



Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm

Category 8: Other Documents

Community Linguistic Statement (Clean)

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Abbreviations and acronyms

TERM	DEFINITION
CLIA	Community and Linguistic Impact Assessment
CLS	Community Linguistic Statement
DCC	Denbighshire County Council
DCO	Development Consent Order
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ES	Environmental Statement
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
HVAC	High Voltage Alternating Current
LDP	Local Development Plan
LPAs	Local Planning Authority(s)
OnSS	Onshore substation
PPW	Planning Policy Wales
SABP	St Asaph's Business Park
SPG	Supplementary Planning Guidance
TAN	Technical Advice Note
TCC	Temporary Construction Compound
TJBs	Transition Joint Bays
WTGs	Wind Turbine Generators

Executive Summary

The Planning Act 2008, and Planning (Wales) Act 2015, do not give any additional weight to the Welsh language above any other material consideration, and decisions on all applications for planning permission must be based on planning grounds only and be reasonable. The Applicant recognises, however, that the Welsh language remains an important part of Welsh culture across a number of policies and key advisory documents, including the relevant local planning authority's adopted Local Development Plan (LDP). The LDP demonstrates compliance with national policy and legislation where applicable, and the LDP requirements in particular.

This Community and Linguistic Statement (CLS) has identified that, in preparing the proposed development, due consideration has been given to any effects of the proposal on the Welsh language.

This CLS demonstrates that AyM would not result in negative impacts upon the linguistic and social character and the locality, and AyM does not impede the ability to achieve the relevant national and local Welsh language policy objectives.

Whilst this is the case, and in order to further safeguard the Welsh language, the Applicant will promote the use of the Welsh language as part of the proposed development through proposing that all non-technical public facing signage within the development site during construction and operation will be bilingual.

This updated CLS has been updated in response to the Welsh Government's responses to ExQ2 at Deadline 5 (REP5-044) which include reference to the need for further promotion of the Welsh language. Section 1.7 has therefore been updated to capture the additional measures which are considered proportionate with regards the impacts of and opportunity presented by the proposed development, and appropriate with regards promoting and enhancing the use of Welsh language.

1 Community and Linguistic Statement

1.1 Introduction

- 1 This report considers the potential impact and effects of the Awel y Môr offshore wind farm (AyM) on the Welsh language and culture and, how the proposed development will protect, promote and enhance the Welsh language. Such an assessment is noted by Policy RD5 of the Denbighshire Local Development Plan (LDP) (adopted in 2013) which requires, *inter alia*, that infrastructure projects with long-term community impacts should provide a Community and Linguistic Statement in the event that the application may have an effect on the future of the Welsh language within communities.
- 2 This document should be considered in conjunction with the following chapters contained within the ES:
 - ▲ Volume 1, Chapter 2, Policy & Legislation (APP-040)
 - ▲ Volume 2, Chapter 1, Offshore Project Description (APP-047)
 - ▲ Volume 3, Chapter 1, Onshore Project Description (APP-062)
 - ▲ Volume 3, Chapter 3, Socio-economics (AS-034)
- 3 This document has been drafted through reference to, and in accordance with, the adopted Denbighshire LDP (2013) *Supplementary Planning Guidance – Planning and the Welsh language note, Appendix 3*.

1.2 Policy, Legislation and Guidance

- 4 Whilst the Planning Act 2008, and Planning (Wales) Act 2015 do not give any additional weight to the Welsh language above any other material consideration, and decisions on all applications for planning permission must be based on planning grounds only and be reasonable, it is noted that the Welsh language remains an important part of Welsh culture across a number of policies and key advisory documents.

5 This statement has been prepared in accordance with the advice contained within the following policies and key advisory documents:

- ▲ The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015;
- ▲ Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011;
- ▲ Welsh Language Strategy – Cymraeg 2050;
- ▲ Planning Policy Wales Edition 11 (February 2021);
- ▲ Technical Advice Note 20 (October 2017) – Planning and the Welsh Language;
- ▲ Adopted Denbighshire Local Development Plan (June 2013); and
- ▲ Denbighshire Supplementary Planning Guidance – Planning and the Welsh language (March 2014).

