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EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES

**Fourth periodical report
presented to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
in accordance with Article 15 of the Charter**

UNITED KINGDOM

THE EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES

Forth periodical report from the United Kingdom
December 2012

Foreword:

Devolved powers were formally transferred from the UK government to the devolved administrations in Scotland and Wales on 1 July 1999 and in Northern Ireland on 2 December 1999.

At the point of devolution, the Welsh Assembly Government took over responsibility for a number of the UK government's functions, including the Welsh language, education and training, economic development, and local government. The Scottish Parliament also took on responsibility for a range of UK government functions, which cover broadly the same ground as was previously covered by the Scottish Office. This included responsibility for Scottish Gaelic and Scots. Similarly, the Northern Ireland Assembly and Executive took over a wide range of functions previously exercised by the UK Government. This included most responsibility for language issues, including policy relating to the Irish and Ulster Scots in Northern Ireland. Although devolution in Northern Ireland was suspended in October 2002, it was restored again on 8 May 2007.

The UK Government retains responsibility for foreign affairs, defence, national security, most taxation, national economic policy and broadcasting.

There are therefore three devolved administrations which, along with the UK Government, are responsible for implementing the provisions of the European Charter for regional or minority languages in the United Kingdom.

The Charter has been extended to the Isle of Man, a Dependency of the British Crown, which has its own parliament and legislature and where Manx Gaelic is enjoying a resurgence.

As with the UK response to the Third Periodical Report, and despite repeated requests from the UK Government, the devolved administration in Northern Ireland has been unable to agree a contribution to this Report reflecting the views and actions of the Northern Ireland Executive relating to those issues for which they have policy responsibility. The UK Government expresses its concern at this outcome and sincerely hopes that this can be remedied in time for the next periodical report. The Report reflects the UK Government's responses in relation to those Articles where it retains policy responsibility.

Part I

Please provide updated information, if any new data exists, about the number and geographic distribution of speakers of regional or minority languages, and the general demographic situation.

Please provide information about any changes in the general policies, legislation or practice of your state in respect of regional or minority languages. Please also indicate any developments which are expected to occur during the next monitoring cycle, such as envisaged political or budgetary changes, policy plans or any other elements that may have a direct or indirect effect on the situation of the regional or minority languages in your State.

Please give a detailed account of the legal and/or practical measures that your State has taken to implement each one of the recommendations of the Committee of Ministers.

Cornish

At the time of the last report, the Cornish Language Partnership (CLP) had commissioned a survey of speakers which gave a figure of some 699 speakers at three levels of competency. The survey did not claim to capture all speakers but provided a baseline.

The CLP survey is not due to be updated until 2013, but the Partnership continues to monitor numbers in classes and the number taking and passing examinations in the language. These statistics show a steady though modest increase. The spread of knowledge of the language at the level of awareness and knowledge of a few phrases of Cornish has been much quicker and more extensive. It is believed that the normalisation of the language at this level is important in setting the context which will enable awareness to translate into active acquisition in the future. Importantly, while the demographic profile of learners in evening classes remains for the most part at over 40 years of age, much of the activity around normalisation has been focussed on young people and families, so that the growth of awareness has a much younger demographic profile. The piloting of Cornish in primary schools has also widened interest in and knowledge of Cornish with young children and their parents. The Partnership has also worked hard to widen access and ownership and has succeeded to a great extent in changing perceptions of the Cornish language. This allows Cornish to take its place within the culture and communities of present-day Cornwall.

The majority of speakers reside in Cornwall, but there are learners and speakers in a number of countries world-wide, notably those in which there is a sizeable Cornish diaspora.

In late 2009, Cornwall Council adopted a policy on Cornish which aims to ensure that the Cornish language is incorporated into many of the Council's functions, including the drawing up of policy documents, the provision of bilingual street signage and initiatives at departmental level. However, there is a need to encourage greater implementation of the policy, which varies between individual departments.

A strategy for the Development of Cornish was adopted in 2005 by local authorities and other organisations in Cornwall. In 2010, the strategy was revised to take account of the changing circumstances and to acknowledge the progress made. However, the central visions and targets of the strategy remain the same. The revised strategy is complemented by a three-year business plan and annual operational plans.

In 2005 the Labour Government endorsed the Strategy as providing the framework for implementing Part II of the Charter in respect of Cornish and provided funding towards the

implementation of the strategy of £80,000 a year, alongside £20,000 from Cornwall County Council and £100,000 from the EU Objective One programme. Government funding was increased to £150,000 a year in 2008 and Council funding continued, but the closure of the Objective One programme meant the loss of EU funding. Government funding was renewed in 2011 by the Coalition Government for a three year period through to 2014, but on a tapering basis, namely annual payments of £140,000, £120,000 and £100,000. The Government also indicated that beyond this time-frame Cornwall would need to sustain Cornish language provision from within its own resources. The Cornish Language Partnership (CLP), which includes both public and voluntary sector organisations, was established to undertake the work with Cornwall Council as lead partner and accountable body. The CLP is making efforts to access external funding and will continue to work with the Department for Communities and Local Government. The core funding currently supports the employment of dedicated staff and a small development budget.

Manx Gaelic

The resident population at the last census in 2011 was 84,497, representing an increase of 5.5% on the 2006 census figure. The resident population consisted of 41,971 males and 42,526 females.

The latest systematic data on knowledge of Manx Gaelic is based on information provided for the 2011 Census. A total of 1,823 people claimed to read, speak or write Manx Gaelic with 1,662 people being able to speak the language. This is an increase of 135 people since the 2001 Census. The key element in the Census question was fluency. Persons only knowing a few words or phrases were asked to tick the box marked, "No, cannot speak, read or write Manx Gaelic".

The Isle of Man Government continues to recognise the value of Manx Gaelic and the ongoing work to develop the use of the language.

Scots

The Committee of Experts of the European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages requested further information: (Chapter 1: 1.2: 9.):

Please provide detailed information about the 2011 census questions concerning Scots. What steps have been taken to ensure that questions on the number of speakers of Scots and their language knowledge was included in the census? Was a way found to avoid any confusion with other languages? (Chapter 1, para 1.2, 9)

Detailed information on data gathered is not yet available.

In the 2011 Census respondents were asked:

16 Which of these can you do?

◆ Tick all that apply.

	English	Scottish Gaelic	Scots
Understand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Speak	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Read	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Write	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

or

None of these

In addition, a website was developed specifically to assist respondents to be clear on what was meant by Scots. The website – ayecan.com – was developed by the Scots Language Centre and funded by the Scottish Government. The website allowed respondents to listen to examples of Scots being spoken from a number of different areas of Scotland. It also included a list of frequently asked questions and other relevant information.

Moratorium on rural school closures: Scottish local authorities have been asked not to progress or bring forward new proposals to close any rural school for one year from 1 June 2011. A Commission on the Delivery of Rural Education will be established to consider the provision of education in rural communities and to take a comprehensive look at the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, which includes a clear legislative presumption against the closure of such schools and the need for educational benefits to be the driving force in any proposed closure.

Spending Review: The Scottish Government is in the process of finalising its funding allocations for the next three years. It is likely that the final outcomes will indicate a strong support for the Gaelic language.

SNP Manifesto Commitments

- We will develop the concept of “Scottish Studies” in our schools, creating a distinct strand of learning focused on Scotland and incorporating Scottish History, Scottish Literature, the Scots and Gaelic Languages, wider Scottish culture and Scottish current affairs. All pupils will have access to this strand at Primary and Secondary levels.
- We support the introduction of a Scottish Studies element within the curriculum and see this as an important vehicle for protecting and promoting Scotland’s languages and also their literature.
- We will develop a national Scots language policy, with increased support for Scots in education, encouragement of a greater profile for Scots in the media, and the establishment of a network of Scots coordinators.

Introduction of Scottish Studies: During the next monitoring cycle the Scottish Government will develop plans for the introduction of Scottish Studies as a particular strand in the curriculum of Scottish schools.

Scottish Gaelic

Census 2011: Detailed information on data gathered is not yet available.

Schools Pupil Census 2011: Data gathered annually from schools with Gaelic medium provision showing the number of children enrolled in Gaelic-medium education or studying Gaelic at high

school. Data collected from centres/school from age 3-18. Bòrd na Gàidhlig early years support workers gathering information regularly regarding the number of children enrolled in 0-3 Gaelic provision. Statistics are distributed to Local Authorities annually.

Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010: The Act's principal purpose is to update and strengthen the statutory consultation practices and procedures that local authorities apply to their handling of all proposals for school closures and other major changes to schools. The Act also specifies that Bòrd na Gàidhlig is to be consulted when a proposal affects the provision of Gaelic medium education (GME) such as where a GME class is to be established or discontinued or a GME school's catchment is to be changed. Paragraph 12 makes clear that where a change is being proposed which affects a denominational school, the relevant church or denominational body must be consulted.

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE) prepared a report entitled *Gaelic Education, Building on the Successes, Addressing the Barriers* on the past successes of GME while looking to the future. HMIE has focused on:

- contributing to the continued success of Gaelic Education
- identifying how this success can gather the momentum required to meet the targets of the National Plan
- working with Gaelic establishments, partners and agencies to set clear areas for improvement.

The report was issued June 2011. Since then the HMIE functions have been included in a new agency – Education Scotland.

SNP Manifesto Commitments

- We will develop the concept of "Scottish Studies" in our schools, creating a distinct strand of learning focused on Scotland and incorporating Scottish History, Scottish Literature, the Scots and Gaelic Languages, wider Scottish culture and Scottish current affairs. All pupils will have access to this strand at Primary and Secondary levels.
- 'We will also continue to support the expansion of Gaelic medium education'
- We will examine how we can introduce an entitlement to Gaelic medium education where reasonable demand exists.
- We support the introduction of a Scottish Studies element within the curriculum and see this as an important vehicle for protecting and promoting Scotland's languages and also their literature.
- We will promote the acquisition, use and status of Gaelic through the implementation of the Gaelic Action Plan with the aim of ensuring that by 2021 the proportion of Gaelic speakers is back up to 2001 levels.
- We will continue to raise the profile of the Gaelic language across Scotland.
- Crucially, we will ensure that in Scotland's most strongly Gaelic-speaking communities, Gaelic continues to be in use as a community language.

Bord na Gàidhlig launched a new National Plan for Gaelic in June 2012. The key aims of the National Gaelic Language Plan 2012-17 are:

- arresting the decline in the overall number of Gaelic speakers in Scotland by increasing the number of speakers acquiring the language.
- expanding the range of situations in which Gaelic is used, in line with the Gaelic Language Act's key principle of equal respect for Gaelic and English
- helping Gaelic speakers, both learners and native speakers, to develop their competence in the language and their confidence in using it, and ensuring that the language itself continues to be healthy and vibrant.

During the next monitoring cycle Bord na Gàidhlig will prepare, for ministerial approval, a revised version of the Guidance for public bodies on Gaelic Language Plans.

During the next monitoring cycle the Scottish Government will develop plans for the introduction of Scottish Studies as a particular strand in the curriculum of Scottish schools.

During the next monitoring cycle the Scottish Government will prepare national Guidance on the delivery of Gaelic education and Gaelic medium education in Scottish schools.

Welsh

The detailed results of the 2011 Census regarding Welsh are expected to be published in 2013.

In 2008 the Welsh Language Board published a report outlining the results of the Language Use Surveys of 2004-06. The Surveys concluded that 317,000 people (58% of Welsh speakers) considered themselves to be fluent speakers. The full report can be viewed here:

<http://www.webarchive.org.uk/wayback/archive/20120330031325/http://www.byig-wlb.org.uk/english/publications/Pages/PublicationItem.aspx?puburl=/English/publications/Publications/Welsh%20Language%20Use%20Surveys%202004-06.pdf>

In February 2012, The Welsh Language Board published “A Statistical Overview of the Welsh language”, which is a comprehensive summary of the Board’s statistical and data collection work since 2003. The full report can be viewed here:

[:http://www.webarchive.org.uk/wayback/archive/20120330020847/http://www.byig-wlb.org.uk/English/publications/Pages/PublicationItem.aspx?puburl=/English%2fpublications%2fPublications%2fA+statistical+overview+of+the+Welsh+languagef2.pdf](http://www.webarchive.org.uk/wayback/archive/20120330020847/http://www.byig-wlb.org.uk/English/publications/Pages/PublicationItem.aspx?puburl=/English%2fpublications%2fPublications%2fA+statistical+overview+of+the+Welsh+languagef2.pdf)

As a result of the devolution of power within the United Kingdom, the Welsh Government is responsible for promoting the Welsh language. Since the 2011 Assembly Election that responsibility currently lies with the Welsh Government’s Minister for Education and Skills.

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure received Royal Assent in February 2011. It confirmed the official status of the Welsh language and led to the establishment of the post of Welsh Language Commissioner, an Advisory Panel for the Commissioner and a Welsh Language Tribunal. The Measure will also lead to the development of Welsh language standards that will replace Welsh Language Schemes and establish rights for Welsh speakers in the provision of services. The Measure also includes provisions with regard to the freedom of people wishing to speak Welsh with one another. In addition, a statutory Welsh Language Partnership Council will be established to advise the Welsh Ministers about their Welsh Language Strategy.

As a result of the Welsh Language Measure 2011, the Welsh Language Board was abolished on 31 March 2012.

The new Welsh Language Strategy 2012–17 *A living language: a language for living* was launched on 1 March 2012. Adopting a Welsh language strategy is a requirement placed on Welsh Ministers by section 78 of the Government of Wales Act 2006.

<http://wales.gov.uk/docs/dcells/publications/122902wls201217en.pdf>

Six strategic aims have been identified for the strategy.

The six aims are:

1. to encourage and support the use of the Welsh language within **families**.

2. to increase the provision of Welsh medium activities for **children and young people** and to increase their awareness of the value of the language;
3. to strengthen the position of the Welsh language in the **community**;
4. to increase opportunities for people to use Welsh in the **workplace**;
5. to improve **Welsh language services** to citizens; and
6. to strengthen the **infrastructure** for the language, including digital technology.

In March 2012, the Welsh Government published an Action Plan for 2012-2013 setting out how it will implement the proposals set out in the Welsh Language Strategy for that financial year:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/welshlanguage/publications/actionplan1213/?lang=en>

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure will contribute towards implementing the Strategy's aims. The Welsh Language Measure established the office of the Welsh Language Commissioner with a general power to promote and facilitate the use of Welsh and to work towards ensuring that Welsh is treated no less favourably than English. The Commissioner will have a key role to play in safeguarding the rights of Welsh speakers and contributing to the public debate surrounding the future of the Welsh language. The range of services available to the public in Welsh will be improved as a result of the Measure. This will be achieved by creating standards which will impose duties on organisations which fall within the scope of the Measure to:

- provide services in Welsh;
- consider the effect of policy decisions on the Welsh language
- promote the use of Welsh in the workplace
- promote and facilitate the use of Welsh more widely
- keep records of compliance with standards, and of complaints.

Both the Commissioner and the Welsh Government will have important roles to play in the creation of standards. The Commissioner will also have significant powers to enforce compliance with standards and powers to undertake investigations into allegations of interference with individuals' freedom to use Welsh with one another. The Commissioner will also have the power to advise and make recommendations to the Welsh Government in relation to the Welsh language. The Commissioner will also be duty-bound to formulate a report every five years on the position of the Welsh language.

It is essential that the strategy is evaluated in order to help assess its effectiveness against its strategic objectives and to ensure learning improvements are based on the available evidence. To do this, the Government will develop an evaluation framework alongside the strategy, incorporating a range of methods and sources of data including bespoke research and analysis.

Education

The Welsh Government's Welsh-medium Education Strategy, published in April 2010, sets out the national strategic direction for Welsh-medium, bilingual and Welsh-language education in Wales. The Implementation Programme that accompanies the Strategy details the work expected of the Welsh Government and its partners and stakeholders in all phases of education and training. In order to monitor progress made with implementing the Strategy, fixed five-year and indicative ten-year targets based on outcomes have been set. Progress made against the targets is to be published in an annual report. The Strategy, and the first annual report which was published in July 2011, can be downloaded from:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/publications/guidance/welshmededstrat/?lang=en>.

