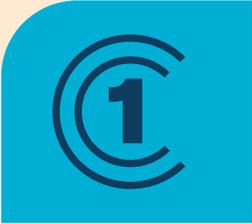

Commissioner's priorities



1

The rates of Welsh language transmission from one generation to the next must be improved. Achieving this requires strengthening the position of the language in areas with a high density of Welsh speakers, where transmission remains relatively robust. The recommendation of the Commission for Welsh-speaking Communities to establish areas of higher linguistic significance must be implemented, and additional investment should be provided to Mudiad Meithrin, the mentrau iaith and others in the field to enable them to target interventions more effectively and at greater scale.



2

There must be significantly greater investment in developing the Welsh language skills of the early years workforce. This requires expanding the Welsh-language training embedded within the sector's training courses and apprenticeships, and the ongoing professional development available to all workers. To achieve the increase in Welsh-language skills, the recruitment and retention of staff must be facilitated through an overall increase in resources to the sector.



3

The challenge of creating an increasingly bilingual education workforce must be addressed with urgency and ambition. Strong intervention from the Welsh Government is needed to increase the number of learners leaving school as confident Welsh speakers. The Welsh Government should establish a Welsh-language training framework that forms a compulsory part of the training, induction, and professional development of all teachers.



4

There must be an opportunity for all learners to develop their Welsh language skills in the post compulsory education and training sector. To achieve this, appropriate investment is required and greater strategic emphasis must be placed on ensuring that Welsh speaking learners receive a higher proportion of their education and training in Welsh. Increasing the percentage of fluent Welsh speakers who choose to study through the medium of Welsh must be a priority for the sector over the next five years.

5

There must be far more opportunities, especially for children and young people, to use the Welsh language in communities, and to take part in cultural, community and sporting activities. To achieve this, and as recommended by the Commission for Welsh-speaking Communities, the Welsh Government must strengthen community-based language planning frameworks and increase the funding and resources available to key partners responsible for delivering these activities and events in Welsh.

6

Key partners must work together to develop a full understanding of the challenges and opportunities involved in increasing the use of Welsh in digital media and broadcasting. Building on this collaboration, a national digital strategy, led by the Welsh Government, should be developed outlining the key contributions of all partners.

7

The further decline of the Welsh language in the areas where it is currently at its strongest must be prevented if we are to strengthen its position across the whole of Wales. The Welsh Government must urgently publish a white paper to implement the Commission for Welsh-speaking Communities' key recommendation to establish areas of higher density linguistic significance.

8

The Welsh language standards must be reviewed to ensure they remain relevant and reflect current and future models of service provision. The Welsh Government must also facilitate an increase in the opportunities to provide Welsh language services by:

- introducing Welsh language standards regulations for Ministers of the Crown; the consent of Secretaries of State would be required to name them in regulations.
- introducing Welsh language standards regulations for UK Government non-ministerial departments.
- developing a clear programme for extending Welsh language standards to other sectors and organisations listed in the Measure and considering expanding to other key sectors.



The Welsh Language Commissioner must be enabled to intensify our work in workplaces through the provision of additional investment to develop and deliver a coherent strategy to increase the use of Welsh in the workplace. This strategy would target and support organisations across all sectors to plan strategically for increasing the use of Welsh in their workplaces. Such a strategy would coordinate national workplace-planning activities, building on the strategic collaboration that is already taking place between other key partners in this field.



Clinical care for Welsh speakers must be transformed by focusing resources and effort on recognised priority areas. Central investment by NHS Wales in the Welsh language should be increased by funding a department of specialist lead officers who will ensure that care in Welsh is an integral part of all aspects of care pathways in these priority areas.