6 The following paragraphs provide a brief summary of the relevant provisions.

1.2.1 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

7 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 seeks to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. It contains seven well-being goals which certain public bodies (including local authorities and National Park authorities) must seek to achieve in order to improve well-being both now and in the future. One of the well-being goals is a Wales of vibrant culture and a thriving Welsh language.

1.2.2 Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011

8 The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 secured official status for the Welsh Language, with the creation of the Welsh Language Commissioner's post.

1.2.3 Welsh Language Strategy – Cymraeg 2050

9 The Welsh Government's aims and ambitions for the Welsh language are set out in the Welsh Language Strategy – Cymraeg 2050. The strategy recognises the need to provide Welsh speakers with easily accessible opportunities to use their skills in social and work settings. The strategy also identifies the imperative need to create favourable circumstances to encourage the number of Welsh speakers.

1.2.4 Planning Policy Wales Edition 11 (February 2021)

- 10 Planning Policy Wales (PPW) sets out the land use planning policies for the Welsh Assembly Government and is supplemented by a series of Technical Advice Notices (TANs), of which TAN 20 specifically refers to planning and the Welsh Language.
- 11 Paragraph 3.25 of the PPW states that *“The Welsh language is part of the social and cultural fabric and its future well-being will depend upon a wide range of factors, particularly education, demographic change, community activities and a sound economic base to maintain thriving sustainable communities and places.”*
- 12 Paragraph 3.28 goes on to state that considerations relating to the use of the Welsh language may be taken into account by decision-makers so far as they are material to applications for planning permission. Policies and decisions must not introduce any element of discrimination between individuals on the basis of their linguistic ability.

1.2.5 Technical Advice Note 20 (October 2017) – Planning and the Welsh Language

- 13 The Technical Advice Note (TAN) 20 provides guidance on how the Welsh language may be given appropriate consideration in the planning system and on compliance with the requirements of planning and other relevant legislation.
- 14 The land-use planning system should, where feasible and relevant, contribute to the future well-being of the Welsh language by establishing the conditions to allow sustainable communities to thrive.
- 15 Development plan policies that consider the Welsh language are material considerations. The TAN confirms that local planning authorities (LPAs) should determine planning applications in accordance with the adopted development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. In determining individual planning applications and appeals, considerations relating to the use of the Welsh language may be taken into account so far as they are material.

1.2.6 Denbighshire Adopted Local Development Plan (June 2013)

- 16 The adopted Development Plan for Denbighshire comprises the Local Development Plan (LDP) 2006 – 2021 adopted in June 2013; a revised LDP is anticipated in summer 2022.
- 17 The LDP recognises that, although there has been a small increase in numbers of Welsh speakers in urban areas, there has been a decrease in numbers of Welsh speakers in other communities in line with national trends. The LDP seeks to retain the distinctive bilingual nature of the County as set out in Objective 7 of the LDP: 'Welsh Language'.
- 18 Policy RD 5 of the LDP, '*The Welsh language and the social and cultural fabric of communities*' outlines the measures Denbighshire County Council will take in relation to the Welsh Language and states that, in all planning applications, '*the needs and interests of the Welsh language will be taken into account*'.
- 19 In order to assist DCC in their decision-making, Policy RD 5 requires that all applications be supported by a Community Linguistic Statement (CLS) for smaller proposals or a Community and Linguistic Impact Assessment (CLIA) for larger applications. The threshold for the provision of a CLS is '*5 residential units or more, commercial, industrial or leisure/tourism development with a floor area of 1000m² or more, development likely to lead to the loss of community facilities or employment opportunities, infrastructure projects with long term community impacts*' and the threshold for the provision of a CLIA is '*20 residential units or more, commercial, industrial or leisure/tourism development with a floor area of 3000m² or more, large scale infrastructure projects with long term community impacts*'.