The second annual report will be available from late May 2012.

Preparations for the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Bill are under way and include the proposal to make Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (WESPs) statutory. The introduction of WESPs is one of the key proposals of the Welsh-medium Education Strategy and the Welsh Government expects local authorities to plan effectively for Welsh-medium provision, to report on their Welsh-medium, bilingual and Welsh-language education strategy and planning to Welsh Ministers and to achieve specific outcomes.

The White Paper for the Bill was published on 10 October 2011 for consultation and can be downloaded from:

<http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/education/schoolstandardsbill/?lang=en>.

The Bill was laid before the National Assembly for Wales in May 2012, and following successful completion of all stages of scrutiny, it is expected that the Bill will be passed and become Act in January 2013 and receive Royal Assent in February 2013.

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, the Welsh Language Strategy, and the Welsh-medium Education Strategy serve as a clear demonstration of the Welsh Government's determination to see the Welsh language prosper. The commitment to this task is reflected by the fact that *the Welsh language thrives* is one of the Government's 19 key strategic objectives.

Part II

Please indicate what measures your State has taken to apply Article 7 of the Charter to the regional or minority languages as defined in paragraph a of Article 1 of the Charter, focusing in particular on the following aspects:

- **Please provide information, for each regional or minority language, on new developments that have occurred since the last monitoring round concerning the provisions of Article 7;**
- **Please give a detailed account of the legal and/or practical measures that your State has taken to implement the encouragements and box recommendations of the Committee of Experts given in the previous evaluation report(s).**

Para 1.a) The recognition of the regional or minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth

Cornish

Cornwall Council has in place a policy which recognises the distinctiveness of Cornwall and the place of the language in contemporary culture and heritage and undertakes to provide information on the language and support development initiatives.

The Council has extended bilingual street signage to the whole of Cornwall which has helped the understanding of linguistic heritage in the environment and has included Cornish in council documents. The policy encourages further expansion in council use, including signage in buildings which has yet to be addressed. As other bodies look to the council for a lead, it is important that the full implementation of the policy be addressed.

Work undertaken by the CLP in schools aims to place the language in a cultural and historical context, and resources produced draw on historic and contemporary culture for their frame of

reference. Collaborations with festivals, educational providers, and media and arts organisations on projects aim to embed the language into cultural life and expression in Cornwall. In addition, the CLP continues to offer a translation service which assists organisations and events throughout Cornwall to engage with Cornish.

Manx Gaelic

In 2012 the Manx Heritage Foundation's Manx Language Development Officer produced an updated review for the language. It is hoped that key partners will meet on a regular basis to implement a long-term strategy for Manx Gaelic.

Scots

The Tobar an Dualchais/Kist o Riches project was launched in 2006 and was set up to digitise and catalogue recordings from all over Scotland. Some of the recordings go back to the 1930s, while others were recorded as recently as 2000. 11,500 hours of recordings have been digitised. This site contains a wealth of material including ballads, songs, poetry, fairy stories and tales of supernatural creatures. Birth, life and death customs are also recorded. The recordings came from three major collections: the School of Scottish Studies (University of Edinburgh); BBC Scotland; and the National Trust for Scotland's Canna Collection, collected by John Lorne Campbell.

The first Government-funded research into public attitudes to the Scots language showed a clear recognition of the language's importance to contemporary Scotland. Just over two-thirds of the sample (67 per cent) considered it important that Scots continues to be used in Scotland, with the language regarded as integral to Scotland's culture, heritage and local identities.

Scottish Gaelic

The Tobar an Dualchais/Kist o Riches project was launched in 2006 and was set up to digitise and catalogue recordings from all over Scotland. Some of the recordings go back to the 1930s while others were recorded as recently as 2000. 11,500 hours of recordings have been digitised. This site contains a wealth of material including ballads, songs, poetry, fairy stories and tales of supernatural creatures. Birth, life and death customs are also recorded. The recordings came from three major collections: the School of Scottish Studies (University of Edinburgh); BBC Scotland; and the National Trust for Scotland's Canna Collection, collected by John Lorne Campbell.

46 Public Bodies have now been given notification from Bòrd na Gàidhlig to prepare a Gaelic Plan. The Bord's Gaelic Usage Committee will take the lead in creating strong links between the National Plan and each authorities Gaelic Plan. This will help deliver the aims that appear in the new national plan.

The report, Public Attitudes Towards the Gaelic Language, covers a variety of questions related to the language, including current usage, teaching and its heritage. Key findings include: 65 per cent thought more should be done to promote Gaelic in Scotland, 81 per cent feel it is important that Scotland does not lose its Gaelic language traditions, 70 per cent thought there should be more opportunities to learn Gaelic, 90 per cent thought pupils should be taught Scottish studies and 53 per cent would like to see more Gaelic in Scottish life. This research demonstrates majority support for the maintenance of the Gaelic language and recognises the need for greater access to learning the language. The public has also been consistent in its desire that Scotland does not lose its Gaelic identity.

Welsh

The National Library of Wales (www.llgc.org.uk) based in Aberystwyth continues to house and gives access to a vast collection of works about Wales, many of which are written in Welsh.

The National Library of Wales received a total of £2 million from the Welsh Government's Strategic Capital Investment Fund in contribution towards its *Welsh Newspapers and Magazines Online* project which will digitise and provide free, searchable, online access to 2 million pages (up to 300 titles) of newspapers and magazines / journals relating to Wales. This work was completed in early 2012. A beta version will be available later during 2012 with the aim of launching this in January 2013.

Amongst the material to be digitised are important Welsh language publications such as *Baner ac Amserau Cymru*, *Y Cymro*, *Seren Cymru* and *Tarian y Gweithiwr* which represent a particularly productive period in Welsh language publishing in the late 19th / early 20th centuries.

This project will improve the availability and accessibility of Welsh materials (and Welsh language material) for research and learning, and has potential for use, re-use and commercial exploitation. This project is part of the National Library of Wales' wider *Theatr y Cof / Theatre of Memory* programme which aims to increase digitisation of Welsh printed material and ensure free access to a wealth of Welsh language resources on the internet.

Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales (www.museumwales.ac.uk) continues to promote the wider knowledge and better understanding of Wales, its history, culture and place in the world.

The *Casgliad y Werin Cymru/People's Collection Wales* bilingual website is dedicated to the story of Wales and its people, and is free to use. It represents an innovative approach to collecting, interpreting and discussing Wales' cultural heritage in an online environment. It is a key commitment in the Welsh Government's Programme for Government 2011-2016 to "develop the potential of digital media to promote culture through *Casgliad y Werin Cymru / People's Collection Wales* and other on-line initiatives." *People's Collection Wales* is delivered under a federated management structure led by three national cultural and heritage bodies: Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales, The National Library of Wales and The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales. Core programme funding is provided to the lead partners by the Welsh Government.

One of the key principles underpinning *Peoples' Collection Wales* is that it provides a bilingual online platform to discover, contribute and share material about Wales' history and heritage. The programme continues to develop tools and resources to encourage and enable individuals, groups and organisations to contribute material in the language of their choice. The programme is also developing tools and resources for formal and informal learning, and material contributed to the site is available for use in developing educational resources.

The *Casgliad y Werin Cymru / People's Collection Wales* website is available at:

Cymraeg / Welsh: <http://www.casgliadywerincymru.co.uk>

Saesneg / English: <http://www.peoplescollectionwales.co.uk>

The Welsh Books Council continues to provide grants to authors of Welsh language books, publishes an annual catalogue with books and education resources for children, and organises a number of events and clubs to promote reading and literacy. The materials used in these campaigns are Welsh language books and books from Wales. The Welsh language Children's Poet Laureate raises the profile of poetry amongst children and young people.

Para 1.b) The respect of the geographical area of each regional or minority language in order to ensure that existing or new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of the regional or minority language in question.

Cornish

At the time of the last report, Cornwall was administered through a two-tier local authority system comprising a county council and six district council, but was preparing for the move to a unitary authority for the whole of Cornwall (Cornwall Council). Formerly, all six district councils and the County Council had in place basic policies for the recognition of Cornish, whilst Kerrier Council had a more comprehensive language policy. Cornwall County Council had been the lead and accountable body for the Cornish Language Partnership and all six district councils had been in membership. Following the establishment of the unitary authority, Cornwall Council accepted the role of lead partner and accountable body and provided representation from each of the political groupings on the council. The borders of Cornwall remain the same as those for the previous County Council.

Manx Gaelic

No developments since the last report.

Scots

No developments since the last report.

Scottish Gaelic

No developments since the last report.

Welsh

No developments since the last report.

Para 1.c) The need for resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them

Cornish

Action has been guided by the Cornish Language Development Strategy, adopted in 2005, which was endorsed by the UK Government as providing the framework for implementing Part II of the Charter. In 2008, the government renewed and increased its financial support to £150,000 per annum, thus helping to replace financial aid which came to an end with the end of the Objective One programme. Cornwall Council renewed support of £20,000 per annum, with additional in-kind support through the hosting of the Partnership office and staff. In 2011 government funding was renewed on a tapering basis of annual payments of £140,000, £120,000 and £100,000 with the rider that central funding may cease after that date. This decision was taken in light of the need to find savings in public expenditure to address the deficit.

At the time of the last report a Standard Written Form had been established for Cornish, for use in official documentation, public life and education. While the freedom for individuals to use whatever form they personally prefer has been maintained, the agreement has enabled work to be undertaken with public bodies such as the National Trust and the Environment Agency, and with a wide range of schools and other organisations - something which was formerly more difficult.

Manx Gaelic

The Department of Education and Children has recently appointed a new Manx Language Officer to take over from the previous holder who retired at the end of 2011 after seven years in the post.

Scots

The Scots Language Working Group was set up to advise Ministers on the profile and needs of the Scots language. The Group published its report and recommendations, setting out proposals to enhance the status of Scots and promote the use of all its dialects. The work of the Group focused on sectors that have the potential to increase the use and status of Scots, including education, broadcasting, publishing, literature and the arts.

Scottish Gaelic

No developments since the last report.

Welsh

The Welsh Government demonstrated its commitment to promote the use of Welsh language through a number of ways during the reporting period. In December 2010, the National Assembly for Wales approved the Welsh Government-proposed Welsh Language (Wales) Measure, which became law in February 2011.

The Welsh Government also consulted on and developed a new Welsh Language Strategy, which was published on 1 March 2011. The Strategy sets out the measures that Welsh Ministers will take, over a five-year period between 2012-17, to promote and facilitate the use of Welsh.

In addition, the Welsh Government published a new Welsh-medium Education Strategy in April 2010, in order to increase the supply of Welsh speakers for the future.

New impact assessments were developed by the Welsh Government in 2010 (using the existing checklists as the framework) as part of its ongoing effort to mainstream the Welsh language across the organisation. Separate Impact Assessments were produced for a) policies and b) services.

These were created to further emphasise the link between any new policies and new services created and the Welsh language, and can also be used to check that existing policies and services give due regard to the language. The checklists were designed to be used alongside the Welsh Government's Policy Integration Process.

The Welsh Government undertook a programme of language promotion designed to raise the profile of the language across all sectors. The Welsh Government, through the Welsh Language

Board, provided grants to a number of organisations whose remit includes the promotion of the language. In 2011-12, over £7.5m in grants was provided by the Welsh Government, through the Welsh Language Board, to bodies and organisations that promote the Welsh language. Some of the main grant recipients included Mudiad Meithrin, a Welsh language nursery education provider which runs around 1000 community based pre-school and mother and toddler groups, Urdd Gobaith Cymru, which organises Welsh-medium cultural/leisure activities for young people, and the National Eisteddfod of Wales. From 1 April responsibility for distributing grants to Welsh language organisations has been transferred to the Welsh Government.

Para 1.d) The facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of regional or minority languages, in speech and writing, in public and private life

Cornish

The use of Cornish has been encouraged and facilitated in line with the strategy in a number of ways.

- Signage: Bilingual street signage on a replacement basis has been extended to the whole of Cornwall. Advice has also been extended to developers and commercial firms with mixed results. The CLP has been proactive in including signage in its discussions with other public bodies where possible.
- Through official use: The public translation service offered by the CLP continues to grow. Cornwall Council provides Cornish translations of forewords to official reports, though there is a need for greater work in other areas, such as the council website and information leaflets. The CLP has been proactive in seeking to work with other official bodies to promote the use of Cornish. The National Trust adopted a policy on Cornish a year ago and Natural England, the Environment Agency and English Heritage are currently looking at developing policies and provision.
- Marketing: The CLP has continued to ensure a presence for Cornish at high density and high profile events and festivals while the language associations have ensured representation at more local events. The CLP (MAGA) website and newsletter have grown and are both fully bilingual. The website also serves as a portal to a number of other Cornish language websites. Promotional pocket guides with vocabulary in Cornish have proved a great success with the public and with schools and other organisations. There is, however, a need to look at better distribution networks for Cornish material including e-commerce. The CLP now makes use of social media, including both Facebook and Twitter, to disseminate information and engender interest.
- Learning Resources: New learning resources have been produced by the Partnership including a follow up publication to the Key Stage One resources identified in the last report. Activity packs for schools have been produced, based around Christmas, St Piran's Day and Cornish Drama, while the language organisations continue to produce a range of publications for all levels of ability.
- Media: The BBC continues to provide a 5 minute news bulletin in Cornish. A series for learners consisting of twelve 5 minute programmes has been produced by the CLP in association with MyCornwall TV and released as a DVD. A second series is has been prepared and is currently being broadcast. Radio an Gernewegva, a web-based provider dependent on voluntary effort, produces half an hour of reporting and music in Cornish

each week. Discussions with community radio stations are under way with the aim of producing some content in the near future.

- **Business and Economy:** The growth of the use of Cornish in business is worth noting also. It is evident that small firms are increasingly using Cornish as a mark of origin and quality in their branding while there has also been some success with multi-national companies seeking to establish a local presence. This area of work needs to be built on more strongly in the future.
- **Community and cultural projects:** A number of projects have been organised which highlight Cornish and place it in a cultural context. The annual song competition in Cornish organised in conjunction with the Pan Celtic Festival in Ireland has been revived with the CLP assisting with translation of songs. Work with festivals in Cornwall has provided everything from taster sessions to karaoke in Cornish, the Govyn Kernewek award continues to develop Cornish film and a project with a new heritage provider and local schools resulted in a performance project based on the inheritance of Cornish language miracle plays this summer. Work with youth groups and in particular scouts and guides has broadened knowledge and opportunity to learn outside school while co-operation with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds on a project around the Cornish chough has brought Cornish to a new audience.

The Partnership has strategically prioritised awareness raising, enabling a wide range of people to gain a few words of Cornish, bearing in mind both the importance of the language in reinforcing culture and community cohesion and the need for widespread visibility as a precursor to widespread acquisition.

Irish and Ulster-Scots

Media and Broadcasting: Northern Ireland was the final UK region to switch over to full digital television broadcasting in October 2012. As a result of significant investment in infrastructure, and close collaboration between the UK and Irish Governments, the broadcasters themselves, and regulators, over 90% of viewers in Northern Ireland can now receive TG4. This represents a substantial increase in coverage.

Additionally, in 2010, the then UK Government announced that it would continue to provide £3m per annum funding to the Irish Language Broadcasting Fund until 2014/15, in recognition of the contribution the Fund makes to the promotion and development of the Irish language, as well as the associated benefits for the creative industries in Northern Ireland. A separate Ulster-Scots Broadcasting Fund was also established at that time, with £1m per annum funding until 2014/15 provided by the then UK Government.

Manx Gaelic

Although English is the official language of business in the Isle of Man's parliament, Tynwald, its Members are permitted to use relevant customary words and phrases in Manx Gaelic, provided that the meaning of those words or phrases is either well understood or the Member provides a translation into English if requested to do so by the presiding officer. A significant number of the Members of Tynwald do now use such words and phrases in Manx Gaelic during parliamentary proceedings.

Manx Radio, which is partly government funded, provides some programming in and about Manx Gaelic, with assistance from the Gaelic Broadcasting Committee (a body overseen by the Isle of

Man Government's Communications Commission). This committee presents an annual report of its activities to Tynwald, the Manx parliament. Copies of the Committee's reports for the years end 31st March 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 are attached.

