28.04.14 01639 763247 k.jackson@npt.gov.uk

> Karen Jackson KJ

Meri Huws Welsh Language Commissioner (e-mail: standards.investigation@cyg-wlc.org)

Dear Ms Huws,

Re: Standards Investigation

In addition to the completion of the Standards Investigation Questionnaire, this accompanying letter seeks to emphasise that the approach set out in the Questionnaire represents what we can do using existing resources. We have examined the Standards very carefully, having carried out a comparison exercise with our existing Welsh Language Scheme in liaison with our directorate representatives on the Welsh Language Officer Group and Heads of Service Equality Group.

However, we do face constraints in seeking to meet the additional requirements set by the Standards because of the harsh reality of the current financial situation and the lack of any new resources for this purpose.

Despite these constraints, we wish to emphasise that we are positive about the promotion of the Welsh language, and as we move forward, we will review our response and wherever possible, seek to implement more of the Standards.

Yours Sincerely,

Cllr Ali Thomas,

A.H. Juana .

Leader of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council