- 20 The proposed AyM project does not qualify as a residential, commercial, tourism, or industrial development. Whilst the potential footprint of the onshore substation may exceed 1000m², it is not considered to constitute an industrial 'floor area'. Further to this, the project will not lead to a loss of community facilities nor a loss of employment opportunity. The AyM project qualifies as a nationally significant infrastructure project (the onshore works being associated with an offshore windfarm greater than 350MW in Welsh waters), however the impact pathways that may influence the level of Welsh language speaking (such as changes in employment) are considered to be minor in the long term. The predicted community impacts are limited to an increase in regional employment of between 30 and 60 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) during the operational phase, and 2-300 FTE during the construction phase (much of which will be focussed offshore) and which is not predicted to be significant with regards the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations.
- 21 Given the limited impacts associated with AyM, as described in Section 1.6, it is the Applicant (AyM Offshore Wind Farm Limited)'s position that the proposed development should be considered an infrastructure project with long-term community impacts, rather than a large-scale infrastructure project.
- 22 Policy RD5 also requires that, *'Developers will be expected to provide bilingual signage as a minimum means of promoting the Welsh language. In appropriate circumstances, mitigation against any adverse effect will be secured through requiring a financial contribution by Section 106 or other means'*.
- 23 Detailed advice and guidance are set out in the *Supplementary Planning Guidance – Planning and the Welsh language* summarised below.

1.2.7 Denbighshire Supplementary Planning Guidance – Planning and the Welsh language (March 2014).

- 24 In addition to the LDP, the *Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) regarding Planning and the Welsh Language*, was adopted by Denbighshire County Council in March 2014.

- 25 The SPG published by Denbighshire County Council, seeks to provide clear and concise guidance to support policies in the LDP. The *SPG regarding Planning and the Welsh Language*, has been published in support of LDP Policy RD 5.
- 26 The SPG states that, in most cases, mitigation will be sought rather than refusing applications on linguistic reasons alone.
- 27 For infrastructure developments with lower anticipated impacts, such as those associated with AyM, a CLS is required. This statement is intended to allow the developer to explain the proposal in more detail and explore the positive and negative impact of the proposed development on the Welsh language. It is acknowledged that smaller developments are not normally anticipated to have a negative impact on the Welsh language.
- 28 Detailed guidance on the preparation of CLSs is provided in Appendix 3 of the SPG, which highlights a number of topics to consider in relation to the impact of development on the Welsh language.

1.3 Methodology

- 29 As noted previously this document has been drafted through reference to, and in accordance with, Appendix 3 of the SPG. The SPG specifies in Appendix 3 how a CLS should be set out and poses a series of questions that need to be answered in as much detail as possible and which are relevant to the development.
- 30 The remainder of this AyM CLS is therefore structured in such a way as to align with the questions posed in the SPG and to ensure each issue identified in Appendix 3 is considered in turn, providing as much information as possible to meet local policy requirements. The key areas are:
 - ▲ Community engagement;
 - ▲ Population profile/ existing environment;
 - ▲ Development characteristics; and
 - ▲ Positive Promotional Mitigation Measures.

1.4 Community engagement

- 31 The SPG provides the following guidance in relation to Community Engagement (para 2, Appendix 3): *'Demonstrate how you have consulted and engaged the local community on your proposals. This may range from consulting neighbours, community and voluntary groups, the Community Council or statutory organisations such as the Council. You should provide a short statement of the engagement and the opinion of those who have responded. This is your opportunity to share and explain your proposals with the local community before a formal application is made and if possible to seek their endorsement. The success of the planning application will not solely depend on community acceptance'*.
- 32 A Consultation Report, which provides the full details of all statutory and non-statutory engagement, accompanies this application (APP-024). The key consultation notes, and the context of Welsh language engagement in particular, is summarised here, with additional detail in the Consultation Report.
- 33 Early informal consultation with statutory and non-statutory stakeholders in relation to AyM began in 2019, to gain feedback on the initial site design and likely key issues for the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), as well as to inform stakeholders of expected timescales and (where appropriate) to seek advice on the suitability of survey strategies. During the period between 2019 and 2022, a series of online and in person public engagement events were also held at locations in Denbighshire and the wider North Wales coastal region.
- 34 Further to this, it is a statutory requirement for promoters of a DCO application to engage in pre-application consultation with local communities, local authorities, and those who may be directly affected by the proposal. As such, the Applicant produced a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) to inform consultees about AyM and the likely significant effects associated with the construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the proposed project.