Coonceil ny Gaelgey, which operates as a sub-committee of the Manx Heritage Foundation, continues to provide authoritative Manx versions of the titles of Government Departments, street names etc. and the creation of new words and phrases in Manx Gaelic. These terms are available at: www.learnmanx.com. This website has been upgraded in recent years so that it now provides a comprehensive resource for users of the language.

'Manx Radio provides five weekly programmes which use the language. Three of these have elements in English and Manx, while the two others are entirely in Manx. In addition, selected Manx Radio news items are translated into Manx once a week and are made available as text and as sound files on the Manx Radio website:

<http://www.manxradio.com/news.aspx?m=70&b1=20&b2=22&b3=24>

The Manx Heritage Foundation has an integrated social media presence, including the www.learnmanx.com website, which is now also available as a mobile site for smartphones and tablets; a YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/gaelg) and a twitter feed (www.twitter.com/greinneyder).

The Manx Heritage Foundation has been supporting the publication of new material in Manx during 2012 which will include material for both young and adult readers. For example, 2012 has seen the publication of the Gruffalo stories in Manx.

The Manx Heritage Foundation in conjunction with yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh runs a Manx Language week in the autumn which includes lectures and social events in the language.

Manx National Heritage has a programme of digitisation of archives, records and other resources which are being released for public access to in person visitors and are planned for full public release through a website late in 2012.

In November 2012 a Manx Gaelic app for Android phones and tablets, iPhones and iPads was launched. The '*Learn Manx*' app has been produced by the Manx Heritage Foundation's Manx Language Development Officer and it is based on the successful adult language course run by the Manx Heritage Foundation in the Isle of Man. '*Learn Manx*' consists of ten units, each consisting of a variety of activities, together with two additional revision lessons. The app will eventually cover 30 units in total, providing an introduction to the language to those unfamiliar with it, as well as a great revision course for those who already know some Manx.

Scots

The Committee of Experts of the European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages requested further information on:

What steps have been taken to encourage and sustain Scots as a community language and to support and create conditions for Scots-speakers to value and use their language? What steps have been taken to strengthen the position of Scots within existing language communities? (Chapter 3, para 1d, 69)

- Audit of the Scots Language: The purpose of this research (published 27 January 2009) was to conduct a baseline audit of provision for the Scots language in Scotland and to provide a snapshot of current activity. This is the first time that such a piece of research

has been carried out by government in Scotland, and it has provided baseline data to which further research, discussions or policy development can refer.

- Research into Public Attitudes to Scots: This research (published on 14 January 2010) was commissioned on behalf of both the Scottish Government's Culture, External Affairs and Tourism Directorate and the Schools Directorate. The overall aims of the research were to explore what people understand the Scots language to be and to investigate public perceptions of and attitudes to the Scots language amongst adults in Scotland. The research was paid for by the Scottish Government. Two of the key findings show that Scots is widely spoken and that there are no strong negative feelings against Scots.
- Scots Language Working Group: The Scots Language Ministerial Working Group was established in November 2009 under the chairmanship of Professor Derrick McClure, and consisted of representatives from the Scots language community. The Group published its report and recommendations on 30 November 2010. The Scottish Government Response was published on 18 March 2011. The report is an important factor in informing Scottish Government policy development and assisting in identifying the most effective ways for the Scottish Government and other partners to support and promote Scots. The report recommendations will form part of upcoming discussions with Learning and Teaching Scotland (LTS) when planning work for the new education agency.
- Scots Language Conference: At the Scottish Government's Scots language conference (held at Stirling University on 9 February 2009) the Scottish Government gave a commitment to undertake further close consultation with experts from the Scots language community.
- Scots Language Question in Census 2011: For the first time, the 2011 Census included a question on the Scots Language. The Minister for Culture and External Affairs established a short life Working Group to focus on awareness-raising of the Scots language question in the 2011 Census to ensure the accuracy of response, give a comprehensive picture of the situation, and give confidence to people to answer accurately. As well as Scottish Government officials, there were representatives from the office of the General Register for Scotland and the Scots Language Centre. From the plan of action developed by the Group, the campaign to raise awareness was successful. A website was developed by the SLC with funding of £12,000 provided by the SG. The website received over 500,000 hits. There was a significant amount of media covered of the Scots language question.
- Robert Burns Birthplace Museum: The museum, in Alloway, Ayrshire, opened December 2010. Project to feature more than 5,000 artefacts, including original manuscripts.
- General Teaching Council for Scotland (GTCS) Awards: GTCS held an event on 22 February 2011 in Scottish Parliament to formally recognise the work of a group of teachers on Scots.

Scottish Gaelic

Following significant support from Scottish Ministers and many others, the BBC Trust agreed to give the Gaelic TV channel access to Freeview. During the period (June to September 2011), BBC ALBA has attracted a significant number of new viewers averaging a total claimed weekly reach of 12.9% of adults aged 16 and over, equating to 530,000 viewers. Prior to the channel being made available on Freeview, the total weekly reach for the channel was 220,000.

Gaelic is now recognised as a co-official language of the EU. Co-official languages are languages that are official in all or part of a Member State but were not designated as the official language of

the state in membership negotiations. This allows Gaelic to be used in publication of acts and communication between the EU Institutions and the citizens - be it letters from the citizens or for speech-making in a large meeting - and requires that the member state in question enter into an agreement with each institution concerning use of the language and that the Member State pays any incurred costs.

Welsh

The Welsh Government continues to fund the TWF Project (a programme to encourage new parents to transmit Welsh to their children) TWF employs 23 field officers, who give presentations to expectant parents amongst other activities to promote the transmission of Welsh. The Mentrau Iaith (community Language initiatives) also do work in this area.

The Mentrau Iaith of which there are currently 23 across Wales, aim to extend and expand the use of Welsh at a community level. This includes providing advice and support to public, private, business and voluntary organisations. In 2011-12, funding to the Mentrau from the Welsh Government through the Welsh Language Board was £1.5m.

The Welsh Government's support for Welsh language publishing is channelled through the Welsh Books Council.

The Welsh Books Council received grant funding of £1,653,500 from the Welsh Government during 2011-12 to support Welsh language publishing.

This funding was distributed by the Welsh Books Council to:

- support the publishing of new books and magazines
- support authors, illustrators, photographers and designers
- support creative editors in the publishing houses
- support independent booksellers
- provide performance payments to publishers
- support the marketing of new books.

This was equal to the sum allocated in 2010/11, which included an increase of £300,000 on the allocation for 2009/10. This additional funding has enabled the Council to increase the number of creative editors in the publishing houses and to increase the funding available for authors and for artwork and design for more visually ambitious books.

The daily Welsh online news service Golwg360 (www.golwg360.com), owned by Golwg Newydd, which is a sister company of Golwg Cyf., was launched in May 2009, and use of the site has grown regularly since then; following a redesign, the number of monthly visits is over 200,000 (as at March 2012).

A review of the service was commissioned by the Welsh Books Council in the summer of 2010. This showed that readers were of the opinion that the journalistic quality of the service was of a high standard and compared favourably with similar services. The review contained several recommendations on how the service could be developed, and these were accepted by Golwg360. Following the review, the Welsh Books Council extended Golwg Newydd's contract for a further three years, from 2011, so that the company could build on its achievements and further develop the service.

The Welsh Government continues to provide funding (£200,000 per annum) through the Welsh Books Council, to Golwg 360. This is in addition to the £171,000 currently being spent by the

Welsh Government, through the Welsh Books Council, on Welsh-medium news and current affairs publications.

The investment in Golwg 360 has led to job creation and training in both Golwg Newydd (the company which owns Golwg 360) and its sister company Golwg Cyf., which owns the print magazine. A total of seven posts have been created in Golwg 360, four of them journalist posts, and Golwg itself has created 1.7 new posts. The journalist training has been mostly done in-house taking advantage of the experience acquired by Golwg over many years. The majority of the jobs created are located in the Lampeter and Caernarfon areas.

The Welsh Government provides £100,000 per annum for a Community Radio Fund. This funding is available to radio stations that possess a full community radio licence. The aim of the Fund is to support small scale, not-for-profit community radio stations which operate for the good of the community in which they operate, in order to deliver social gain. The terms and conditions of the fund specify that grant-funded activities should be compatible with the Welsh Government's aim of creating a bilingual Wales where people have increased opportunities to use Welsh in their daily lives. Specific targets vary from station to station but can include increasing the number of hours of Welsh language programmes broadcast each week, creating a bilingual website and increasing the amount of Welsh included on promotional materials.

Information about the Fund is attached below:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/cultureandsport/mediapublishing/radiofund/?lang=en>

Para 1.e) The maintenance and development of links, in the fields covered by this Charter, between groups using a regional or minority language and other groups in the State employing a language used in identical or similar form, as well as the establishment of cultural relations with other groups in the State using different languages

Cornish

The Cornish Language Partnership now attends the meetings of the British Irish Council Working Group on Indigenous and Minority Languages in an observer capacity. It also maintains links with other language organisations and CLP officers have attended and taken part in various seminars and conferences. Cultural links through music and dance continue to prosper and the CLP has taken an active part in assisting with Cornish representation at major festivals.

Manx Gaelic

No developments since last report.

Scots

No developments since the last report.

Scottish Gaelic

No developments since the last report.

Welsh

The Welsh Government, through the Welsh Language Board, provided financial support of £52,000 to the London Welsh School during the 2011/12 financial year. The Welsh Language Board regularly replied to requests for information regarding the Welsh language from Welsh speakers living in England and its Linkline to Welsh service maintained a list of Welsh tutors outside Wales.

The Welsh Language Board also hosted the secretariat for the Network to Promote Linguistic Diversity – NPLD (see www.npld.eu) with the aim of debating issues of common interest to regional or minority languages across Europe. The Network brings together 28 language planning organisations from across Europe, including national and regional governments as well as research centres and NGOs. The NPLD's aim is to facilitate the sharing of existing best practice and the development of new and innovative ideas in the field of language planning amongst Europe's constitutional, regional and smaller-state languages. The Network meets regularly in order to share information and since the last report, activities have been held in the following policy areas:

Language Strategy Planning: The NPLD held a seminar in Dublin in December 2009 to bring together experts working in the field of legislative and strategic language planning. The seminar was held over two days and opened by the Irish Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, Éamon Ó Cuív. The seminar coincided with the publication of the "20 Year Strategy for the Irish Language 2010 - 2030" and included representatives from each of the NPLD's full partners. The seminar led to the creation of the NPLD's Think Tank

Think Tank: The NPLD has established a Think Tank to develop its wider academic scope and to fill voids in language planning research. This group is aimed at enabling partners to compare and disseminate high level language promotion strategies as well as producing philosophical documents in favour of multilingualism. It also enables the network and its partners to connect to the EU on an evidence-based level as well as responding and contributing to EU resolutions and consultations with input from internationally recognised experts and specialists in language planning. Two current studies being undertaken are looking at 1) the benefits of multilingualism to business and prosperity; 2) a comparison of language strategies across Europe with a view to providing recommendations on future strategic planning.

Study Visits: The Network has offered opportunity to its members and partner organisations to benefit from a financial contribution towards study visits aimed at sharing best practice and experiences first hand. These have included a representative from Ireland visiting Wales to learn about the formalisation of translation services at the Welsh Government; a study visit was organised by "Mudiad Dathlu'r Gymraeg" to the Basque Country and Brittany to research the popular Korrika and Ar Redadeg events, aimed at raising awareness of the target language in the community and amongst families. Two group study visits were also organised in 2010 and 2011 – the first in the Basque Country examining Adult Education through the medium of Basque; the second welcomed representatives to Wales to learn about the initiatives in developing language within the community and amongst young people. Direct benefits can be seen from these visits to those taking part and are informative for both visitors and hosts.

Pre-School – MELT; (Multilingual Early Language Transmission) A group originally set up by the NPLD, the European funded MELT project was awarded a grant of 392.121€ over a period of 2 years. It brought together 4 language communities (Wales, Frisland, Finland and Brittany) to look at improving language transmission methodology amongst pre-school children. The project worked in close co-operation with the Welsh language pre-school organisation, Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin to assist practitioners with improving the quality and quantity of Welsh language transmitted at a number of pre-school branches across south Wales. A guide for practitioners with practical examples of language transmission was published and distributed to pre-schools across Wales –

the project also produced a booklet providing advice to parents on how to support their young children in acquiring language at pre-school as well as in the home.

Terminology: The NPLD's Terminology work strand was launched with a seminar hosted by the NPLD in Dublin, December 2009. Partners in the Terminology group worked with experts from organisation such as Microsoft, IATE (the EU's Terminology Directorate) and Eurotermbank to gain more insight into the technology available and methodologies used to enhance a language terminology database.

Wales is also leading the work of the British Irish Council's workstream on Indigenous, Minority and Lesser-used languages. As a result of the Welsh Language Measure 2011, the Welsh Language Board (which was delegated responsibility for taking forward the work area by Welsh Government, including providing the Chairperson) was abolished on 31 March 2012. The Welsh Government has therefore become responsible for chairing and providing secretariat support for the group since 1 April 2012.

The key objectives of the working group relate to formalising the exchange and dissemination of information and best practice at government level in the field of indigenous, minority and lesser used languages.

The exchange of experience, ideas and information has concentrated on the following areas: community development; use of indigenous, minority and lesser-used languages amongst young people, legislation, education and broadcasting.

Since the last monitoring report, events have been held in the following policy areas:

Adult Education

In January 2008, a seminar was held in Cardiff to discuss the teaching of indigenous, minority and lesser-used languages to adults.

Legislation

In February 2010 a seminar was held in Edinburgh to discuss legislation in the field of indigenous, minority and lesser-used languages, which was attended by policy makers from all BIC Member Administrations.

Community Development

In October 2010 a seminar was held in Belfast to discuss Promoting Language and Culture within Minority Language Communities. This seminar was attended by policy makers and practitioners from all BIC Member Administrations.

Young People

The BIC workstream worked in partnership with the NPLD (Network to Promote Linguistic Diversity) to organise a seminar to discuss the use of indigenous, minority and lesser-used languages amongst young people. The seminar was held in Donegal in November 2011, and was attended by policy makers and practitioners from all BIC Member Administrations, and from other European Countries/Regions.

Ministerial Meeting in Donegal, November 2011

The meeting considered and endorsed two papers:

- Promoting Language and Culture within Minority Language Communities
- Update on activities and suggestions for a forward work programme

Ministers endorsed the findings of the conference held in Belfast in October 2010 that considered and shared good practice in the field of promoting language and culture within minority language communities. Ministers agreed that projects to support the use of IMLs by young people, within families, and within the wider community should be supported by governments. Ministers also

noted the importance of adopting a government led strategy to promote the use of IMLs, and agreed to share best practice within BIC when developing such strategies.

Ministers reviewed the work achieved by the workstream since the last Ministerial meeting in 2006, and noted its positive contribution in ensuring that best practice is shared amongst Member Administrations. Ministers then considered and approved proposals for the future work programme of the Indigenous, Minority and Lesser Used Languages Group. The group will continue with its work in the areas of education, young people, broadcasting, and the economic impact of IMLs. It was agreed that the group should revisit the fields of legislation in the context of IMLs. The group will also focus on two new areas, namely marketing, and ICT (social networking in particular). Ministers tasked the group with identifying further synergies with the NPLD to gain maximum leverage from public resources in this area, and asked the group to evaluate the work undertaken since 2006, and consider how the outcomes can be disseminated to stakeholders.

Para 1.f) The provision of appropriate forms and means for the teaching and study of regional or minority languages at all appropriate stages.

Cornish

Pre-school

The Committee of Experts of the European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages requested further information:

The Committee of Experts has not received any information about the use of the Cornish Language at pre-school level and asks the authorities to report about it in the next periodical report. (Chapter 3, para 1f, 94)

At pre-school level there is some engagement with Cornish and interest is growing. Current provision includes a Saturday school in the Camborne Redruth area, Movyans Skolyow Meythrin, which was set up by parents to spearhead provision. The aim was to teach children and parents concurrently, and this has succeeded, with a small number of children involved. The school has now achieved Ofsted accreditation in order to be able to extend provision to children who may attend without their parents, as the level of parent time commitment is not attainable for all who would like their children to benefit. The CLP is currently consulting with Movyans Skolyow Meythrin over development and expansion to other centres.

