

Aled Roberts
Comisiynydd y Gymraeg
Siambrau'r Farchnad
5-7 Heol Eglwys Fair
Caerdydd
CF10 1AT

31 Gorffennaf 2020

Annwyl Gomisiynydd

Y BWRDD PARÔL - ADRODDIAD MONITRO AR Y CYNLLUN IAITH GYMRAEG 2019/20

Rwy'n falch o ddarparu adroddiad monitro blynyddol y Bwrdd Parôl i chi ar y cynnydd a wnaed yn erbyn y cynllun gweithredu i wireddu'r ymrwymadau sydd wedi'u nodi yn ein Cynllun Iaith Gymraeg.

Mae'r her a wynebwyd yn sgil COVID-19 wedi effeithio ar bob rhan o'n gwaith, ond rwy'n falch o ddweud ein bod wedi parhau i gynnal gwrandawiaidau parôl, a sicrhau bod carcharorion yn cael adolygiadau teg ac amserol yn y mwyafrif o achosion, yng Nghymru a Lloegr.

Fel rhan o'n hymrwymiad i gyflawni ein dyletswyddau o ran yr iaith Gymraeg, gwnaethom sefydlu Tasglu Rhanbarthol i Gymru. Roedd y Tasglu, o dan gadeiryddiaeth aelod o'r Bwrdd Parôl, yn cynnwys aelodau (un ohonynt yn siaradwr Cymraeg rhugl) a staff allweddol. Arweiniodd y Tasglu waith i sefydlu'r galw am wasanaethau, a'r math o wasanaethau y mae eu hangen ar garcharorion Cymraeg eu hiaith, ac yna bu'n ystyried sut y gallai'r Bwrdd ddarparu gwasanaethau o'r fath. Fel rhan o'r gwaith hwn, ymgynghorodd y Tasglu yn eang â chydweithwyr ar draws carchardai a'r gwasanaeth praf yng Nghymru, ynghyd â rhanddeiliaid eraill sydd â diddordeb a grwpiau defnyddwyr ar draws y System Cyfiawnder Troseddol.

Hefyd, parhaodd y Tasglu i hyrwyddo ymwybyddiaeth o'r iaith ymysg aelodau'r Bwrdd Parôl a'r staff ac i sefydlu trefniadau i raeadru gwybodaeth a gwella'r ddealltwriaeth o anghenion carcharorion Cymraeg eu hiaith o ran eu hadolygiadau parôl.

Mae'r Tasglu wedi cwblhau ei waith erbyn hyn. Diwedd y daith fu datblygu canllawiau manwl i'r aelodau ar y Gymraeg a charcharorion Cymraeg eu hiaith, a fydd yn cael eu cyhoeddi'n fuan. Byddwn yn cylchredeg y canllawiau i bob carchar yng Nghymru ac yn gofyn iddynt roi gwybod i'w cymunedau Cymraeg eu hiaith am yr opsiynau sydd ar gael yn gysylltiedig â'r Gymraeg o ran cael cymorth gyda gwrandawiaidau parôl.

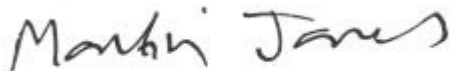
Rydym hefyd wedi sefydlu prosesau i sicrhau bod dogfennau'n cael eu cyfieithu'n gyflym ar gyfer carcharorion, lle gofynnir am fersiynau Cymraeg.

Er bod y Tasglu wedi dod i ben, byddwn yn parhau i weithio mewn partneriaeth ag asiantaethau cyfiawnder troseddol ar draws Cymru i sicrhau ein bod yn parhau i wella'r gefnogaeth a'r gwasanaethau sydd ar gael i garcharorion Cymraeg eu hiaith sy'n mynd drwy adolygiad parôl.

Roedd y cynllun gweithredu presennol yn cwmpasu'r cyfnod 2018-2020 a bydd yn dod i ben rwan. Bydd ein Grŵp Cynghori ar Gydraddoldeb ac Amrywiaeth yn cwrdd ym mis Medi a bydd yn cynhyrchu cynllun gweithredu newydd dwy flynedd i fynd â ni hyd at 2022. Bydd y Panel Cynghori hefyd yn adolygu'r Cynllun Iaith presennol ac yn ymgynghori â chi, os bydd angen ei newid.

Cofiwch gysylltu â mi os bydd angen unrhyw wybodaeth bellach arnoch neu os bydd gennych gwestiynau am yr adroddiad monitro.

Yn gywir



Martin Jones
Prif Weithredwr
Bwrdd Parôl Cymru a Lloegr

Aled Roberts
Welsh Language Commissioner
Market Chambers
5-7 St Marys Street
Cardiff
CF10 1AT

31 July 2020

Dear Commissioner

**PAROLE BOARD – MONITORING REPORT ON WELSH LANGUAGE SCHEME
2019/20**

I am pleased to provide you with the Parole Board's annual monitoring report on progress against the action plan to deliver on the commitments set out in our Welsh Language Scheme.

The challenge presented by the COVID-19 pandemic has had an impact on all of our work, but I am happy to report that we have continued to progress parole hearings, and ensure prisoners receive a fair and timely review in the majority of cases in both England and Wales.

As part of our commitment to deliver against our duties in relation to the Welsh language we established a Welsh Regional Taskforce (*Tasglu*). The *Tasglu*, chaired by a Parole Board member, included members (one of whom is a fluent Welsh speaker) and key staff. The *Tasglu* led work to establish the demand for, and type of services needed, by Welsh speaking prisoners, and then looked at how the Board could deliver such services. As part of this work, the *Tasglu* consulted widely with colleagues across prisons and probation in Wales, as well as other interested stakeholders and user groups across the Criminal Justice System.

In addition, the *Tasglu* continued to champion awareness of the language across Parole Board members and staff and to put in place arrangements to cascade information and improve understanding of the needs of Welsh speaking prisoners in relation to their parole reviews.

The *Tasglu* has now concluded its work, culminating with the development of detailed guidance for members on the Welsh language and Welsh speaking prisoners, which will be published shortly. We will be circulating the guidance to all prisons in Wales and ask that they communicate the options available for support with parole hearings in relation to the Welsh language to their Welsh speaking communities.

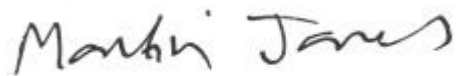
We have also put in place processes to ensure swift translation of documents for prisoners, where Welsh versions have been requested.

Whilst the *Tasglu* has concluded we will continue to work in partnership with criminal justice agencies across Wales to ensure that we continue to improve the support and services available to Welsh speaking prisoners undergoing a parole review.

The current action plan covered the period 2018–2020 and will now be closed off. Our internal Equality and Diversity Advisory Group (EDAG) will be meeting in September and will produce a new two-year action plan to take us to 2022. EDAG will also review the current Scheme and consult with you, should there be a need to revise it.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information or have questions about the monitoring report.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Martin Jones". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot over the 'i' in "Martin".

Martin Jones
Chief Executive
The Parole Board for England and Wales