- 35 The PEIR adopted a draft Environmental Statement (ES) format, that formed the basis of the statutory consultation. The PEIR was published on 31 August 2021 and consulted on for six weeks, until 11 October 2021. During the period of statutory consultation, key documents such as the non-technical summary of the EIA, and the project consultation website, were presented in both Welsh and English languages, and all questionnaires and consultation updates were presented in Welsh and English too.
- 36 Following the statutory consultation period, responses were collated, translated from Welsh where necessary, and given due consideration as is required (section 49, Planning Act 2008). In having regard to those responses, the Applicant has incorporated additional information requested into the ES, as well as enacting design changes to the project.
- 37 Additional, targeted statutory consultation was undertaken with landowners and those with an interest in land with regard to minor onshore cable route amendments and the consideration of an alternative location for the landfall Temporary Construction Compound (TCC). Again, all consultation materials were available in the Welsh and English languages. This included non-technical information posted on project banners, and project information booklets and supportive materials, shared both online and in person during the drop-in information session that was conducted in support of the targeted consultation exercise.
- 38 Additional non-statutory consultation continued throughout the ES drafting period so that stakeholders could continue to be engaged up until the point of application. In the spirit of effective consultation, this will continue as the project progresses into Examination.
- 39 The community engagement undertaken by the Applicant is recorded in the Consultation Report and EIA Evidence Plan Report (APP-024 and APP-301 respectively). The Consultation Report includes a Welsh language translation of the executive summary, as is the case with other key documents such as the non-technical summary and the executive summary to the Planning Statement (APP-298).

1.5 The existing environment

- 40 The SPG provides the following guidance in relation to assessing Population Profile/ existing environment:

'Some understanding of the local demographic make-up of the settlement or Community Council area where the application is located will be essential in order to understand how the community might be affected, including changes over time. The overall population and age profile will assist in building up a picture of why the development is required and who is likely to benefit. The number of current and past Welsh speakers will be critical. The LPA will provide reference to background statistical information on a City, Town and Community Council basis.'

- 41 The proposed project sits in Denbighshire, with the offshore export cable making landfall between Rhyl and Prestatyn, the onshore cables then being installed primarily in agricultural land within Denbighshire. The onshore cables will connect to the substation at Bodelwyddan (adjacent to the St Asaph Business Park (SABP)) before then making a 400 kV connection to the National Grid Bodelwyddan substation. The cables are to be undergrounded, meaning any disturbance and associated construction staff are limited to the construction phase at these locations. The onshore substation (OnSS), which will include above ground infrastructure, is limited to an area adjacent to the SABP.
- 42 The 2011 Census data showed that, of a population of 90,527, 22,236 people in Denbighshire can speak Welsh, which equates to 24.6% of the population. The total number of Welsh speakers in 2001 was 23,760, which was 26.4% of the population. Over a ten-year period there has therefore been a drop of 1.8% in the percentage of Welsh speakers in the County. The data (as presented in the Denbighshire Welsh Language Strategy 2017-2022) shows that the highest percentages of Welsh speakers are found in the south-west of the county, in the electoral wards of Llandrillo (59.2%), Efenechtyd (53.7%), Llanrhaeadr yng Nghinmeirch (50.0%) and Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd (48.3%). The electoral wards with the lowest percentages of Welsh speakers are the coastal areas of Prestatyn North (12.6%), Rhyl West (12.7%) and Rhyl East (13.0%), within which AyM is proposed to make landfall.