The CLP's Education Officers have also established contact with the Cornwall Pre-School Learning Alliance and preschools are now showing an intention to incorporate Cornish into their activities, though enquiries are tentative at present. Resources established for Key Stage One have in fact proved effective with pre-school classes and more provision is in preparation. Strategically, the CLP is looking to sharpen involvement and focus more on the pre-school sector over the coming year.

Primary Sector

There is a continuing and growing demand for taster and one-off sessions in primary schools, many based around specific Cornish events e.g. Pirantide. This is met by the use of community educators and a resource pack that enables teachers to organise a basic programme for themselves.

In-service training to teachers and support staff in a number of primary schools has allowed the regular teaching of short programmes in 'Preparation, Planning and Assessment' time. Collaboration with partners has allowed the embedding of Cornish into a variety of school-based projects and allowed the provision of in-house training to a number of non-school based educators.

Further resource materials have been published for this sector.

Secondary Schools

Demand from secondary schools remains piece-meal and mainly in the form of 'taster sessions' usually as part of a wider languages day or initiative addressing equality, diversity and inclusion issues. One or two schools do offer it in a limited way, either at 6th form or as an ongoing project. Support is needed to encourage schools to make time in the curriculum for Cornish.

General

A mentoring scheme is in place for volunteers who wish to improve their teaching skills and become 'community educators'. Feedback suggests that this has helped improve their standing in schools.

A partnership has been formed with a local further education college to produce a public access virtual learning environment for students and teachers which is now well under way

The challenge is to match growing demand with the capacity to respond with quality provision. Voluntary work is not the answer if sustainable, high quality provision is to be encouraged and achieved. There is an urgent need, which is being addressed, to articulate an offer to schools, and identify the support needed to enable effective, sustainable delivery.

Manx Gaelic

At two of the five secondary schools, Manx is an optional timetabled subject for children in the age group 11- 14. Examination assessed courses, Teisht Chadjin Ghaelgagh (GCSE equivalent in Manx) and a full A level in the language are available to all pupils, although in some schools these are studied as an extracurricular subject.

In addition to teaching, Yn Unnid Gaelgagh/Manx Language Unit prepares resources including language courses, story books, computer-based teaching materials and games for use in all schools.

In 2011/12 there were 78 children attending the Bunscoil Ghaelgagh or Manx-medium school where they receive their education entirely through Manx. On leaving the Bunscoil, children have the opportunity to learn three subjects through Manx at the secondary school within whose catchment area the Bunscoil lies.

Mooijer Veggey operates two Manx Gaelic playgroups and four 'part Manx Gaelic' nurseries. It also runs the Bunscoil Ghaelgagh and employs an Education Officer, a Pre-School Support Officer and a Writer/Resource Officer. Mooijer Veggey is partly government funded and partly funded from fees and charitable donations.

The Committee of Experts of the European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages requested further information:

The Committee of Experts was informed during the on-the-spot visit that the Department of Education intends to set up a Manx Gaelic youth centre. The Committee of Experts looks forward to receiving information on this initiative in the next periodical report. (Chapter 3, para 1d, 79)

A weekly youth group for children over 11 years of age is being run by the Department of Education and Children in conjunction with the Manx Heritage Foundation. This youth group has

now been running for three years. The Manx Youth Group *Possan Aeglagh* is based at Peel and also will be meeting in Douglas to meet the needs of its members. In 2011 the Holiday Venture Scheme *Possan Souree* was also run.

Scots

No developments since the last report.

Scottish Gaelic

In recent years Bòrd na Gàidhlig has put in new investment into supporting Gaelic adult education delivered through the Ùlpan learning classes.

In the last year, new resources have been developed for the teaching of Gaelic Language in the Primary School and increased resources have been made available to train teachers. The GLPS Local Authority consortium is committed to training 10 teachers per year.

Welsh

Since the last monitoring round, the Welsh Government has published its first Welsh-medium Education Strategy. The Strategy, published in April 2010, outlines the Government's vision for *'an education and training system that responds in a planned way to the growing demand for Welsh-medium education, reaches out to and reflects our diverse communities and enables an increase in the number of people of all ages and backgrounds who are fluent in Welsh and able to use the language with their families, in their communities and in the workplace'*.

The Strategy sets out the following six strategic aims:

- to improve the planning of Welsh-medium provision in the pre-statutory and statutory phases of education, on the basis of proactive response to informed parental demand;
- to improve the planning of Welsh-medium provision in the post-14 phases of education and training, taking account of linguistic progression and continued development of skills;
- to ensure that all learners develop their Welsh-language skills to their full potential and encourage sound linguistic progression from one phase of education and training to the next;
- to ensure a planned Welsh-medium education workforce that provides sufficient numbers of practitioners for all phases of education and training, with high-quality Welsh-language skills and competence in teaching methodologies;
- to improve the central support mechanisms for Welsh-medium education and training, and
- to contribute to the acquisition and reinforcement of Welsh-language skills in families and in the community.

The Implementation Programme that accompanies the Strategy details the work expected of the Welsh Government and its partners and stakeholders in all phases of education and training. In order to monitor progress made with implementing the Strategy, fixed five-year and indicative ten-year targets based on outcomes have been set. Progress made against the targets is to be published in an annual report. The first annual report was published in July 2011, and can be downloaded from

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/publications/guidance/welshmededstrat/?lang=en>.

In 2010/11, there were 1,435 maintained primary schools in Wales. Of these, 33% are Welsh-medium or bilingual (419 Welsh-medium primary schools, where Welsh is the sole/main medium of

instruction, and 48 bilingual schools, where Welsh-medium provision is used for part of the curriculum). In 2010/11 21.9% of 7-year-old learners were being taught through the medium of Welsh or bilingually.

There are 32 Welsh-medium schools in the secondary sector in Wales and 24 bilingual schools, where Welsh-medium provision is used for part of the curriculum. In 2010/11 16.3% of 14-year-old learners were being taught Welsh as a first language. In August 2011, 81% of learners entered for GCSE Welsh First Language were entered for at least two further Level 1/2 qualifications through the medium of Welsh, and 62% of learners entered for GCSE Welsh First Language were entered for at least five further Level 1/2 qualifications through the medium of Welsh.

In Further Education (FE) colleges and Work-based Learning (WBL), the percentage of students aged 16–19 studying subjects through the medium of Welsh or bilingually is increasing, albeit from a low baseline. In 2009/10 6.2% of FE learners and 1.5% of WBL learners studied subjects through the medium of Welsh or bilingually.

With regard to Higher Education, for the 2009/10 academic year, there were 4,905 student enrolments at Welsh higher education institutions (HEIs) with some teaching through the medium of Welsh, 5.9% less than the number in 2008/09 (5,215). This represented 3.8% of student enrolments at Welsh HEIs compared with 4.2% in 2008/09.

Para 1.g) The provision of facilities enabling non-speakers of a regional or minority language living in the area where it is used to learn if they so desire

Cornish

Adult class provision has remained steady, and two classes are currently maintained under the Adult Education system. CLP support to private classes has moved focus from paying for accessible venues to supporting the teachers. The CLP is also beginning to regulate these classes to ensure a common level of administration, advise on teaching practice and in the longer term ensure quality control. Geographical distribution is adequate, although there is room for improvement. Two new classes have been started in the current year.

The CLP has two part-time education staff, and so the teaching of Cornish is heavily dependent on volunteer effort. Many of the teachers are untrained but give freely of their time and expertise. Some training is offered through the annual teacher days organised in conjunction with the Cornish Language Board. A mentoring scheme is in place to assist those able and willing to work with schools. The focus now needs to be on building teaching skills and training new teachers to join the volunteer workforce.

Intensive weekend courses have been created for beginner, intermediate and accomplished speakers, aimed at increasing fluency. The existing online courses have continued and a new web-based oral course is being developed in conjunction with an existing Welsh scheme. This is intended to address those would-be learners who find attendance at a regular class difficult and those who wish to learn conversationally and orally rather than through traditional classes. A series of short films have been produced in association with MyCornwallTV, a web-based television channel. The first series was produced as a DVD in March 2012 and the second series is currently available on-line. Radio an Gernewegva, a web-based radio service for Cornish speakers produces half an hour of programming per week. Some costs are covered by the CLP, but this is largely voluntary work.

Several new learning resources have been published by the voluntary language associations in membership with the CLP and two of the language associations each run a weekend event every year. The Cornish Language Board continues to prepare and administer examinations at four grades, while the Asset language accredited exams are being taken by a growing number of students.

Manx Gaelic

The Manx Language Development Officer, for the Manx Heritage Foundation, is working towards the establishment of an integrated Adult Language programme. A course and methodology has been developed, training established, and a wide range of support materials put in place to encourage and assist adult learners of the language. 2012 should see the production of a DVD for learners of Manx together with a new CD for learners and a series of spoken books for adult learners.

Scots

The Committee of Experts of the European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages requested further information:

Please provide concrete information on how the offers of learning Scots in school and university are taken up in practice, also with regard to out-of-school with events organised by Scots language groups. (Chapter 3, para 1g, 101)

- **Scottish Language Dictionaries** offer Scots Continuing Professional Development for teachers in Scottish schools. An Education Outreach Officer has been appointed for this purpose. In addition, the website developed by the Scottish Language Dictionaries to support teachers and learners of Scots, (Scuilwab www.scuilwab.org.uk) provides CPD materials for teachers.
- **Education Scotland** is also taking forward a programme of Continuing Professional Development for teachers. A series of 5 events are planned for the 2011/12 school session and will take place at venues across Scotland. Follow up materials from these events will be available on Glow, the online resource for teachers provided by Education Scotland.
- **Scottish Studies** is being developed by the Scottish Government as a strand in the curriculum. This will focus on ensuring that pupils have the opportunity to study Scottish aspects of literature, history and language. The intention is that this should also include opportunities to learn about the Scots language. A working group has been established under the Chairmanship of the Minister for Learning and Skills. The group comprised representation from academia, practitioners, Gaelic and Scots language interests, Scottish literature, Education Scotland and the Scottish Qualifications Authority. In March 2013 the Scottish Government published the Scottish Studies Working Group recommendations, which included exploring opportunities for Scotland's languages to be promoted. Good progress has been made with Scottish Qualifications Authority on the recommendations for a Scottish Studies Award and the place of Scottish texts in the English course.

Scottish Gaelic

A Gaelic learners' website www.learnghaelic.net was launched in October 2011. This site combines both new material and already existing material. It contains Gaelic learning support materials for

all levels. The group developing this has included the BBC, MG ALBA, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig and many others. The Scottish Government was the principal funder of this resource.

Welsh

All Welsh-medium statutory nursery and primary provision is open to children who come from non-Welsh-speaking homes. In addition, the Welsh Government continues to provide funding to local authorities for latecomers' centres. These centres provide intensive Welsh courses for children, usually between 7 and 11 years old, who have had no previous contact with the Welsh language. The Welsh Government also continues to fund immersion programmes to boost the Welsh-language skills of children in Year 5 or 6 of some primary schools leading to entry into secondary Welsh-medium education at Year 7.

Welsh for Adults continues to be one of the largest adult learning programmes in Wales, with the most recent data showing 18,205 learners following courses at five different levels across Wales during the 2010/11 academic year. Since the last monitoring round, two specific courses for families have been developed, with approximately 300 courses being held across Wales; Welsh in the Workplace courses continue to be a priority and a project to develop a diagnostic tool to help employers to assess the Welsh-language skills of their staff is being developed.

Para 1.h) The promotion of study and research on regional or minority languages at universities or equivalent institutions.

Cornish

There is little to add to the last report. The undergraduate Cornish Studies provision at the University of Exeter is no longer offered, though the postgraduate research programme continues through the Institute of Cornish Studies.

The CLP itself has not commissioned further research given the need to concentrate the slender resources on teaching and learning, providing resource materials and community projects. Research into the language itself is being carried out through the Partnership's volunteer working groups for corpus and signage, and further research and publication on an academic level remains an aim for the future.

Manx Gaelic

No developments since the last report.

Scots

No developments since the last report.

Scottish Gaelic

In 2010 a Study on Attainment in Gaelic Medium Education (GME), conducted by the University of Edinburgh, concluded that there were very good levels of attainment in Gaelic medium education. The research 'Gaelic-medium Education in Scotland: choice and attainment at the primary and early secondary school stages', examined the attainment of pupils in Gaelic medium in comparison

to pupils in English medium and the reasons why people choose, or do not choose, GME. The study concluded that pupils in GME are on an equal footing with their peers in English-medium education in curricular subjects such as science and mathematics and usually better than their peers in English medium education in reading and writing English.

Welsh

Welsh continues to be taught as a subject at degree level at Aberystwyth, Bangor, Swansea and Cardiff Universities. A Professional Welsh course is taught at the University of Glamorgan.

The contribution of higher education to Welsh language and culture will be significantly enhanced through the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol (National Welsh-language College), established in March 2011. The Coleg began its first full academic year of operation in September 2011. The Coleg's main aim is to develop and broaden the range of Welsh-medium study opportunities at universities in Wales and to encourage more students to take advantage of these opportunities. The Coleg will also be building upon the previous work accomplished by the Centre for Welsh-Medium Higher Education. In working to extend the range of academic provision, the Coleg will fund the development of high quality Welsh-medium modules and resources, develop effective collaborative partnerships, and support and train a new generation of lecturers for the future.

Para 1.i) The promotion of appropriate types of transnational exchanges, in the fields covered by this Charter, for regional or minority languages used in identical or similar form in two or more States.

Cornish

The Strategy aims to encourage this type of exchange. Over the past three years the Partnership has taken part in the work of the Network to Promote Linguistic Diversity and has taken the opportunity to engage in seminars, conferences and schemes of work with European organisations. Officers have also taken part in and spoken at conferences for the Foundation for Endangered Languages, the North American Association of Celtic Language Teachers (meeting in the Isle of Man) and Mercator. Potential linguistic exchanges with Brittany to take place under the protocol of co-operation between Cornwall Council and the Conseil Regional de Finistere are being explored.

Manx Gaelic

No developments since the last report.

Scots

No developments since the last report.

Scottish Gaelic

Scottish Ministers have provided the Office of Gaelic Affairs in Nova Scotia, Canada with grant support to enable people studying Gaelic in Nova Scotia to attend summer courses in Scotland.

Welsh

The Welsh Government continues to fund the Welsh Language Teaching Project in the Chubut province of Argentina. This project is managed for the Welsh Government by the British Council in collaboration with Cymdeithas Cymru–Ariannin (the Wales–Argentina Society) and the Welsh for Adults Centre – Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan, Cardiff University. The project involves the secondment of teachers from Wales to key target communities, the development of native teachers, the establishment of structured courses and the promotion of Welsh language activities. The project received £54,000 from the Welsh Government during the 2011/12 financial year. The project continues to work closely with Menter Patagonia in association with other partners including the Urdd. The Menter, which is similar in focus to the Mentrau Iaith which operate throughout Wales, provides opportunities to socialise through the medium of Welsh in Chubut. Further details about the project including annual monitoring reports are available on the British Council Wales website.

<http://www.britishcouncil.org/wales-education-welsh-language-project.htm>

CyMAL: Museums Archives and Libraries Wales which is a division of the Welsh Government has promoted co-operation between museums, archives and libraries in Wales and Welsh museums, archives and libraries in Patagonia. Archivists and digitisation specialists from Wales visited Patagonia and catalogued, digitised and conserved material there. These were placed on the trilingual www.glanriad.com website (Welsh, Spanish and English), and this information is now being made available through the Casgliad y Werin Cymru/People's Collection Wales.

The National Library of Wales' key purpose is to collect, preserve and give access to all kinds and forms of recorded knowledge, especially relating to Wales and the Welsh and other Celtic peoples, for the benefit of the public including those engaged in research and learning.

Para 2. The Parties undertake to eliminate, if they have not already done so, any unjustified distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference relating to the use of a regional or minority language and intended to discourage or endanger the maintenance or development of it. The adoption of special measures in favour of regional or minority languages aimed at promoting equality between the users of these languages and the rest of the population or which take due account of their specific conditions is not considered to be an act of discrimination against the users of more widely used languages.

