Cardiff Replacement LDP Examination

Welsh Language

Action Point HS5.2

Council to prepare and submit draft Welsh Language Supplementary Planning Guidance.

Council Response

In response to the Action Point the Council has prepared the following draft Welsh Language Supplementary Guidance:

Draft Welsh Language and Development SPG

1. Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this guidance is to support the Cardiff replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) 2021–2036 by explaining how Strategic Policy SP15 (SECURING AND ENHANCING OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW THE WELSH LANGUAGE) and Detailed Policy WL1 (Welsh Language) are intended to be applied in practice.

1.2 Policies SP15 and WL1 both seek to protect, promote and facilitate the use of Welsh in Cardiff, helping in the delivery of a Bilingual Cardiff.

1.3 The Welsh language plays an important role in the social, cultural and economic lives of residents of, and visitors to, Cardiff. Large major development proposals can potentially have both beneficial as well as harmful effects and consequences on the Welsh language and communities.

1.4 This guidance seeks to ensure that Welsh Language considerations are integrated into the preparation of development proposals from the earliest stages of design, placemaking and planning. The approach is intended to be proportionate to the scale of development and focused on matters that can reasonably be influenced by the planning system.

2. Planning and the Welsh Language

The Legislative and Policy Context

Planning status

- Section 31 of the Planning (Wales) Act 2015
- Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The National and Regional Policy Context

- Planning Policy Wales
- Technical Advice Note (TAN) 20

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- Cymraeg 2050

The Local Context

- Cardiff Council Bilingual Cardiff Strategy 2022 - 2027

3 The Welsh Language in Cardiff

3.1 Cardiff is the most densely populated local authority in Wales and has experienced the second greatest increase in population between the 2011 and 2021 Censuses. Although Cardiff's proportion of residents between the ages of 65 to 74 has seen an increase, Cardiff notably still has a young population with Cardiff having a higher concentration of residents aged 18 to 35 than the rest of Wales, largely driven by its universities and urban employment opportunities.

3.2 The city has seen a significant increase in the number and percentage of Welsh speakers, with numbers almost tripling in the 40 years between the 1981 and 2021 censuses from around 15,000 to 42,757.

3.3 Cardiff was only one of four areas in Wales that saw an increase in the number of Welsh Speakers in the 2021 Census.

3.4 While growth in the number of Welsh speakers in Cardiff is a positive feature, that growth has also slowed compared to the growth seen at the end of the last century with an increase of only 6,000 in the 10 years from 2011-2021. To realise the necessary growth in line with the 2050 trajectory between 2021 and the end of the Plan period, Cardiff is estimated to require a compound annualised growth in the number of Welsh Speakers rising to 1,400 by 2036. This rate of growth would equate to approximately 17,000 Welsh speakers and be almost three times the growth seen between 2011 and 2021.

3.5 In Cardiff unlike the rest of Wales the density of Welsh speakers is high with 856 speakers per square mile compared to e.g. Gwynedd at 77 and Wales at 69. Therefore, when planning facilities and opportunities to use the language, consideration must be given to the density of speakers in the city and how this 'proximity factor' can be used to work positively for the language's benefit at the city- wide level and community level.

3.6 As the Capital City it is considered that Cardiff should be leading the way to increasing the numbers of Welsh Speakers to realise the Welsh Government's Strategy 2050: A Million Welsh Speakers.

4. Replacement LDP Policy Framework

Area of Linguistic Importance

4.1 Cardiff has been identified as an Area of Linguistic Importance to reflect its role in supporting the continued growth and use of the Welsh language in Cardiff, its role

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in supporting the Council's ambition to create a bilingual city and in achieving Cymraeg 2050 objectives.

4.2 Policies SP15 and WL1 (SP15 and WL1 are set out in full in Appendix 1) set out the policy framework to ensure that development makes a positive contribution to the conditions that support the use of the Welsh Language.

5. The need for a Welsh Language Action Plan (WLAP)

5.1 Policy WL1 requires all large major developments including housing, employment, retail and commercial development to be supported by WLAP.

5.2 For the purposes of Policy WL1 large major development is defined as:

- development proposals of 25 dwellings or more;
- development on a site exceeding 0.99 hectares, or
- development creating more than 1999 sqm of floorspace.

5.3 The scope and detail of the WLAP should be proportionate to the size and type of proposed development.

5.4 A Welsh Language Action Plan should include:

i) A statement of vision to support the Bilingual Cardiff strategy to protect, promote and facilitate the use of Welsh and develop a truly bilingual capital city of Wales.

ii) A description of the proposed development including a linguistic profile identifying how the proposed development will impact the well-being of the Welsh language in Cardiff.

iii) For large major development proposals on sites not allocated in the plan (i.e. "windfall sites") a statement should be included to identify and assess any likely significant impacts on the Welsh Language in Cardiff (Welsh Language Impact Assessment).

iv) A list of the proposed steps to mitigate any potential negative impact of the proposed development;

v) A list of the proposed steps to enhance the beneficial impact of the proposed development on the well-being of the Welsh language by protecting the status and use of the language, promoting and facilitating opportunities to learn and use Welsh.