43 The AyM project interacts with none of the highest density Welsh-speaking language areas, in which context it is important to note that the DCC SPG (para 5.5) highlights: *“The planning system cannot be viewed as a panacea to arrest the decline of the Welsh language; neither will it attempt to discriminate between individuals on the basis of their linguistic ability nor control housing occupancy on linguistic grounds. It’s not about nationality, it’s about protecting the social and cultural use of language within community”*. As such, the project cannot reasonably be expected to arrest the already low and decreasing numbers of Welsh speakers within Denbighshire. Any impact the AyM project may have on the Welsh language, either positive or negative, must be proportionate to the scale of impact which, as captured in the socio-economics chapter of the ES in (AS-034, Table 3.34), is considered to be minor with regards the impact of construction and/ or operational phase staff, and therefore the potential for dilution of Welsh speakers within the region.

1.6 Development characteristics

44 The SPG requires the following information to be provided in relation to the development characteristics; the specific questions requested have been tabulated for ease of reference:

Describe the proposal and why you consider it complies with local and national policies. As a starting point you should clearly demonstrate that the proposal is compatible with the Denbighshire LDP. This should be done by not simply listing the policies and objectives of the Plan but include a fuller justification of the proposals and how they positively contribute to the implementation of the Plan. You should therefore be able to address and provide an answer to the following questions:

General:

Table 1: SPG General questions for Community Linguistic Statement.

SPG QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE
Are national and local policies including local planning policies in the Denbighshire LDP met?	This document provides the policies of relevance to the Welsh language. Other policies are addressed in Volume 1, Chapter 2 of the ES and the Planning

SPG QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE
	Statement which accompanies the application in application ref: 8.1.
Will the proposal create new opportunities to promote the language and local initiatives in the community?	Please see below in the Applicant's proposed positive promotional measures (section 1.7)
Are there appropriate local services such as shops, residential/community facilities to serve the development?	The AyM project does not require substantive local services, beyond those associated with the day-to-day needs of the low numbers of construction and operational phase staff, which do not materially alter the local population.
Is the proposal sustainable in the long term?	The AyM project is an offshore windfarm which supports local, national and international sustainability targets.
Is there adequate infrastructure provision to serve the development?	As noted above, the AyM project does not require any material infrastructure to serve the development.

Employment type:

Table 2: SPG Employment questions for Community Linguistic Statement.

SPG QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE
Does the employment meet primarily local needs, especially younger age groups?	The employment will relate to a combination of skilled construction and operational services. These skills may be delivered through continued apprenticeship schemes such as those currently delivered by RWE (one of the AyMOWFL shareholders) in partnership with Coleg Llandrillo.

SPG QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE
How many jobs will be created or safeguarded?	Please see below description of the project employment numbers anticipated at the national and North Wales regional scales.
Are the required labour skills available locally?	Over the short- and long –term, labour skills are anticipated to be in part available locally, and encouraged locally. As noted above, this may also be delivered through existing apprenticeships with colleges such as Coleg Llandrillo.
Are there other similar developments with planning permission in the area?	No, although this may change with future wind farm developments. With regards renewable energy developments more broadly, the Elwy solar farm sits within 5 km of the AyM onshore substation (OnSS) location. The proposed AyM project sits in the context of a number of operational offshore windfarms, which already provide employment opportunities (and training partnerships with Coleg Llandrillo).
Is the proposal likely to result in further investment? of a similar kind?	The proposal is anticipated to result in investment which will have a positive impact at the national and regional scale; please see below for further information and Volume 3, Chapter 3 (socio-economics) (application ref: 6.3.3) for a detailed appraisal of the benefits to the regional and national economy.
Is training required to re-skill the local workforce and will this include Welsh language training by the developer?	Please see below (section 1.7) for reference to the employment created, and the existing partnerships with regional training colleges which provide apprenticeships for local students to enter the offshore wind industry.

