

The next five years: the eight key steps



A new direction

Dyfodol i'r laith's manifesto, *Creating a Future for the Welsh Language*, sets out a comprehensive action programme for developing all aspects of the Welsh language, both socially and nationally. We want to see a **change of direction** away from demanding status and rights towards increasing the number of speakers and the opportunities to use the language.

We believe that powerful and effective action in these areas will transform the language's prospects. An extensive promotion programme is needed to ensure that the people of Wales understand the importance of the Welsh language and the advantages of bilingualism.

The following should be the Welsh Government's priorities over the next five years:

Increase the number of Welsh-speakers through extending **Welsh Medium Education.** The aim should be to ensure that 50% of 7
year-olds are in Welsh-medium education by 2030.

- Welsh for Adults should concentrate on Developing the workforce for Wels
 - Developing the workforce for Welsh medium education and public services
 - Support parents who wish to create Welsh-speaking homes

Establish a network of **Welsh Language Centres** throughout Wales. These centres will work with Mentrau laith, Welsh for Adults and others to inspire and co-ordinate Welsh-language activities.

Promote Welsh-medium face-to-face services for public and private sector customers, particularly in shops and social areas. The Welsh Language Commissioner should be instructed to prioritise this aim.

Develop Welsh workplaces

- in public service and administration
- in business

Designate Areas of Special Linguistic Significance where the Welsh language would be an essential consideration in planning and housing policy.

Tensure a flourishing future for S4C and the **Welsh mass and social** media, and provide two Welsh-language radio stations.

Ensure effective action is taken towards achieving these aims through the establishment of a **Welsh Language Administration** with sufficient expertise within the Welsh Government to

- formulate a comprehensive and consistent strategy
- place the responsibility for implementing the strategy on an arms' length National Language Agency, which would have the freedom to innovate and inspire.

We want the programme to reflect European and world-wide best practice e.g. the Basque Country saw an increase from 529,000 to 714,000 Basque speakers over a period of twenty years. There is no reason why we cannot achieve a similar increase.

Over the next few months, Dyfodol i'r Iaith will be pressing the political parties to commit to these priorities for the National Welsh Assembly 2016-2021.

WHAT WE'VE ALREADY ACHIEVED

Dyfodol i'r laith is a lobbying organisation that wishes to see all parties within central and local government place the Welsh language at the heart of policy-making. It was founded three years ago and has achieved much since then.

Planning and the Welsh Language

Its efforts ensured that the Welsh language was acknowledged within the Planning Bill.

Carmarthenshire

Carmarthenshire County Council accepted all of Dyfodol i'r laith's recommendations when formulating their new language policy.

Welsh for Adults Centre

Dyfodol i'r laith requested a National Centre to govern the important area of Welsh for Adults. This is currently being set up.

Welsh Language Centres: Canolfannau Cymraeg

Dyfodol yr Iaith have set out the case for establishing Canolfannau Cymraeg throughout Wales. The Government has recently allocated funding for centres in Pontardawe, Llanelli, Cardiff, Carmarthen, Bangor and other areas.

Lobbying

Dyfodol i'r laith has regularly met the First Minister, AMs and Civil Servants and has submitted many consultation reports, both nationally and locally.

The Future

A great many issues are currently demanding our attention, including ensuring that the Welsh language is given its rightful place within the workforces of the new local Councils, wen they come into being.

How can I help?

1. Contact your Assembly Member

The more of us who contact our Assembly Members to ensure their parties accept the priorities noted overleaf, the more likely we are to continue to achieve results.

2. Financial help

Our aim is to appoint full-time staff to lobby effectively and constantly. We can only achieve this through increasing our income. This will enable us to work even more effectively. If you are not already a contributor, it would be fantastic if you could fill the form below.

All contributions are welcomed and a monthly donation of £10 or more qualifies as full membership, giving rights to influence and vote on the organisation's policies.

Archeb Banc / Banker's Order

T'm banc (To my bank) Cyfeiriad Post fy Banc [Postal address of my Bank]	
I [To] Banc Lloyds TSB, 2 Heol Glanmor, U	Iplands, Abertawe SA2 OPU Côd Dosbarthu [Sort Code] 30-98-85
Rhif Cyfrif [Account Number] 26699860	Enw'r Cyfrif (Name of Account) Dyfodol i'r laith Cyf
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Swm (geiriau) [Amount (words)]	
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Rhif ffôn [Telephone]	E-bost [E-mail]

Anfonwch at eich banc, <u>a chopi, os gwelwch yn dda,</u> at Dyfodol i'r laith Cyf., Penllyn, 25 Ael y Bryn, Caerfyrddin, Sir Gâr SA31 2HB Please send to your bank <u>with a copy, please</u>, to Dyfodol i'r laith Cyf., Penllyn, 25 Ael y Bryn, Caerfyrddin, Sir Gâr SA31 2HB