Cornish

No developments since the last report.

Manx Gaelic

No developments since the last report.

Scots

No developments since the last report.

Scottish Gaelic

No developments since the last report.

Welsh

The Welsh Government is committed to promoting equality of opportunity for all people.

The Welsh Government's revised Welsh Language Scheme was approved by the Welsh Language Board in 2011. The Scheme is subject to an Annual Report on performance and progress against the commitments made in the Scheme.

The Scheme and the annual reports are available on the following link:

<http://www.wales.gov.uk/welshlanguage>

The Welsh Government's Welsh Language Scheme "describes how the Government will give effect, so far as is both appropriate in the circumstances and reasonably practicable, to the principle established by the Welsh Language Act that, in the conduct of public business and the administration of justice in Wales, the Welsh and English languages should be treated on a basis of equality whenever we provide services to the public in Wales".

Our policies, legislation, procedures and services will be consistent with the principles set out in this scheme. We want them to:

- Be compatible with the bilingual nature of Wales.
- Support and facilitate the use of Welsh and, whenever possible, help the public in Wales to use Welsh as part of their day-to-day lives.
- Respect the principle that public services in Wales should treat the
- Welsh and English languages on a basis of equality.
- Help preserve traditional Welsh-speaking communities.

We have also developed a policy integration tool during the reporting period to ensure that the Welsh Government's commitment to sustainable development, the Welsh language and equality of opportunity are integrated into the Government's policies.

When appropriate, our consultation documents will discuss the relationship between the Welsh language and the policies, initiatives and services under consideration.

The introduction of new policies, legislation, initiatives, procedures and services can provide an opportunity to promote and facilitate the use of Welsh - as can proposals to reorganise Welsh Government Sponsored bodies, local authorities and other public bodies, or to establish new services to be delivered by them. We will make the most of these opportunities to improve the level of service for Welsh speakers, especially where the current standard falls short of the principle that the Welsh and English languages should be treated on a basis of equality

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 contains provision which provides the Welsh Language Commissioner with the power to investigate allegations of interference in the freedom of persons wishing to use the Welsh language with one another.

Para 3. The parties undertake to promote by appropriate measures, mutual understanding between all the linguistic groups of the country and in particular the inclusion of respect, understanding and tolerance in relation to regional or minority languages among the objectives of education and training provided within their countries and encouragement of the mass media to pursue the same objective.

Cornish

The promotion of Cornish in schools and in the community is premised on the principle of mutual respect for and between cultures. In many cases, taster and information sessions have been offered as part fulfilment of work on equality, diversity and inclusion and in some cases have formed part of discussions around Citizenship.

Manx Gaelic

No developments since the last report.

Scots

No developments since the last report.

Scottish Gaelic

No developments since the last report.

Welsh

No developments since the last report.

Para 4. In determining their policy with regard to regional or minority languages, the Parties shall take into consideration the needs and wishes expressed by the groups which use such languages. They are encouraged to establish bodies, if necessary, for the purpose of advising the authorities on all matters pertaining to regional or minority languages.

Cornish

No developments since the last report.

Manx Gaelic

No developments since the last report.

Scots

No developments since the last report.

Scottish Gaelic

No developments since the last report.

Welsh

The Government held two consultation processes before publishing its Welsh Language Strategy. Firstly, the Government held a "Have your say" consultation process between October 2009 - January 2010. This was an open answer questionnaire that was published on the Welsh Government's website. A marketing campaign and public meetings were held to encourage the public to respond. The consultation document was based on 9 policy areas. This exercise drew over 120 responses. The consultation document can be viewed on the link, below:

<http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/welshlanguage/newwelshlanguagestrategy/?lang=en&status=closed>

The responses to the "Have Your Say" consultation process fed into the creation of a draft Welsh Language Strategy that was consulted upon between December 2010-Feb 2011. The draft Strategy can be seen on the link below, as can the consultation responses (140), and a Ministerial statement on how the proposals will be taken forward:

<http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/welshlanguage/wlsconsultation/?lang=en&status=closed>

The Welsh Government convenes partner forums on a Local Authority basis. These fora provide opportunities for partners with an interest in promoting the Welsh language locally with an opportunity to discuss, share ideas, and promote partnership working.

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 also established a statutory Welsh Language Partnership Council (WLPC). The WLPC is chaired by the Government Minister with responsibility for the Welsh language, and has seven members. The WLPC's role is to advise and make representations to Welsh Ministers about:

- matters in relation to the Welsh language strategy including its annual action plan;
- anything it considers appropriate for the purpose of giving that advice and making those representations; and
- the content of annual action plans setting out how the Government will implement the proposals set out in the Welsh language strategy, and progress with regard to their implementation.

PART III

For each regional or minority language chosen at the moment of ratification, as follows from paragraph 2 of Article 2 of the Charter, please indicate how the undertakings have been implemented (see Appendix), focusing in particular on the following aspects:

- Please provide information on new developments that have occurred since the last monitoring round.

With reference to the most recent evaluation report of the Committee of Experts concerning the implementation of the Charter in your State:

- For undertakings for which the Committee of Experts did not have sufficient information to properly evaluate the implementation, please provide detailed information;

- For undertakings which the Committee of Experts considered were not fulfilled, please indicate what steps your state has taken, for each regional or minority language, to implement these undertakings;

- For the encouragements and box recommendations of the Committee of Experts, please give a detailed account of the legal and/or practical measures that your State has taken.

Irish and Ulster Scots

Article 11 – Media

Paragraph 1 f

405. **What steps have been taken to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in Irish?**

In 2010, the then UK Government announced that it would continue to provide £3m per annum funding to the Irish Language Broadcasting Fund until 2014/15, in recognition of the contribution the Fund makes to the promotion and development of the Irish language, as well as the associated benefits for the creative industries in Northern Ireland.

Paragraph 2

411. **Has the coverage of TG4 in Northern Ireland been extended?**

Northern Ireland was the final UK region to switch over to full digital television broadcasting in October 2012. As a result of significant investment in infrastructure, and close collaboration

between the UK and Irish Governments, the broadcasters themselves, and regulators, over 90% of viewers in Northern Ireland can now receive TG4. This represents a substantial increase in coverage.

Scottish Gaelic

Article 8 – Education

Paragraph 1a

222. ***What steps have been taken to meet parents' demand regarding pre-school education offer in the Scottish Gaelic language? What steps have been taken to overcome the lack of qualified pre-school teachers who master Scottish Gaelic?***

Bòrd na Gàidhlig: Early Years Work

In 2011, Bòrd na Gàidhlig took over the responsibility for Gaelic early years work. Five development officers have been appointed with regional responsibility. Their role is to support and promote the establishment of Gaelic early years centres in the 0-3 sector. These officers will also support and strengthen current provision and work with communities and local authorities to establish new provision.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig held 3 conferences aimed at supporting early years groups in March 2011. The focus of the conferences was to identify the requirements of groups in developing the 0-3 sector and Gaelic language development in the early years. Feedback from participants has helped identify areas of need.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig have developed resources to assist Gaelic early years work. These include constitutions, policies and a handbook for groups. Early years resources are being developed and issued as they become available.

Paragraph 1 b

226. ***What steps have been taken to make available primary education in Scottish Gaelic?***

Gaelic Medium Education

Ongoing encouragement and support to local authorities for the promotion of and establishment of Gaelic medium education in their areas. This includes offers of support with costs and the provision of resources.

Gaelic Learner Education

Ongoing encouragement and support to local authorities for the promotion of and establishment of Gaelic learner education in their areas. This includes offers of support with costs and the provision of resources.

Teacher Education

The Scottish Government has clearly indicated to the Scottish Funding Council that the recruitment and education of Gaelic teachers continues to be a priority and that new routes into Gaelic teaching should be considered. Programmes are also in place to support teachers to transfer to Gaelic teaching.

Paragraph 1c

230. ***What steps have been taken to make available secondary education in Scottish-Gaelic?***

Gaelic Medium Education

Ongoing encouragement and support to local authorities for the promotion of and establishment of Gaelic medium education in their areas. This includes offers of support with costs and the provision of resources.

Gaelic Learner Education

Ongoing encouragement and support to local authorities for the promotion of and establishment of Gaelic learner education in their areas. This includes offers of support with costs and the provision of resources.

SQA

As part of the new qualifications development process, Gaelic (Learners) Courses are included in the shared Arrangements for all Modern Languages Courses. Gaelic courses for learners in Gaelic-medium education have also been developed. This will provide a hierarchy through which students can progress. This includes an extended range of subjects taught through the medium of Gaelic.

Scottish Studies

It is intended that the new Scottish Studies curriculum strand will also be available through the medium of Gaelic. This will add to the opportunities for Gaelic secondary learning.

Gaelic Teacher Education

The Scottish Government has clearly indicated to the Scottish Funding Council that the recruitment and education of Gaelic teachers continues to be a priority and that new routes into Gaelic teaching should be considered. Programmes are also in place to support teachers to transfer to Gaelic teaching.

Paragraph 1 d

233. ***What steps have been taken to make available technical and vocational education in Scottish-Gaelic?***

SQA

The SQA is developing Gaelic units of study in technical and vocational education for accreditation. A working group of the National Gaelic Education Strategy Steering Group is also considering Gaelic needs in FE provision.

Paragraph 1g

236. ***Please provide further information on the implementation of the measures that have been taken to ensure that Gaelic history and culture are taught.***

Scottish Studies

Scottish Studies is being developed by the Scottish Government as a strand in the curriculum. This will focus on ensuring that pupils have the opportunity to study Scottish aspects of literature, history and language. The intention is that this should also include opportunities to learn about the history and culture of both the Gaelic and Scots languages.

Paragraph 1h

240. ***What steps have been taken to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement education in Scottish-Gaelic?***

Teacher Education

The Scottish Government has clearly indicated to the Scottish Funding Council that the recruitment and education of Gaelic teachers continues to be a priority and that new routes into Gaelic teaching should be considered. Programmes are also in place to support teachers to transfer to Gaelic teaching. Education Scotland has developed a CPD programme for Gaelic teachers and is currently delivering this. Also Storlann provides CPD for Gaelic teachers.

Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services

Paragraph 1c

255. Please provide information about any action taken by the responsible UK authorities to inform their subsidiary bodies operating in Scotland that they are allowed to draft documents in Scottish Gaelic. What measures have been taken to facilitate the drafting of documents in Scottish Gaelic?

Guidance on Gaelic Language Planning

In the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005, Bòrd na Gàidhlig can request authorities and bodies to prepare Gaelic Language plans. To assist with this the Bòrd has prepared formal Guidance on Gaelic Language Plans. This Guidance provides advice on the use of Gaelic in publications and communications.

259. Please provide further information about the use of Scottish Gaelic in the Scottish Parliament, Executive and local authorities.

Scottish Parliament

This is regulated by the commitments agreed between the authority and Bòrd na Gàidhlig and contained in their Gaelic plan.

Scottish Government

This is regulated by the commitments agreed between the authority and Bòrd na Gàidhlig and contained in their Gaelic plan.

Local Authorities

This is regulated by the commitments agreed between authorities and Bòrd na Gàidhlig and contained in their Gaelic plans.

Paragraph 2b

262. Please provide further information on the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages to local and regional authorities other than the Scottish Executive and those authorities which have adopted Gaelic language plans.

We are not aware of any restriction on the submission of oral or written applications in Gaelic to authorities which have not adopted Gaelic language plans.

Paragraph 2d

265. Please provide more precise, concrete and comprehensive information about the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in Gaelic.

This is regulated by the commitments agreed between authorities and Bòrd na Gàidhlig and contained in their Gaelic plans.

Paragraph 2f

268. ***Please provide information regarding the use of Gaelic in local assemblies other than Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (the Western Isles Council).***

We are aware of the occasional use of Gaelic in meetings of the Highland Council.

Paragraph 2f

271. ***What steps have been taken to allow and/or encourage the use or adoption of traditional and correct forms of place-names in Scottish Gaelic?***

These matters are largely regulated by Ainmean Aite na h-Alba, the Gaelic place names committee. Relevant local authorities and key interests are represented in this group.

Article 11 – Media

Paragraph 1e

288. ***Please provide further information regarding the extent to which the authorities encourage and/ or facilitate the publication of newspaper articles in Gaelic.***

News stories in Gaelic are provided on-line by BBC ALBA. A number of authorities including the Scottish Parliament, the Scottish Government provide some news releases and statements in Gaelic for news media to use.

Welsh

Article 8 – Education

1a (i): to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages

From the term following their third birthday, all 3 and 4-year-olds are entitled to a free part-time (minimum of 10 hours a week), early years Foundation Phase place. Through the Foundation Phase and its statutory curriculum, children will have the opportunity to acquire and progressively improve their Welsh-language skills through the Language Literacy and Communication Skills Area of Learning (in Welsh-medium settings) or the Welsh Language Development Area of Learning (in English-medium settings where Welsh is taught as a second language). The Foundation Phase is delivered through a mixed economy of providers in the maintained sector (i.e. schools) and the non-maintained voluntary sector, which predominantly consists of Mudiad Meithrin in the Welsh-medium sector.

1b (i): to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages

Primary Welsh-medium and bilingual models of provision are available to parents or guardians who so desire it for their children in all 22 local authorities. As at January 2011, there were 419 Welsh-medium primary schools, where Welsh is the sole/main medium of instruction, and 48 bilingual schools, where Welsh-medium provision is used for part of the curriculum. Welsh as a second language was taught in all 968 English-medium schools, and is assessed at the end of Key Stage 2 (11 years old).

The Committee of Experts of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages requested further information on:

1b What steps have been taken by the authorities to meet the demand for Welsh-medium primary education wherever the situation on the ground justifies it?

Since the last report, 14 authorities have undertaken parental surveys of demand for Welsh-medium education. As a result, 10 new schools or seed classes have opened since 2009 and 5 schools or seed classes are currently being planned for opening from 2012 onwards.

One of the key elements of the Welsh-medium Education Strategy is the introduction of a new planning framework for Welsh-medium education led by Welsh Government and delivered by local authorities. This new system will replace the current Welsh Education Schemes which are submitted to and monitored by the Welsh Language Board under the Welsh Language Act 1993. From December 2011, each local authority is expected to present an annual Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) to the Department for Education and Skills. In the new Plans, authorities will be expected to carry out an assessment of the demand for Welsh-medium education in those areas where choice exists between Welsh-medium and English-medium education and the nature of their plans to address that demand.

Plans are underway to place the WESPs on a statutory footing as part of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Bill. Ensuring the sufficiency of Welsh-medium education will be a key proposal in the Bill.

The Welsh Government continues to invest annually in the production of Welsh and bilingual teaching and learning classroom resources to support the teaching and learning of Welsh as a subject, first and second language, and other subjects through the medium of Welsh. The resources are learner classroom materials that the commercial market fails to provide and are available in a variety of media (print, online, CD-ROMs, DVDs). Materials are commissioned across the whole range of curriculum areas taught in schools, and for pupils of all abilities, including the provision of materials for those with special educational needs. Original resources are commissioned as well as the translation/adaptation of existing published materials into Welsh.

To assist with the work of producing Welsh language resources, the Welsh Government has also supported the production of an on-line educational terminology service. It was launched in 2012, and may be accessed at www.termiaduraddysg.org.

1c (i): to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages

Welsh-medium or bilingual secondary education is available throughout Wales to varying degrees. There are 32 Welsh-medium schools in the secondary sector in Wales and 24 bilingual schools, where Welsh-medium provision is used for part of the curriculum. One new Welsh-medium secondary school is currently being planned to open in September 2012. Welsh as a second language is taught in all 165 English-medium schools.

Welsh in Education Strategic Plans will also require local authorities to outline their plans for Welsh-medium and bilingual secondary education for approval and monitoring by the Welsh Government.

The Committee of Experts of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages requested further information on:

1c Which measures have been taken to improve the offer of Welsh-medium secondary education?

Welsh as a subject has been compulsory for all pupils up to the age of 16 since 1999.

In areas where demand is growing, new Welsh-medium schools have been opened, as outlined above.