SPG QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE
How will new wage levels compare with the average wage levels in the area?	At this stage, this is not possible to define, however most roles will require skilled, trained staff and wage levels will be commensurate.
For tourism developments, what is the expected catchment area?	The AyM project is not related to tourism.
Will the proposal compete or complement existing tourism attractions?	The AyM project is not related to tourism.
Have you considered internal and external bilingual signage and a locally distinct marketing name?	Please see below (section 1.7) for the proposed positive promotional mitigation measures.

45 The following sections provide a greater description of the proposed AyM development.

46 AyM will comprise up to 50 Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) and will include infrastructure that is required to transmit the power generated by the turbines to the offshore substation via inter-array cables, before being transmitted via export cables to the proposed OnSS located to the west of SABP and then to the existing National Grid Bodelwyddan substation.

47 AyM will be comprised of export cables and associated infrastructure required to transmit the electricity generated to the National Grid network via the existing grid connection at Bodelwyddan Substation, located to the south of SABP. The transmission voltage will be up to 400 kV, with a maximum of two circuits, and will use High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC) technology.

48 The key permanent components of AyM will include:

- ▲ Infrastructure at Landfall where the offshore cables are brought ashore;

- ▲ Up to two Transition Joint Bays connecting the offshore cables to the onshore cables;
 - ▲ Underground cable ducts, joint pits and cables;
 - ▲ The OnSS to the west of SABP; and
 - ▲ Underground cable ducts, joint pits and cables for the grid connection from the OnSS to the existing National Grid Bodelwyddan substation located to the south of SABP.
- 49 The onshore cable corridor will be approximately 12 km in length from the TJBs adjacent to landfall to the existing National Grid Bodelwyddan substation.
- 50 With regards the likely impact on Welsh language, this is limited to the anticipated staff requirements for the construction and operational phase of AyM. As noted within the socio-economics chapter of the ES, at the North Wales regional level, the expenditure retained locally is estimated to support between 30 and 60 FTE jobs throughout AyM's construction phase.
- 51 At the Wales national level, the potential employment impacts generated (i.e. when taking account of the direct, Tier-1 and wider supply chain impact) are estimated to support an average annual employment impact of between 160 to 230 FTE jobs per annum over an assumed five-year development and construction phase.
- 52 With regards the EIA undertaken for socio-economics, the impacts are considered to be of minor beneficial significance, representing 0.03% and 0.02% increase to the baseline employment at the regional and national level respectively. The influx of staff associated with the AyM project is therefore limited, with many anticipated to be skilled staff within the region and, as such, the proportion of Welsh language speakers is not anticipated to alter in any material manner.

1.7 Positive promotional mitigation measures

- 53 TAN 20 notes at para 4.1.1 that - *Signs can have a strong visible impact on the character of an area, including its linguistic character. They are also one method of promoting the distinctive culture of Wales, which is of significance to the identity of individual communities as well as the tourism industry. Policies in LDPs relating to signage and advertising subject to planning control are also noted as providing the ability to promote the provision of bilingual signs. Detailed advice on signs and advertising, to encourage and assist bilingual provision, could be set out in SPG.*
- 54 DCC LDP SPG guidance indicates that certain mitigation measures may be applicable to development proposals; noting that the measures relate to particular types of development, such as residential units and large-scale commercial/ leisure or tourism developments.
- 55 LDP examples of mitigation include:
- ▲ Affordable housing provision;
 - ▲ Phasing of housing proposals;
 - ▲ Education provision and places;
 - ▲ Signage and place names (including marketing name, street names and other signage);
 - ▲ Employment initiatives and training;
 - ▲ Contribution to community facilities and groups; and
 - ▲ Funding for Welsh courses or other related initiatives active in the Community.
- 56 The outlined measures have been considered by the Applicant and, whilst several such as housing commitments are evidently not applicable or appropriate, others offer the opportunity for the Applicant to have a positive impact on Welsh language and culture. In the context of the AyM project EIA, these relate primarily to public signage and appropriate project signage (noting that some signage at locations such as the onshore substation are subject to separate legislation).
- 57 The measures proposed by the Applicant to maximise the use of Welsh in the text-based visual elements of the AyM project are:

- ▲ to ensure that all non-technical visual elements are either in Welsh or alternatively bilingually in Welsh and English. These should include but not be limited to:
 - public image texts (e.g. permanent and temporary visual signs, corporate brand, stationery, business cards);
 - websites and digital services including social media;
 - advertising and marketing (e.g. broadcast advertising, print-based advertising, recruitment advertising, outdoor advertising on billboards and vehicles, printed publications, exhibition and marketing materials);
 - communication on request (e.g. paper and electronic correspondence, forms and account documents can be provided in Welsh on request);
- ▲ to ensure that AyM complies fully with AyM's Welsh Language Policy; and
- ▲ to ensure that contractors and all supply chain companies also comply with RWE's Welsh Language Policy.

58 These measures are considered appropriate and proportionate in the context of the limited short- and long-term impacts associated with AyM.

59 It is also relevant to note in the context of other mitigation measures presented within the LDP such as education provision, and training, that one of the Applicant's parent companies, RWE, has a long-standing presence in the region which includes an apprenticeship scheme in partnership with the Coleg Llandrillo (Grŵp Llandrillo Menai) which has facilitated the training of a number of RWE Renewables' apprentices at the Y Ganolfan Hyfforddi Tyrbinau Gwynt (The Wind Turbine Training Centre). Further to this, in the context of Welsh language more specifically, it is relevant to note that the RWE lead Clocaenog Forest onshore wind farm fund includes specific Welsh language themes.

60 Further to the above measures, and in reflection of the positive partnerships with regional colleges that may be developed further, AyM proposes to develop a Welsh language policy. The Welsh language policy will be implemented as part of the developing Supply Chain Plan. The following principles will inform the final Welsh language policy:

- ▲ That AyM adopts a Welsh language policy and operates in accordance with the aims and objectives of the current Welsh language legislation and policy landscape in order to ensure that:
 - The development has a positive effect, rather than an adverse effect, on “opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language” locally; and
 - That the Welsh language is treated “no less favourably than the English language” within the organisation and its operations.
- ▲ All contractors, technology developers (tenants) and supply chain provider staff should gain, as a minimum, Level 1 speaking Welsh language skills. The free online ‘Croeso Cymraeg Gwaith’ and ‘Croeso Nôl Cymraeg Gwaith’ courses, or similar, could be used for this purpose.
- ▲ When ‘encouraging schools, colleges and universities to develop appropriate training for the workforce’, such as through the collegiate partnership with Llandrillo, ensure emphasis on developing training through the medium of Welsh.
- ▲ That AyM establishes requirements on supply chain companies to comply with AyM’s Welsh language policy and establish a means of monitoring compliance as part of contractual requirements.

1.8 Summary

- 61 This CLS has identified that, in preparing the proposed development, due consideration has been given to any effects of the proposal on the Welsh language.
- 62 This CLS demonstrates that AyM would not result in negative impacts upon the linguistic and social character and the locality, and AyM does not impede the ability to achieve the relevant national and local Welsh language policy objectives.
- 63 Whilst this is the case, and in order to further safeguard the Welsh language, the Applicant will promote the use of the Welsh language as part of the proposed development through proposing that all non-technical public signage within the development site during construction and operation will be bilingual.

64 Overall, this statement concludes that there are no negative Welsh language impacts resulting from the development. This statement, and the accompanying planning documents, have demonstrated that the application is compliant with local and national planning policy and that every effort will be made to ensure the promotion of the Welsh language during the construction and operation of AyM, given the limited impacts associated with AyM, and as laid out in Section 1.6 of this document.

2 References

Welsh language strategy 2017 to 2022 (denbighshire.gov.uk) Adopted Local Development Plan | Denbighshire County Council

Supplementary Planning Guidance Note: Planning and the Welsh language
(denbighshire.gov.uk)



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