6. Welsh Language Mitigation and Enhancements

6.1 Where development is required under other policies of the Plan to provide, enhance or contribute towards community infrastructure, the Welsh language benefits arising from that provision will be taken into account when assessing the proposal's contribution to the objectives of Policies SP15 and WL1.

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6.2 The following list outlines examples of possible enhancement and mitigation measures that could be included or encouraged in development proposals to protect, promote and facilitate the use of the Welsh language. The list is not exhaustive; some may be more appropriate as conditions or voluntary agreements.

6.3 It should be noted that the following measures can be applied to any development on sites allocated in the RLDP as well as non-allocated sites.

Examples of Potential Mitigation and Enhancements:

Placemaking and Bilingual Environments

- Welsh language/culture is visible within the built environment.
- Bilingual wayfinding;
- Bilingual public realm reflecting local culture and identity;
- Agree Welsh language strategy for public-facing facilities;
- Bilingual marketing and Welsh naming of the development;
- Provision of bilingual signs within and outside the development.

Encouraging a commitment to:

- Distribution of information about Bilingual Cardiff, Welsh-medium pre-school and statutory education provision; opportunities to learn and use Welsh.
- Support and funding for Welsh language and cultural initiatives, including projects to facilitate and promote the use of Welsh in communities.
- Support and funding for language and cultural awareness training and initiatives for non-Welsh speakers.
- Support and funding for adults to learn and practice using Welsh.
- Prioritising local companies in the procurement of labour contracts and use of local supply chains;
- Developing the Welsh language skills of the workforce by supporting access to free Welsh language training from Learn Welsh, paying for some staff Welsh language training, adopting best practice in providing opportunities for staff to learn and use Welsh in the workplace;
- Gaining Welsh Language Commissioner support in creating a Welsh Language Development Plan that gives a charity or business a clear plan to follow, to maintain, and develop their Welsh language services over time. A Welsh Language Development Plan also demonstrates to public sector funding bodies that Welsh language requirements are being met.
- Sign up to the Welsh Language Commissioner's *Cynnig Cymraeg* (Welsh Offer) scheme for charities and businesses and gain accreditation.
- Use Work Welsh resources to identify staff who are Welsh speakers and those who are learning Welsh and encourage people to use the language.

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7 Contacts and Sources of Further Information

- Bilingual Cardiff team
  WelshLanguagePolicyMatters@cardiff.gov.uk

- Cardiff's bilingual City Dashboard contains a number of data-sets, grouped by different themes, which present a picture of life in Cardiff. The data can be viewed over time, compared with other areas or broken down to ward level, where available

- Comisiynydd y Gymraeg / Welsh Language Commissioner:
  https://www.welshlanguagecommissioner.wales/

Appendix 1: Replacement LDP Policies

Appendix 2: Community Welsh Language Profile Data

It is important to note that none of Cardiff's 28 electoral wards has fewer than 1,000 residents that have some Welsh language skill (i.e. who at least understand spoken Welsh). In two of the wards with the lowest percentage, namely Adamsdown and Trowbridge, both have over 2,000 residents with some Welsh language skill, which also gives these communities significant linguistic density.

The electoral wards with the most numbers of residents with any Welsh skills can be found in Canton(4,659) Whitchurch and Tongwynlais (3,645), Grangetown (3,268), Cathays (2,845), Plasnewydd (2,825), and Riverside (2,816).

The top five electoral wards in terms of the percentage of Welsh speakers are Canton (30%), Pentyrch and Sant Fagan's (26%), Llandaff (24%), Whitchurch and Tongwynlais (24%) and Radyr (22%). A further seven wards have higher percentages of residents with Welsh speaking ability than the Welsh average.

Table: Proportion and number of residents with any Welsh language skill by Electoral Ward according to 2021 Census

	Electoral Wards **After the 2022 changes*	**% Speakers (*Any Welsh Language Skills)**	**Number***
1	Adamsdown	12.71%	2,125
2	Butetown	14.4%	1,659
3	Caerau	13.63%	1,523
4	Cathays	13.65%	2,845
5	Cyncoed	18.84%	2,081
6	Gabalfa	17.19%	1,581
7	Grangetown	16.41%	3,268
8	Riverside	21.4%	2,816
9	Llandaff	24.08%	2,016

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10	Llanisien	18.54%	1,866
11	Llanrumney	12.38%	1,372
12	Lisvane and Thornhill	18.58%	1,883
13	Pentwyn	13.09%	2,051
14	Pentyrch and St Fagans	26.48%	2,331
15	Penylan	20.02%	2,482
16	Plasnewydd	15.92%	2,825
17	Pontprennau and Old St Mellons	15.74%	1,739
18	Radyr	22.42%	1,545
19	Rhiwbina	20.14%	2,241
21	Rumney	12.86%	1,085
22	Canton	30.19%	4,659
23	Trowbridge	12.91%	2,123
24	Ely	12.48%	1,810
25	Heath	19.57%	2,379
26	Whitchurch and Tongwynlais	23.7%	3,645
27	Splott	15.14%	2,065
28	Llandaff North	18.77%	1,517
29	Fairwater	16.11%	2,001