

CYNGOR SIR

9FED MAWRTH 2022

CYNLLUN GWEITHREDU AMRYWIAETH MEWN DEMOCRATIAETH

ARGYMHELLION Y PWYLLGOR GWASANAETHAU DEMOCRATAIDD:

Bod y cynllun gweithredu Amrywiaeth mewn Democratiaeth yn cael ei gymeradwyo.

Y RHESYMAU:

Penderfynodd y Cyngor yn ei gyfarfod a gynhaliwyd ar 14 Gorffennaf 2021 ymrwymo i fod yn 'Gyngor Amrywiol' a chymeradwyodd ddatganiad Amrywiaeth mewn Democratiaeth Cyngor Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru. Yn ogystal, cytunodd y Cyngor i roi'r dasg i Bwyllgor y Gwasanaethau Democrataidd ddatblygu Cynllun Gweithredu cyn etholiad llywodraeth leol 2022.

Ymgynghorwyd â'r Pwyllgor Craffu	Amherthnasol
Angen i'r Cabinet wneud penderfyniad	NAC OES
Angen i'r Cyngor wneud penderfyniad	OES

Aelod y Cabinet perthnasol: Cyng Emlyn Dole (Arweinydd) a'r Cyng Ann Davies (Amrywiaeth)

Y Gyfarwyddiaeth Enw Pennaeth y Gwasanaeth: Linda Rees-Jones Awdur yr Adroddiad: Gaynor Morgan	Y Prif Weithredwr Swyddi: Pennaeth Gweinyddiaeth a'r Gyfraith Pennaeth y Gwasanaethau Democrataidd	Rhifau ffôn 01267 224012 LRJ 01267 224026 GM Cyfeiriadau e-bost: Lrjones@sirgar.gov.uk gmorgan@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DIVERSITY IN DEMOCRACY ACTION PLAN

Council at its meeting held on the 14th July 2021 (Minute 5 refers) resolved to commit to being a 'Diverse Council' and endorsed the WLGA Council Diversity in Democracy declaration. In addition Council agreed to task the Democratic Services Committee with developing an Action Plan in advance of the 2022 local government election.

A Draft Diversity in Democracy Action Plan is set out in **Appendix A**. The objectives within the Action Plan are based on those suggested by the Welsh Government. However, others can be added if so desired.

The Local Government and Elections Wales (Act) 2021 includes a number of provisions promoting diversity in local government including:

- An entitlement to Job sharing for executive members and committee chairs.
- A duty on principal councils to produce a Public Participation Strategy encouraging people to participate in decision making and promoting awareness of how to become a member of the council.
- A duty on political group leaders to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by members of their group.
- Electronic broadcasting of full Council meetings.
- The ability to have multi-location attendance at council meetings including physical, hybrid and remote attendance.
- Provisions enabling the maximum period of absence for each type of family absence for members of local authorities to be specified within regulations and for adoptive leave to reflect that which is available to employees.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

Appendix 1 – Draft Action Plan
Appendix 2 - Letter from WLGA dated 15th April 2021

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	NONE	NOT AT THIS STAGE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

The Local Government and Elections Wales (Act) 2021 includes a number of provisions promoting diversity in local government

The Diversity in Democracy Plan will also contribute towards the objectives of the Council's Strategic Equality 2020-2024:

- Being a leading employer
- The needs and rights of people with protected characteristics shape the design of services
- Safe and cohesive communities that are resilient, fair and equal
- Improving access to our services and access to our environment

Finance

Not at this stage. However the WLGA Diversity in Democracy Programme suggests resettlement grants for senior salary holders which if laid before Welsh Government may have financial implications for the Authority.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law

1.Scrutiny Committee Not applicable

2.Local Member(s) Not applicable

3.Community / Town Council Not applicable

4.Relevant Partners Not applicable

5.Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations Not applicable

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW:

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Local Government & Elections Wales Act 2022		https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asc/2021/1/contents/enacted`
Council Meeting – 14 th July 2021		https://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=155&MIId=4394&Ver=4
WLGA Council – 5 th March 2021		http://www.wlga.wales/council-special-meeting-diversity-in-democracy