Since 2007, the Welsh Government, through the Welsh Language Board has held a pilot project to develop and implement a programme of work with a small number of secondary schools and their feeder primary schools in those areas where linguistic drift is most prevalent. The aim was to increase the number of 11-year-old pupils continuing with their education through the medium of Welsh on transfer to secondary education. The project was successful in increasing the rate of linguistic progression in each of the project areas. On average 10% more pupils continued into Welsh-medium education in the secondary phase. This increase emanated from school policies and systems being modified to support linguistic progression more effectively.

The Welsh in Education Strategic Plans, outlined in 1b (i) above, will also require local authorities to improve the planning of Welsh-medium and bilingual secondary education, with a view to increasing the number of learners studying subjects through the medium of Welsh, in response to the targets set out in the Welsh-medium Education Strategy.

Since the last report, progress has been made in the number of options available to 14-19-year-old learners through the medium of Welsh. Please see section 1d (i) below for further information.

The Welsh Government continues to commission Welsh and bilingual teaching and learning classroom resources to support the teaching and learning of Welsh and other subjects through the medium of Welsh in the secondary sector. The resources are produced in a wide range of media including online and interactive materials. Materials are commissioned across the whole range of curriculum areas taught in schools, and for pupils of all abilities, including the provision of materials for those with special educational needs. Original resources are commissioned as well as the translation/adaptation of existing published materials into Welsh. On average around half of the available budget is spent annually on resources for secondary and vocational sector subjects.

1d (i): to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages

Technical and vocational qualifications are delivered by schools, Further Education (FE) colleges and through Work-based Learning providers. The amount of provision provided through the medium of Welsh or bilingually is increasing, particularly in relation to meeting the requirements of the Learning and Skills (Wales) Measure 2009, which requires vocational options to be offered to 14-19 year olds.

The Committee of Experts of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages requested further information on:

1d What steps have been taken to develop and strengthen the offer of Welsh-medium and/or bilingual vocational and technical education?

Welsh Government provides grants to encourage awarding organisations to provide qualifications through the medium of Welsh in response to demand from centres and learners. A growing number of vocational qualifications have become available through the medium of Welsh as a result of the grant programme. In 2010 - 2011, a further 28 qualifications and over a hundred units were made available through the medium of Welsh as a result of grant support. These qualifications are mainly taken up by 14-19 year olds. A new section of the Welsh Government's website was produced to provide advice on Welsh-medium qualifications, including a comprehensive list of all Welsh-medium qualifications and a form for learners or centres who wish to request that further qualifications are made available in Welsh
<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/qualificationsinwales/welshmedium/?lang=en>.

The Welsh-medium and bilingual 14-19 grant to local authorities has been ring-fenced since 2008-09. As a result, considerable progress has been made in building effective 14-19 bilingual partnerships between schools and FE colleges. In 2011-12 £1.6 million was dedicated to the development of Welsh-medium and bilingual vocational collaborative courses based in schools and

FE colleges. 14-19 Learning Networks have also utilised a small proportion of their general 14-19 grant to develop new Welsh-medium and bilingual interactive resources in support of the new vocational courses that have been offered to the learners. These resources have been made available to all Welsh-medium and bilingual schools through a central electronic resource system. The Welsh Government also provides grant funding to 3 Welsh-medium Forums, to enable collaborative planning of linguistic progression routes to post-16 education across the 14-19 Networks.

The Bilingual Champion project was rolled out to an additional 4 FE colleges in 2011-12 for a period of 3 years, making a total of 8 colleges being supported by the project. The purpose of the Bilingual Champion is to develop a college's infrastructure and to plan its strategy to develop Welsh-medium and bilingual education, enabling learners to continue with their education through the medium of Welsh or bilingually. Approval has now been received to roll out the scheme further to all remaining FE colleges from 1 April 2012 for a period of 3 years in each case.

Sgiliaith is a further education sector-related organisation that provides a central all-Wales support service for the post-16 sector in developing Welsh-medium and bilingual provision. Sgiliaith provides bilingual methodology training, mentoring and practical support to FE lecturers on delivering Welsh-medium and bilingual provision, with tailored strategic advice and guidance to college principals. This contract has now been extended and expanded to provide more support to the sector until 31 March 2014.

The Welsh-language Sabbaticals Scheme continues to provide Welsh language training to practitioners from schools, further education and work-based learning. A specific course has been developed for FE lecturers and is delivered in two locations in Wales. Further information on the Sabbaticals Scheme and practitioner training can be found under section 1h.

In addition, the Welsh Government continues to commission high-quality teaching and learning Welsh-medium resources, in a wide range of media, including online and interactive materials, DVDs, CDs, and printed books, for post-14 vocational subjects to support provision. The commissioning cycle includes identification of resource needs panels for the six priority subject areas, namely Business Administration and IT, Leisure and Tourism, Media, Early Years, Care and Agriculture as well as Construction, Engineering, Public services, Hospitality and Hair and Beauty.

1e (i): if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs (i) and (ii) cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;

Welsh continues to be taught as a subject at degree level at Aberystwyth, Bangor, Swansea and Cardiff Universities. A Professional Welsh course is taught at the University of Glamorgan.

Enabling higher education study through the medium of Welsh to take place in a wider range of subjects and locations in Wales is a key target within the Welsh Government strategy, *'For our Future'*, published in 2009. In response to the strategy, the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW) has set a target of increasing the number of Welsh domiciled students at Welsh higher education institutions and further education institutions undertaking some element of their course through the medium of Welsh from 4,586 in 2008/09 to 5,509 in 2012/13.'

The Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol, established in March 2011 will have a key role in promoting, maintaining, developing and overseeing Welsh-medium provision in higher education, working with and through higher education institutions in Wales. From 2011/12 HEFCW will be investing around of £5.5m per annum to support the development of Welsh-medium higher education.

Further information is available on the work of the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol is available on the Coleg's website: www.colegcymraeg.ac.uk/en/thecoleg/

1f (i): to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages

1f (ii): to offer such languages as subjects of adult and continuing education

1f (i): The Welsh Government provides funding to local authorities and further education colleges to deliver adult community learning. The funding enables providers to deliver a range of flexible learning opportunities for adults and is targeted primarily at those aged 25 or over. The funding is for both English and Welsh-medium adult community learning. A range of other providers, including third sector providers, also provide for adult community learning. However, across the sector the proportion of Welsh-medium provision is low. The on-going review of adult community learning will take this into consideration when making recommendations for future planning and delivery.

1f (ii): Welsh for Adults (WfA) (i.e. Welsh language being taught as a subject) continues to be one of the largest adult learning programmes in Wales, with the most recent data showing 18,205 learners following courses on five levels across Wales during the 2010/11 academic year. A wide variety of courses are available: weekly evening classes; intensive courses; on-line and distance learning courses; summer schools and Saturday schools. Six WfA Centres continue to deliver provision across Wales. An external evaluation of the WfA programme was completed in April 2010. The evaluation concluded that considerable progress has been made in developing WfA and was generally supportive of the steps taken to move the programme forward. The evaluation identifies the key successes of the WfA Centres as:

- improvements in the planning of provision within the regions/sub-regions, helping to paint a clearer picture of regional markets, and helping to eliminate duplication;
- stemming the decline in the numbers of WfA learners witnessed in the period immediately prior to the WfA Centres' establishment, and making progress in improving learner progression between levels of the national framework;
- making progress in introducing increased tailored provision such as Welsh for the Family and Welsh in the Workplace provision, and placing greater emphasis on intensive courses; and
- providing high-quality and planned training opportunities for tutors, which was consistent with the emphasis placed on tutor training within WfA in *One Wales*, and helping to drive up the quality of teaching and learning.

1g: to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language

Welsh history and culture continues to be included in the National Curriculum for Wales at all levels via the "Cwricwlwm Cymreig", which ensures a Welsh dimension and ethos for the National Programmes of Study. This includes other subject areas such as Music, Art and Design, Geography, History and Anglo-Welsh text in English as a taught subject.

1h: to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party;

Strategic Aim 4 of the Welsh-medium Education Strategy includes a number of objectives aimed at ensuring a planned Welsh-medium education workforce that provides sufficient numbers of practitioners for all phases of education and training, with high-quality Welsh-language skills and competence in teaching methodologies.

Initial teacher training continues to be available through the medium of Welsh in all 3 teacher training centres across Wales.

The Welsh-medium Education Strategy commits the Welsh Government to develop a national, regional and local training framework for the delivery of continuous professional development training in Welsh-language and methodology for practitioners in all phases of education and training. The Sabbaticals Scheme continues to provide Welsh-language and methodology training for practitioners on a national level. The main aim of the training is to improve the linguistic and methodology skills of practitioners to enable them to work professionally through the medium of Welsh or bilingually. There is a specific course to improve the Welsh-language skills of practitioners teaching in the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 in order to improve standards in Welsh Second Language. Other national training includes provision through Sgiliaith for Further Education and WJEC delivery of national methodology training.

Local authorities will submit plans in January 2012 outlining how they will use their allocation of the Welsh in Education Grant (WEG) from 2012 onwards to support the actions outlined in their Welsh in Education Strategic Plans. One of the intended outcomes is to increase the number of teachers and practitioners with higher-level Welsh-language skills. Specifically, local authorities will be expected to gradually re-focus the work of athrawon bro (peripatetic Welsh support teachers), who currently support English-medium primary schools in delivering Welsh Second Language, to concentrate on providing Welsh-language and methodology training to practitioners in schools.

1i: to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.

The Welsh-medium Education Strategy contains fixed five-year and indicative ten-year targets based on outcomes which will be used to monitor progress in implementing the Strategy. There is a commitment in the Welsh-medium Education Strategy to monitor progress made against the targets contained in the Strategy and to publish an annual report. A Ministerial Advisory Group, chaired by the Minister for Education and Skills, has been established which includes senior representation from local authorities and other key stakeholders. The Group has met twice in 2011 to discuss the first annual report on the implementation of the Strategy, which was published in July 2011, and priorities for implementation following the 2011 National Assembly for Wales election and formation of a new Government. It met for the third time in March 2012 to approve the second annual report in principle. The first annual report was published in July 2011

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/publications/guidance/welshmededstrat/?lang=en>.

The second annual report is in preparation for publication in May 2012.

The Strategy also commits the Welsh Government to commission an independent evaluation of the Strategy's Implementation Programme. An evaluation framework was commissioned and prepared during 2011. A three-year full evaluation will be commissioned in 2012 to research and evaluate the Strategy and a number of specific interventions.

Article 9 - Judicial authorities

Her Majesty's Courts & Tribunals Service (HMCTS) is an executive agency of the Ministry of Justice. It was created on 1 April 2011 to bring together as a single body all the Courts and Tribunals, excluding those tribunals that have been devolved. It is responsible for supporting the administration of justice in the courts and tribunals throughout Wales and England and provides administrative support to the Supreme Court, County Courts, Magistrates' Courts and Tribunals. The Supreme Court consists of the Court of Appeal, the High Court (including the probate service) and the Crown Court.

1a in criminal proceedings:

ii. to guarantee the accused the right to use Welsh;

This is provided by virtue of Section 22(i) of the Welsh Language Act 1993.

The cost of Welsh language interpreters in criminal cases is paid for from Central Funds. HMCTS' policy is to use only those interpreters who have successfully sat the Association of Welsh Language Interpreters' Simultaneous translation examinations.

iii. to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in Welsh;

The Crown, Appeals Court and Magistrates Courts are covered by Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service's Welsh Language Scheme which provides that in the administration of justice in Wales, the English and Welsh languages should be treated on the basis of equality.

1b in civil proceedings:

ii. to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use Welsh without thereby incurring additional expense;

The right to speak Welsh in any civil proceedings in Wales is given by Section 22(i) of the Welsh Language Act 1993.

iii. to allow documents and evidence to be produced in Welsh, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

Documents in Welsh are permitted by rules of court. HMCTS will bear the cost of translating documents to or from Welsh. If it is possible that the Welsh language may be used by any party or witness, the parties or their legal representatives must inform the court of the fact so that appropriate arrangements can be made for the management and listing of the case. The cost of arranging Welsh language interpreters in civil cases and tribunal hearings is paid for from the budget of HMCTS' Welsh Language Unit. If costs are incurred as a result of a party failing to comply with this direction, a costs order may be made against him or his legal representative. Hearings may be conducted entirely in Welsh on an ad hoc basis and without notice when all parties and witnesses directly involved at the time consent.

1c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:

ii. to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use Welsh without thereby incurring additional expense;

The cost of translating documents and evidence for Court and Tribunal proceedings that come within the Ministry of Justice's responsibility is met through HMCTS' Welsh Language Unit. A litigant may use Welsh at a hearing in Wales, but if costs are incurred as a result of insufficient notice, a costs order may be made.

iii. to allow documents and evidence to be produced in Welsh, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

The cost will be met by HMCTS' Welsh Language Unit if it comes under its responsibility.

The cost of arranging Welsh language interpreters will be paid for by HMCTS.

1d to take steps to ensure that the application of sub-paragraphs (i) and (iii) of paragraphs b and c above and any necessary use of interpreters and translations does not involve extra expense for the persons concerned.

As explained above, by virtue of HMCTS' Welsh Language Scheme, translation of oral evidence is provided at no extra expense to those giving evidence. Documents are also translated free of charge.

2b not to deny the validity, as between the parties, of legal documents drawn up within the country solely because they are drafted in Welsh, and to provide that they can be invoked against interested third parties who are not users of Welsh on condition that the contents of the document are made known to them by the persons) who invokes) it;

Invoking a legal document against a third party would be covered by HMCTS' Welsh Language Scheme as referred to in relation to civil proceedings.

Article 10 - Administrative authorities and public services

1a (i) to ensure that the administrative authorities use Welsh;

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 provides a new legislative framework regarding the provision of Welsh language services, and the use of Welsh within, administrative authorities and public services. As already mentioned, the new framework of duties will be in the form of standards developed by the Welsh Language Commissioner, and made by Welsh Ministers.

The Welsh language schemes of administrative authorities and bodies delivering public services, under the Welsh Language Act 1993, will continue to be operational until the body concerned becomes liable to comply with standards following the receipt of a compliance notice from the Commissioner.

The Committee of Experts of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages requested further information on the following:

173. Please provide information on the plans to establish a Language Commissioner for Welsh.

The Welsh Language Measure established the office of the Welsh Language Commissioner (www.welshlanguagecommissioner.org) with a general power to promote and facilitate the use of Welsh and to work towards ensuring that Welsh is treated no less favourably than English. The Commissioner will have a key role to play in safeguarding the rights of Welsh speakers and contributing to the public debate surrounding the future of the Welsh language.

Paragraph 1a

175. What steps have been taken to ensure that all UK Government departments that provide public services in Wales have Welsh Language Schemes and therefore provide public services through the medium of Welsh?

Statutory Welsh Language Schemes have been adopted by 9 UK Government departments were approved by the Welsh Language Board.

Paragraph 2

180. What steps have been taken to allow and/ or encourage the use of Welsh language in the framework of local and regional authorities?

All local and regional public authorities in Wales have a statutory Welsh Language Scheme in place that has been approved by the Welsh Language Board. The Board has encouraged an increased use of Welsh within the internal administration of authorities through the provision of funded projects and advice.

Paragraph 3

185. What steps have been taken by the authorities to ensure that Welsh is used in public service provided by administrative authorities?

Every public authority is required to comply with a Welsh Language Scheme that specifies the measures which it proposes to take as to the use of the Welsh language in connection with the provision of public services in Wales. Authorities report to the Welsh Language Board annually on any steps taken to improve their performance in line with Welsh Language Scheme commitments. The Board published sector based overview reports offering an analysis of performance e.g. health sector, local government, higher and further education. On average a total of 165 reports are received and responded to each year.

1a (i) to ensure that the administrative authorities use Welsh;

See answer above regarding the new legislative framework for the Welsh language.

1b to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in Welsh or in bilingual versions;

See answer above regarding the new legislative framework for the Welsh language.

1c to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in ' Welsh.

See answer above regarding the new legislative framework for the Welsh language. In addition, the Standards system will provide greater scope for duties to be imposed on bodies with regard to their use of Welsh operationally.

