investigation by the Welsh Language Commissioner under the provisions of the Welsh Language Standards 81, 84 and 86 and the provision of swimming lessons through the medium of Welsh. This investigation was conducted under the provisions of the Welsh Language Commissioner's (WLC) powers under the Welsh Language Commissioner Act 2011 (WLC Act 2011) and the Welsh Language Commissioner's (WLC) powers under the Welsh Language Commissioner's (WLC) powers under the Welsh Language Commissioner Act 2011 (WLC Act 2011).

The Council received a Determination Letter from the Welsh Language
41 on 2nd

Chart 2: Speak Welsh



Speak Welsh	Total
Fluently	54
Moderately	206
Quite Well	26
Not at all	479
Other	54

Chart 3: Write Welsh

Chart 4: Read Welsh

Employee Training Courses

Standard 170 requires:

The number of members of staff who attended training courses you offered in Welsh during the year;

The Welsh Language Promotion Strategy

Standard 145 requires Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council to produce a strategy detailing how it will promote and facilitate the use of the Welsh language over the next five years¹.

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In order to meet a target of 44% increase of Welsh speakers by 2050, we would need to gain an additional 2,324 Welsh speakers against the 2011 Census Blaenau Gwent baseline of 5,284. Therefore, this represents an average annual increase of 70 additional Welsh speakers, i.e. 3% of the target figure of an additional 2,324 in Blaenau Gwent for the next 33 years.

The Council has identified the following three Welsh Language Promotion objectives:

- i. Promote and encourage the use of the Welsh language within the families and the community;
- ii. Increase the provision of Welsh language education and informal activities for children and young people and to increase their awareness of the value of the language;
- iii. Increase opportunities for people to use Welsh in the workplace.

http://democracy.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/aksblaenau_gwent/images/att6176.pdf

Below are some of the key pieces of work being taken forward to promote the Welsh Language within the Council and communities of Blaenau Gwent:

Objective one of the Welsh Language Promotion Strategy states that: will promote and encourage the use of Welsh language within families and the

Examples of actions that took place during the reporting period 2017/18 in order to support this aim include the promoting of Welsh Language events by Menter Iaith, Coleg Gwent and Cymdeithas Gym

with Welsh speakers in the area.

