

P-04-483 A plain English /Cymraeg clir policy for all Welsh Assembly and Government communications – Correspondence from the Plain English Campaign to the Clerking team, 26.09.2013

Dear Kayleigh

Thank you for your email.

We think there is a real need for the Assembly to communicate in plain English and plain Welsh.

It will certainly help people understand what you have to say and they are far more likely to actually read your documents (rather than consigning them to the bin).

Whether you need a formal plain English and plain Welsh policy is a matter for the committee to debate.

We wholeheartedly agree with the use of plain language but are worried that a formal plain language policy would prove expensive to police and maintain.

Most organisations train their staff to write in plain language and get key documents accredited to show their support to the general public. This works out to be far cheaper than editing and checking every document.

It will also help if any campaign to use plain language has the total support of senior staff.

I hope this helps.

Yours sincerely

Chrissie Maher OBE
Founder Director
Plain English Campaign