2a the use of Welsh within the framework of the regional or local authority;

See answer above regarding the new legislative framework for the Welsh language, which will apply to local authorities.

2b the possibility for users of Welsh to submit oral or written applications in Welsh;

See answer above regarding the new legislative framework for the Welsh language.

2c the publication by regional authorities of their official documents also in Welsh;

See answer above regarding the new legislative framework for the Welsh language.

2d the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in Welsh;

See answer above regarding the new legislative framework for the Welsh language.

2e the use by regional authorities of Welsh in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;

The National Assembly for Wales Commission introduced the National Assembly for Wales (Official Languages) Bill in the National Assembly on 30 January 2012. This relates to the use of Welsh and English in the National Assembly for Wales and the provision of bilingual services by the National Assembly for Wales Commission.

2f the use by local authorities of Welsh in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;

See answer above regarding the new legislative framework for the Welsh language, which will apply to local authorities.

2g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place-names in Welsh;

See answer above regarding the new legislative framework for the Welsh language, which will apply to local authorities. In addition, the Welsh Language Commissioner is now responsible for co-ordinating work on standardisation of place names.

3a to ensure that Welsh is used in the provision of the service;

See answer above regarding the new legislative framework for the Welsh language.

4b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;

The Welsh Language Board published guidance on recruitment, which can be viewed here:

http://www.webarchive.org.uk/wayback/archive/20120330015431/http://www.byig-wlb.org.uk/english/publications/pages/publicationitem.aspx?puburl=/English/publications/Publications/C10797+WLB+Recruitment+Booklet_13+01.pdf

The Welsh Government aims to simplify the way in which it plans its Welsh language skills across the organisation.

The Government, in conjunction with the Welsh Joint Education Committee, is currently developing a Welsh language skills diagnostic tool (an on-line portal), which aims to allow employees to analyse which Welsh language skills are required by their workforce and give them a means to analyse the Welsh language skills of employees.

In its current Welsh Language Scheme corporate action plan, the Government is committed to piloting the diagnostic tool, with a view to using it for internal and external recruitment in future.

5.to allow the use or adoption of family names in Welsh, at the request of those concerned.

No additional information since previous report

Article 11- Media

The Committee of Experts of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages requested further information on the following

Paragraph 1a

191. Has a satisfactory solution been found to the issue of receiving digital radio and television services?

On 31 March 2010 Wales became the first digital nation of the UK after the analogue television switch off. During the switchover process Wales had a higher than average level of awareness of the digital switchover. The Welsh Government worked closely with Digital UK, Ofcom (the communications regulator) and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport during the switchover process. Before switchover one-in-three Welsh viewers could not receive Freeview. Following switchover almost everyone in Wales has that choice.

Although the digital switchover was successful in Wales there continues to be some isolated problems, mainly related to topographical issues and overlapping signals. The latter is chiefly a problem in areas bordering England, where changes to local transmitters are affecting those over the border in Wales.

Although not a devolved issue, the Welsh Government is fully aware of the problems in relation to receiving digital radio services in parts of Wales. This issue has been raised on a number of occasions with the BBC, Ofcom and the UK Government. This has also been reflected in the Welsh Government's responses to various broadcasting consultations including the BBC Trust Delivering Quality First consultation in December 2011. The Welsh Government is also represented on the UK Government's Digital Radio Government Policy Group and the UK Government's Digital Radio Stakeholders Group.

The challenge of providing sustainable and successful radio services in both English and Welsh is made more complex by the need to also ensure the completion of a transmitter network that ensures that those services are available throughout the whole of Wales. It is important for example that content and coverage of the DAB service in Wales is no worse than Welsh AM/FM radio coverage at present and available in areas where the national radio stations (Radio Wales and Radio Cymru) can only be transmitted on the AM spectrum. The new DAB service needs to provide an enhanced service if listeners in all parts of the UK are to be persuaded of the merits of that service. The Welsh Government would also repeat its view that we would not be in favour of digital switchover for radio until there was a guarantee of at least 97% coverage for DAB throughout Wales. We have emphasised this regularly to the UK Government.

We are aware that the BBC has announced the roll-out of an additional 10 'national DAB multiplexers' in Wales, but it is essential that they also commence a roll-out of 'local DAB multiplexers' in order to ensure that the rural areas of Wales have full coverage of DAB. It is a matter for the BBC to ensure improvements to transmitters

There is a problem with FM coverage in Wales - almost 40% of Welsh listeners cannot receive Radio Wales on FM and the lack of DAB would compound the problem.

There is currently an issue in the classification of Radio Wales and Radio Cymru as local stations, as per English regions, and we are urging the BBC to work with Ofcom to reclassify these as national stations. In its response to the consultation on the BBC Strategy in 2010 the Welsh Government suggested that the spectrum vacated by Radio 6 and the Asian network, provided an opportunity to ensure national coverage of these stations. Otherwise this might result in a situation where listeners are able to listen to Radio Wales and Radio Cymru on their freeview TV sets, but not on the radio whilst travelling. This would do nothing to promote those services as key aspects of the BBC's radio offer.

The ongoing problems regarding receiving FM radio signals is making the Welsh Government apprehensive about the implications of the intention to change to digital radio. The Welsh Government will continue to make representations to ensure that listeners in Wales are not treated differently from other areas of the United Kingdom.

1a to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:

i. to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages;

Whilst broadcasting is a non-devolved matter, the Welsh Government has an interest in the development of policy and strategy relating to public service broadcasters because of the significance of these broadcasters to Welsh social, cultural and economic life as well as the importance of S4C in providing a platform for Welsh language output.

Public service broadcasters in Wales, including BBC Cymru Wales, S4C and ITV Wales, have played an important role in ensuring that the Welsh language continues to thrive. Although broadcasting is not a devolved matter, the Welsh Government is committed to doing all it can to ensure that Welsh-language broadcasting continues to develop and improve, especially in the light of recent discussions about the future and editorial independence of S4C.

As part of the Comprehensive Spending Review announcement on 20 October 2010, the UK Government announced that S4C funding will in the future become partly the responsibility of the BBC. In addition, they announced a 24.4 % cut to S4C's funding over the four years of the Spending Review period. Since that announcement the Welsh Government has expressed its serious concern regarding the scale of the financial cuts being proposed by the UK Government and their impact on services across Wales.

Additionally, in 2009 the Welsh Government became a significant funder, via the Welsh Books Council, of an online news service through the medium of Welsh, Golwg 360. The Welsh Government has also provided funding to the National Library of Wales to acquire and develop public access to the ITV Wales television archive through the National Screen and Sound Archive of Wales. The ITV Wales archive spans over 50 years of programme-making in the Welsh language. The range and standard of Welsh-language programming on S4C and BBC Radio Cymru helps to maintain Welsh as a modern language and as part of everyday life in Wales. The broadcasters also help to increase awareness of the language among those who can, and cannot, speak Welsh. S4C's services for children, including Cyw and Stwnsh, are recognised as making an important contribution to the task of normalising the language for children of all ages.

Both the BBC and S4C have performed an important role in helping people from all backgrounds to learn the Welsh language, with a range of broadcast and online resources. Both S4C and BBC Cymru Wales already work in partnership with many organisations such as the Urdd, the National Eisteddfod and others working at community level to promote the Welsh language. For instance BBC Radio Cymru and the mentrau iaith hold a Battle of the Bands competition every year which has proved to be very popular among young people and has been an important vehicle for nurturing musical talent in Welsh. We hope that they will continue to play this role in the future. However, online service provision through the medium of Welsh has not been given the same priority as it has through the medium of English. We hope that the new arrangements announced for the relationship between S4C and the BBC will lead to a strengthening of online provision through the medium of Welsh, to the same level as that provided through the medium of English.

Id to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in Welsh;

The Creative Industries Sector

In 2010 the Welsh Government established a team dedicated to developing the Creative Industries sector in Wales, supported by an external advisory panel of experienced professionals from the creative industries. The Creative Industries Sector team sits within the department of Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science and supports the development of the creative industries and is committed to supporting and promoting the Welsh language across all sub-sectors, which comprise of advertising, architecture, art & antiques, crafts, design, designer fashion, digital and entertainment media, film, video & photography, publishing, music, visual & performing arts, software and electronic publishing and TV & Radio.

The Creative Industries Sector works across the Government to make best use of the levers available in areas such as education and training, infrastructure, funding and procurement, to support the growth of the creative sector in Wales, and is committed to serving the diversity which exists within Wales, whilst prioritising those activities most likely to contribute to Welsh economic growth. Welsh language projects are represented in all parts of the Strategy which seeks to encourage Creative Businesses in Wales to compete and succeed in local, national and international markets.

Wales is a bilingual nation with a long tradition of delivering successful creative content and is well-placed to take advantage of the opportunities presented by the creative industries. In order to adhere to Section 78 of The Government of Wales Act 2006, a number of Welsh speaking staff work within the Creative Industries Sector, and ensure that 'in the conduct of public business in Wales the English and Welsh languages should be treated on a basis of equality'.

While a detailed Welsh Government Welsh Language Action Plan exists, the Creative Industries Sector is drafting a Welsh Language Action Plan specific to the Creative Industries Sector which will address any industry related issues, and ensure that all correspondence and official documentation (to include guidelines) can be accessed both in Welsh and English.

Public Service Broadcasters – Strategic Review

The Welsh Government has commissioned a Strategic Review analysing, for the first time, the economic contribution and economic opportunities which the Public Service Broadcasters are able to bring to creative businesses all over Wales. This research will enable the Welsh Government to better understand the economic advantages to Wales that can be practically achieved from the Public Service Broadcasters, specifically BBC Wales and S4C.

The Digital Development Fund

The Digital Development Fund, launched as a pilot in November 2011, is aimed specifically at providing seed-funding to support small creative companies in developing new ways of exploiting creative ideas on digital platforms.

The fund is open to both Welsh and English language projects and provides non-repayable seed funding for businesses to develop digital opportunities with the aim of accelerating the growth of the creative industries in Wales. To date the Digital Development Fund has generated a high level of interest and the pilot has been well received.

Repayable Business Finance

Repayable Business Finance is available to support creative businesses which have opportunities to sell their products outside Wales. The level of support offered is discretionary but will always be within state aid ceilings and no more than is necessary to enable the project to go ahead. Dinamo

productions have recently had their children's animation series *The Abadas* part funded through RBF, this was produced in Welsh, English and several other international languages.

The Wales Screen Commission

The Wales Screen Commission sits within The Creative Industries Sector, offering a strong, economically focussed locations service which promotes and facilitates Wales as a Filming location.

The Wales Screen Commission provides bespoke support, both in English and Welsh, for film production with regard to locations, crew, facilities and local support services. Their services are free of charge.

International Trade Fairs

The Creative Industries Sector supports a Welsh presence at international trade fairs and trade missions; and is focused on ensuring that the international requirements of all sub-sectors are met and developed.

Spoke organisations

The Creative Industries Sector has a core budget which currently funds organisations such as Film Agency Wales and Welsh Music Foundation to deliver projects which promote a growing and sustainable creative industries sector in Wales. A number of projects and talent supported by the spoke organisations are Welsh language and bilingual projects.

1e (i) to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in Welsh;

The Welsh Government through the Welsh Books Council continues to provide funding to the daily Welsh language news service *Golwg 360*; the weekly news publications *Y Cymro* and the print version of *Golwg*; and *Barn*- the monthly current affairs magazine. In addition, the Welsh Government continues to fund 55 local (mostly monthly *papurau bro* (regional papers)).

1f (ii) to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in Welsh;

No additional information since previous report

- 2. to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to Welsh, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language; and to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to Welsh.**

No additional information since previous report

- 2 to ensure that the interests of the users of Welsh are represented or taken into account within such bodies as may be established in accordance with the law with responsibility for guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of the media.**

No additional information since previous report

Article 12 - Cultural activities and facilities

Paragraph 3

The Committee of Experts of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages requested further information on:

- 211. Please provide further information on how the Welsh language and the culture it reflects are included in the presentation of the United Kingdom abroad.**

Information on the Welsh language teaching project in Patagonia; the British Irish Council's workstream on Indigenous, Minority and Lesser-used languages; and the NPLD has already been included in the report. Details about how Wales is marketed overseas are outlined below in Article 13.

Wales was the featured nation at the 2009 which was the 43rd annual Smithsonian Folklife Festival held from 24th -28th June, 1st – 5th July 2009. The Festival provided a unique and effective platform from which to raise the profile and awareness of Wales with a largely United States audience. The Welsh Government's worked with the Smithsonian Institution to develop and deliver the project working closely with partner organisations in Wales. Wales' presence at the Festival was the biggest Welsh Government-led international cultural project held outside of Wales.

The presentation of Wales in Washington, DC comprised two programme strands: the Smithsonian Folklife Festival on-site programme and a series of multi-sector Ancillary events which took place at venues throughout Washington, DC before, during and after the main Festival thereby extending the depth and breadth of Wales' presence in Washington, DC.

Welsh culture was presented at the Festival. The Wales programme was shaped by the idea of connecting the past, present and future for a Sustainable Wales. The programme's aim was to draw upon the diversity of Wales' cultural life, from the strength of deep-rooted traditions through to innovative new technologies which are often inspired by those traditions. Tying old to new and heritage to innovation, the programme was structured in order to show how language, food, crafts, building skills, music and literature have been retained, recycled and re-imagined in every region of Wales and in the Welsh communities around the globe.

Over 160 Participants from Wales took part in the Washington, DC activities including musicians; cooks; craftspeople and arts experts in wood, slate, wool, clay, stone and metal; practitioners of traditional occupations including farming, fishing and coal mining as well as new industries such as animation, renewable energy production and cultural tourism; poets; storytellers; genealogists; tourism; basketry and media. Welsh language lessons were organised every morning during the Festival. Most of the poets and singers gave performances in Welsh. Additionally, most of the people who actually presented different aspects of culture from Wales at the Festival were Welsh speakers and the Welsh language was very visible in terms of the overall design.

- 1a to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to Welsh and foster the different means of access to works produced in Welsh;**

Welsh Government funding for the arts in Wales is channelled through the Arts Council of Wales which provides funding for the arts through the medium of Welsh as well as English. The Arts Council of Wales Revenue Funding Agreement for all its Revenue Funding Organisations specifically refers to the following conditions under “Public Benefit” section:

- Demonstrate the approach you are taking to reflect the fact that Wales is a bilingual nation, and the progress you are making to achieve the goal of all your publicity and public facing printed and online material being provided in Welsh and English.
- Upload and update your organisation’s profile, events and opportunities bilingually onto the Arts Directory on the Arts Council’s website.

Additionally two revenue funding organisations - Theatr Genedlaethol and Bara Caws - produce all of their work through the medium of Welsh.

All Theatre for Young People companies produce bilingual productions. These include Cwmni'r Fran Wen, Arad Goch, Theatr na n'Og, Theatr Iolo and Clwyd Theatr Cymru Theatre for Young People. These companies have developed new approaches in the way that they engage with young people and have been involved in ground breaking experimental work using the Welsh language in really creative ways.

Galeri in Caernarfon is a prime example of creating a centre in which creative individuals working through the medium of Welsh can meet, exchange and formulate new ideas.

Literature Wales provides both Welsh and English literature and writer development and Ty Cerdd in a similar form for music development.

Similar examples can be found across all other art forms e.g. Helfa Gelf (visual arts) dance delivery through Theatr Felinfach, Dawns i Bawb and Powys Dance.

On many of the Revenue Funding Agreements the Arts Council of Wales is asking a number of clients to improve their Welsh language provisions in a number of different ways. These include workshops and promotional material.

The fourth Welsh Public Library Standards Framework states that Welsh public library authorities shall ensure that they spend either

- a) a minimum average for the three-year period up to March 2014 of £750 per annum per 1,000 Welsh speaker total resident population (adults and children under 16) within their authority from the total library purchasing funds on the purchase, marketing and promotion of Welsh-language materials

or

- b) a minimum of 4% on average for the three-year period of the total library materials purchasing fund up to March 2014 on the purchase, marketing and promotion of Welsh-language materials for adults and children under 16

1b to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in Welsh by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;

No additional information since previous report

1c to foster access in Welsh to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;

No additional information since previous report

1d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of Welsh and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;

No additional information since previous report

1e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of Welsh, as well as of the languages) of the rest of the population;

No additional information since previous report

As explained under Article 10, the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 provides a new legislative framework regarding the provision of Welsh language services, and the use of Welsh within, a range of bodies. These include, either directly or as a result of being in receipt of public funding, organisations which organise or support cultural activities. The new framework of duties will be in the form of standards developed by the Welsh Language Commissioner, and made by Welsh Ministers.

