

Language Strategy Working Group

Friday, 26th August, 2022

LANGUAGE STRATEGY WORKING GROUP MINUTES HELD REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Members present: Councillors McMullan, Spratt and Whyte.
Councillor McLaughlin (on behalf
of Councillor Walsh).

In attendance: Ms. N. Largey, City Solicitor;
Mrs. S. Williams, Governance and Compliance Manager;
Mr. M. Johnston, Language Officer;
Mr. C. McGuigan, Irish Language Officer;
Ms. L McKee, Democratic Services Officer
Mrs. G. Boyd, Democratic Services Officer; and
Ms. R. Budd (Interpreter)

Apologies

Apologies for inability to attend the meeting were recorded from Councillors Kyle, O'Hara and Walsh .

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 12 August were taken as read and signed as correct.

The city solicitor thanked the members of the working group for their attendance and reminded them that it had been agreed at the working group meeting on 12 August that the working group would reconvene at the end of August to allow the Members time to consult with their respective parties to consider the reports circulated.

Revised thematic draft Action Plan

The Language Officer advised the Members that they still had an opportunity to feed into the language strategy and that they were keen to gather as much feedback as possible.

TOR for Sign Languages Stakeholders' Forum

The City Solicitor suggested that, if members were agreeable, this item and the next item could be discussed at the next meeting of the working group at the end of September. She advised that the Democratic Services Officer would identify the next available date for the working group.

Noted.

Draft Irish Language Policy

Members agreed that this item would be discussed at the next meeting of the working group. Councillor McLaughlin advised the other Members of the working group that his party had some feedback on the policy and agreed to forward the comments on the strategy to the City Solicitor and the Democratic Services officer for circulation to the working group.

Next steps and Date of next meeting

The City Solicitor advised the Members that their party groups would be consulted during September in relation to the dual language street signage and that a further meeting of the group would be scheduled for the end of September at some stage after the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee. She added that it was envisaged that the dual language action plan/draft policy would be brought to the October meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.

Noted.

Chairperson