



Councillor Chris Holley  
Convener  
Service Improvement and Finance Scrutiny  
Performance Panel

**BY EMAIL**

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*Our Ref:* EK/RS/JG  
*Your Ref:*  
*Date:* 28 June 2023

Dear Councillor Holley,

**Re: Service Improvement and Finance Scrutiny Performance Panel meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

Thank you for your letter following the Service Improvement and Finance Scrutiny Performance Panel held on 9<sup>th</sup> May, when we met to discuss the Welsh Language Standards Annual Report 2021/22.

Please find below a formal response to the points raised in your letter.

**1. Equivalent historic data to paragraph 3.1.3 regarding total words translated and how many were externally translated going back 3-4 years:**

The Panel requested additional figures from the previous 3/4 years on how much translation has been carried out and how much of this was given to external translators in comparison to the 2021-22 figures given in paragraph 3.1.3 of the report. Having looked back to 2019, the amounts remain consistent, along with the amount of work requests completed by external translation sources.

**2. The cost of external translation against the cost of in-house translation:**

The Panel expressed an interest in examining the cost of external translators in comparison to the cost of in-house translators in order to compare and consider 'value for money'.

If considering solely the cost implication of external translators as compared to our in-house translators, by using comparators such as number of words translated per month and other cost factors such as pension contributions, the use of external translators- or an external translation service- is significantly more cost effective per annum. Further detail will be provided at a later date.



**3. Details of any other breaches of the Welsh Language Standards, other than those recorded as a formal complaint:**

The Panel were interested to know if there were any other breaches of Welsh Language Standards, other than the complaints as escalated to the Welsh Language Commissioner. I can confirm that for this report period there were no other Welsh Language Standards complaints.

Yours sincerely,



**Y Cyngorydd Robert Smith / Councillor Robert Smith  
Aelod y Cabinet Dros Addysg a Dysgu  
Cabinet Member for Education & Learning**



**Y Cyngorydd Elliott J King / Councillor Elliott J King  
Aelod y Cabinet dros Diwylliant, Hawliau Dynol a Chydraddoldebau/ Cabinet Member  
for Culture, Human Rights & Equalities**