1f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of Welsh in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;

No additional information since previous report

The Welsh Government through the Language Board provided grants to a range of organisations, including the National Eisteddfod, and Urdd Gobaith Cymru, to promote the use of Welsh in cultural activities. From 1 April 2012 this funding has been channelled direct from the Welsh Government.

1g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in Welsh;

No additional information since previous report

1h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in Welsh. In 2012, the Welsh Language Board published an on-line version of the Welsh Academy's English-Welsh Dictionary. This resource is available for everyone to use, free of charge. It can be accessed here:

http://techiaith.bangor.ac.uk/GeiriadurAcademi/?page_id=93&lang=en

The Board also convened a panel of academic experts and practitioners for the standardization of terms and place names. A data base of standardized place-names was funded by grant by the Welsh Government through the Welsh Language Board.

Information Technology terms developed by the Board contributed to the work of localising both OpenOffice, Agored and to the free Language Interface Packs for Microsoft Windows XP and Office 2003-2007. The Board also developed a free Language Control Centre (LCC) to enable easy switching between Welsh and English language interfaces in Windows XP and Vista. In 2006 the Board published *Information Technology and the Welsh Language: A Strategy Document* for the normalisation of Welsh in Information Technology, and *Guidelines and Standards for Bilingual Software* to offer guidance for technical officers to ensure a high quality bilingual computer service. In order to ensure that Welsh maintains a fair presence as technology develops, the Board commissioned a report to assess the implications of web2.0 for bilingual websites in 2009: <http://www.webarchive.org.uk/wayback/archive/20120330014019/http://www.byig-wlb.org.uk/English/publications/Pages/PublicationItem.aspx?puburl=/English%2fpublications%2fPublications%2f20090812+AD+S+Implications+of+web2.0+for+bilingual+websites+f1.doc>

In 2011, the Board published a composite Advice Note giving guidance to bodies regarding technology and translation. <http://www.webarchive.org.uk/wayback/archive/20120330021405/http://www.byig-wlb.org.uk/english/publications/pages/publicationitem.aspx?puburl=/English/publications/Publications/20110106+DG+S+Nodyn+Cyngor+Technoleg+a+Chyfieithu.docx>

The Welsh Government's Translation Service continues to maintain its own terminology database – TermCymru. It is published on the internet (www.termcymru.wales.gov.uk) as a useful tool for bilingual working beyond the translation profession.

Bangor University also has a pioneering terminological standardisation unit, within the Canolfan Bedwyr Centre. Over the past decade, the Centre has developed an extensive data-base of educational terminology, published in book format for use by schools. During the past year, the Welsh Government has supported the production of an on-line educational terminology service based on this data-base. It was launched in 2012, includes over 50,000 terms and may be accessed at www.termiaduraddysg.org.

In March 2012, the Welsh Government established a Welsh Language, Technology and Digital Media Group to develop and action plan to encourage the increased use of Welsh in technology and digital media.

2 In respect of territories other than those in which Welsh is traditionally used, if the number of users of Welsh justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.

The Welsh Government continues to fund the Welsh Language Teaching Project in the Chubut province of Argentina.

The Welsh Government, through CyMAL: Museums, Archives and Libraries Wales division, is promoting co-operation between museums, archives and libraries in Wales and Welsh museums, archives and libraries in Patagonia. The trilingual website of resources is now available through www.glaniad.com and information has also been added to the casgliad y Werin Cymru/People's Collection Wales.

There are several active Welsh language societies and networks in cities in the UK outside Wales, and the National Eisteddfod of Wales network 'Cymru a'r Byd' (Wales and the World) is also relevant in this respect.

3. to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for Welsh and the cultures it reflects.

Information on this is included above at the beginning of Article 12.

Article 13 - Economic and social life

1a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of Welsh in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;

No additional information since previous report

1c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of Welsh in connection with economic or social activities;

No additional information since previous report

2b in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of Welsh;

During the period 2008-2011, Business Enterprise Technology and Science Department (BETS) of the Welsh Government has focussed on development of its outward facing services increasing the capability of bilingual delivery. This has included geographically focused research into the perception and engagement of Welsh speakers with the Enterprise Start up Support service, and an analysis of demographic data collected by contracted start up providers that included Welsh language capability. This analysis of the data resulted in the Enterprise Start up Service carrying out a specific marketing campaign aimed at attracting more Welsh speakers to the service, and the contracted service providers held a number of events designed to raise the numbers of Welsh Language customers.

The Enterprise and Business Information division of BETS has over the past two years provided financial support to a 'Welsh Dragons Den' competition at the National Eisteddfod which is specifically aimed at developing Welsh language Entrepreneurs.

An agreement was signed between the Welsh Language Board and the Flexible Support for Business Service that identified key areas that the two organisations would work together to promote Welsh Language in its delivery of business support.

BETS has provided core financial support to Menter a Busnes in 2008-2011, whose remit is to support economic development with a focus on Welsh Language.

Over the last 10 years, Visit Wales has led the delivery and implementation of the Sense of Place (SOP) programme to the Tourism industry in Wales. The programme's primary aim is to encourage businesses to foster and embrace a Welsh identity to provide an unique experience to visitors to Wales.

SOP is the sensation you get when visiting somewhere for the first time – the first impression, the look, the feel, the atmosphere, the people. It also embraces the distinctive sights, sounds, language and experiences that are rooted in a country, those unique and memorable qualities that resonate with local people and visitors.

One of the types of standards that will be developed under the Welsh Language Measure will be 'promotion standards' in order to require certain organisations to promote the use of Welsh in the communities they serve. These standards will apply to Welsh Ministers, local authorities and national park authorities.

2c to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using Welsh who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;

Strategic framework to strengthen Welsh language provision in health and social services

Although progress has been made to strengthen Welsh language provision in both sectors, the Welsh Government recognises that more needs to be done to consider the language needs of users as an integral part of the process of care planning and service delivery.

Following discussions with the NHS, the Association of the Directors of Social Services (ADSS) and the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA), and the need for a more strategic approach to the work within health and social services, during 2010 the Welsh Government decided to develop a strategic framework to strengthen Welsh language provision within health and social services. The Framework confirms the Government's commitment to strengthen Welsh language services to service users and their families with the focus of the work being on developing front line services. A written statement by the Deputy Minister on the development of the Framework can be seen here:

<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=415&pid=56583>.

An independent Steering Group comprising of representatives from the services and associated organisations was established in January 2011 to develop the framework.

In the first half of 2011, the steering group met on a monthly basis to gather evidence which covered the following:

- Children and Older People's commissioners
- Welsh Language Board
- Overview of the education and training system
- Workforce planning
- Users' experiences
- Commissioning of services

Because of the close relationship between health and social services, a one day workshop was held during 2011 between health, social care and Welsh language officers representing local government and the health boards. The workshop discussed the development of the strategic framework and provided an opportunity for them to contribute to its development.

A draft of the strategic framework, entitled *More than just words....*, was issued for public consultation between 08 February 2012 and 30 April 2012. As part of the consultation a number of regional events were held with individuals, service users and stakeholders. The responses received will be considered before the final version of the framework is published and implemented in the second half of 2012.

Further information about the strategic framework is available at:

<http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/healthsocialcare/words/?lang=en&status=closed>

Research into Welsh language service users' experiences

The most recent in-depth report into patients and service users' experiences dates back to 'Welsh in the Health Services' in 2000. In order to inform the development of the strategic framework, in 2011 the Welsh Government and the Care Council for Wales commissioned research about service users' experiences of using bilingual services in health and social care in order to identify priorities.

The research focussed on the experiences of Welsh speaking service users and / or carers where language is a crucial issue and not a matter of choice i.e. children who require speech therapy, older people, people with mental health issues including dementia, and people with learning disabilities. The report concluded that services are generally provided on the basis of demand rather than need, but because of the low expectations of Welsh speakers and the vulnerability of people who come into contact with the services to expect users to ask for services in Welsh is unrealistic. The report provides a wealth of evidence and some powerful stories and has informed the development of the strategic framework.

The report can be seen at:

<http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/healthsocialcare/words/?lang=en&status=closed>

Welsh Language in Health and Social Services Task Group

The Task Group continues to meet on a regular basis under the chairmanship of the Deputy Minister for Children and Social Services who has provided valuable leadership and stimulus for action to the service.

To help ensure a more balanced membership between the NHS and Social Services and to ensure the necessary skills to move forward the work of the Task Group in developing a Strategic Framework for health and social services, the remit and membership of the Task Group was revised at the beginning of 2011,

The Task Group has recently focussed on:

- Workforce planning – strengthening the Welsh language skills of the workforce and ensuring that current skills within the workforce are effectively deployed is a key priority for the Task Group. Work undertaken to date includes ensuring that meaningful Welsh language skills descriptors are included in the Electronic Staff Record, so that baseline data about the skills of the workforce is available. However more work needs to be done in this area in order to enable the service to respond to patient needs.
- Working with the NHS Wales Informatics Service to ensure that the IT infrastructure that supports the NHS makes it possible to deliver services bilingually.
- Developing a toolkit to help the health and social services inspectorates to review how they assess Welsh language provision in their regulatory role. The toolkit can be seen at: <http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/docmetadata.cfm?orgid=415&id=165756>
- Commissioning a dignity in care Welsh language toolkit which focuses on the importance of language in mainstreaming dignity in care in the care of older people. Aimed primarily at carers and managers, educators and trainers, it offers key messages that underpin a quality service and tools to guide a best practice approach. The toolkit can be viewed at: <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/health/publications/socialcare/reports/dignity/?;jsessionid=BPxvPVKT4r29Y4xMqQZyQdKyDhGrWXX2yNvQZYF4TZbJVPKjxPnz!-1747186160?lang=en>
- Consideration of the Welsh Language Board's overview report of NHS Health Boards and Trusts' annual monitoring reports. The report has been disseminated to LHBs and Trusts for discussion at board level.

- Consideration of the Welsh Language Board's overview report on Welsh language provision in social services

Welsh Language and Mental health Task & Finish Group

Towards the end of 2009 the Deputy Minister for Social Services established a "task & finish" group to look at the Welsh language provision within mental health services in order to strengthen provision in this field. The group's remit is to identify the Welsh language dimension in Welsh Government mental health guidance, review current availability of assessments available in Welsh, and look at access to services by Welsh speakers with mental health issues. The Group will report back to the Task Group with recommendations in July 2012.

Welsh Language Conference and Awards

This annual event continues to go from strength to strength and continues to raise awareness about the importance of providing bilingual care and encouraging innovation. It is recognised as a valuable source of sharing good practice across Wales.

In recent years the conference has focussed on the patient's experience, and language need (as opposed to language choice) as the key to improving the patient's experience; and most recently the development of the strategic framework with an opportunity for attendees to contribute to the discussion on the strategy's future direction.

Steps taken to inform various organisations / authorities about the European Charter and the Council of Europe's recommendation

The report and the recommendation of the third monitoring cycle were discussed at a meeting of the Task Group in July 2010. The report and its findings were circulated to the Welsh Language Officers, champions and chief executives in the LHBs and Trusts, directors of social services and local government Welsh Language Officers.

The issue was also discussed with Welsh Language Officers as part of the network meetings the Welsh Language Policy Unit in the Welsh Government holds with them and included in the E-bulletin that was issued to the sectors in January 2011.

Welsh Language Officers

Following the Welsh Health Circular issued in 2008 by the Minister for Health and Social Services¹, full time Welsh Language Officers are now in place in all Health Boards and Trusts. This capacity was safeguarded during the restructuring of the NHS.

The Welsh Language Policy Unit continues to co-operate formally and informally with the Welsh Language Officers and meets with them every 6 months in order to discuss common issues and share good practice. Recently the Welsh Language Policy Unit has additionally arranged training sessions for the Welsh Language Officers. These sessions have covered transformational leadership, creating bilingual skills strategies and helping the Welsh language officers to address some of the common challenges they face.

Also, in order to strengthen the link between equality and Welsh language leads in the NHS a joint meeting of the equality and Welsh language leads was held at the beginning of 2012 to discuss issues of language, culture and dignity within the healthcare setting.

Language awareness event at the National Eisteddfod

A joint event was held with the Care Council for Wales at the 2011 National Eisteddfod. This event took the form of an interview in the company of the broadcaster Beti George who interviewed Elaine Davies from *laith: Welsh centre for language planning* on research commissioned by the

¹ Strengthening Welsh Language Provision within NHS services in Wales [WHC (2008) 002]

Government on the importance of language in health and social care services. As well as providing an overview of the research work, the public were given an opportunity to respond and ask questions. Feedback from the session will be fed into the development of the consultation on the Strategic Framework.

Conclusion

During the past few years considerable work has been undertaken to lay firm foundations to the work of strengthening Welsh medium provision within health and social care services. However, it is recognised that there is still a lot of work to be done. The development of a strategic framework will help ensure that the language is mainstreamed and ensure consistency in terms of provision, which hopefully will help lead to better services to Welsh speakers.

Question submitted to the Government of the United Kingdom requesting information to be included in its 4th periodical report

212. In its second evaluation report (paragraphs 265 – 274), the Committee of Experts acknowledged the positive steps taken by the authorities. However, it concluded that this undertaking was still not fulfilled and urged the authorities to strengthen their efforts to ensure that health and social care facilities offer services in Welsh. On the basis of the observations made by the Committee of Experts in its second evaluation report, the Committee of ministers adopted the recommendation addressed to the UK authorities, with regard to Welsh, to “take further measures to ensure that health and social care facilities offer services in Welsh” (RecChL(2007)2).

213. According to the third periodical report, the Welsh Government has undertaken a number of actions to strengthen provision of Welsh services in social care facilities, including the re-establishment of Taskforce by the Minister for Health and Social Services in 2006. These activities contributed to the awareness raising among medical staff about the Welsh language, but the actual use of the language is still not satisfactory. In January 2008, the Welsh Government issued a Welsh Health Circular [WHC(2008) No 002] requiring that every NHS Trust should appoint a full-time Welsh language Officer to promote the development of bilingual health care within their organisations and that Local Health Boards in the Mid, West and South East Regions should pool funds in order to develop regional Welsh Language Units.

214. However, during their on-the-spot visit the Committee of Experts was informed about an increased number of complaints in this sector. The problems identified include very little training of medical staff in Welsh and the fact that over 90% of contact with the health service is through the primary care sector. As this is largely provided by the private sector (i.e. doctors’ surgeries) most of this work does not come directly under the auspices of the 1993 Welsh Language Act.

215. The information received by the Committee related mainly to the health sector. Very little was made available about social care which is the responsibility of local authorities, but most care provision is outsourced to the private sector. Representatives of the Care Council for Wales and of the Older peoples Commissioner for Wales emphasised the need for further action in this field.

216. The Committee of Experts acknowledges the measures taken by the UK authorities in this sector. However, in view of the fact that the provision of health and social care in Welsh is still largely missing, the Committee of Experts has to conclude that the undertaking is still not fulfilled,

Paragraph 2c

216. What steps have been taken to ensure that social care facilities offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using Welsh?

Details about the steps taken are outlined in the body of the report above. However, through the leadership of the Ministerial Task Group, the main developments include:

- Development of *More than just words...*, a Strategic Framework to strengthen Welsh language services in health and social care
- Research commissioned into service users' experiences of using bilingual services in both health and social care which informed the development of the Strategic Framework.
- Toolkit developed by CSSIW to help the social services inspectorate to review how they assess Welsh language provision in their regulatory role.
- The commissioning of a dignity in care Welsh language toolkit which focuses on the importance of language in mainstreaming dignity in care in the care of older people
- Consideration by the Welsh Language in Health & Social Services Task Group of the Welsh Language Board's overview report on Welsh language provision in social services