CYPE(5)-02-21 - Paper to note 2

Eluned Morgan AS/MS Y Gweinidog lechyd Meddwl, Llesiant a'r Gymraeg Minister for Mental Health, Wellbeing and Welsh Language

Lynne Neagle MS Children, Young People and Education Committee Senedd Cymru Cardiff Bay CF99 1SN



Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

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Dear Lynne,

I write in response to your letter of 20 November on behalf of the Children, Young People and Education Committee. Your letter relates to the Welsh Government Draft Budget for 2021-22.

I received a similar letter from Helen Mary Jones on behalf of the Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee (CWLC) on 19 November and I have drafted an evidence paper to be discussed with the committee on 14 January 2021 (attached in Annex A). The paper provides information in relation to the Welsh language budget proposals as outlined in the Draft Budget 2021-22 published on 21 December 2020. It provides details of proposed Welsh language expenditure within two MEGs for 2021-22 in order to deliver *Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers* as follows:

- The Mental Health, Wellbeing and the Welsh Language MEG within my portfolio:
  - The Welsh Language BEL
  - The Welsh Language Commissioner BEL.
- The Education MEG within the Minister for Education's portfolio:
  - $\circ$  The Welsh in Education BEL.

As detailed in my paper to the CWLC Committee, my budget complements that of the Minister for Education in terms of support for educational activities. *Cymraeg 2050* has three main themes:

- Theme 1: Increasing the number of Welsh speakers
- Theme 2: Increasing the use of Welsh
- Theme 3: Creating favourable conditions which entails securing the right infrastructure and context to enable themes 1 and 2 to happen.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

All of the interventions in my portfolio under the Welsh Language and Welsh Language Commissioner BELs ultimately have the aim of increasing the use of the language (Theme 2 and 3). The budget allocated to the Welsh language under the Welsh in Education BEL within the Minister for Education's portfolio tends to concentrate on Theme 1: the acquisition of language within pre-school, school and post-16 settings.

There are however clear links between expenditure between all three BELs (for example the Siarter laith / the Welsh Language Charter and the National Centre for Learning Welsh) as language acquisition cannot happen in isolation without the support of other factors. Both budgets work together and I regularly discuss progress against *Cymraeg 2050* targets with the Minister for Education, as with many other ministers across Welsh Government, to ensure that policy aims are aligned.

I would therefore like to thank the committee for its work in scrutinising expenditure on the Welsh language, and wish to draw its attention to the evidence that I have prepared for the CWLC Committee, attached at Annex A. In the paper, for ease of reference, you will find that evidence has been provided under each of the *Cymraeg 2050* milestones.

Yours sincerely,

M. E. Maga

**Eluned Morgan AS/MS** Y Gweinidog lechyd Meddwl, Llesiant a'r Gymraeg Minister for Mental Health, Wellbeing and Welsh Language

Copied to: Minister for Education