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# Call for tender: Welsh language awareness training

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| **Deadline for Expressions of Interest: 5.00 pm on Friday, 10 March 2023** |

Literature Wales is looking to commission an individual or a company to devise and deliver an engaging bespoke training session on Welsh Language Awareness.

**Purpose of training:** to educate both Welsh speaking and non-Welsh speaking staff members, trustees, and stakeholders who work with Literature Wales (e.g. writers, events organisers, participants) on the history, legislation, and national and international linguistic context of the Welsh language and how to nurture an open and respectful culture.

**Content**: the course should include a brief and interesting overview of the history of the Welsh language: its development, challenges, and current day use. This could include its historic use across the British Isles (and beyond) and its relation to other Celtic languages; its survival in the face of the dominance of the English language and historic impact of British Government policy; its revival, and the political campaigning of the 20th century; and its contemporary use – including by under-represented communities.

Important legislation and Government Policy should be referenced and explained in terms of statutory responsibilities as a publicly funded body, e.g. The Welsh Language Act 1993, The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, and the Cymraeg 2050 Strategy to achieve a million Welsh speakers. Census results and relevant studies should also be referenced.

The training session’s target audience are Literature Wales staff, trustees and stakeholders: narrative about the Welsh-language poetic and literary traditions should be included in the training, especially facts and anecdotes of cultural significance. This, for example, could include a brief introduction to the uniqueness of the cynghanedd as a form but also formerly as career for the court poets; the Mabinogi; Iolo Morganwg’s imaginative re-telling of history and its significance on the modern-day Eisteddfod traditions; and notable pioneers, e.g. Cranogwen, Prosser Rhys, Mererid Hopwood, the authors of the series *Y Pump* etc.

Please note however that the literary context should either be easily omitted from the training or simply adapted to reflect another art form, and presented in a relevant and entertaining way to other cultural or public bodies, in the event that the Welsh language awareness training session will be commissioned for delivery by other organisations (see \*Further Opportunities below).

**Priorities**: Literature Wales has three priorities which drive decisions on everything we do – both artistically and operationally. We expect these priorities to be considered in your application and will form part of selecting a successful individual or company. Our priorities are:

* *Representation and Equality***:** we are interested in hearing about the historic context of underrepresented groups of society in Wales and their relationship with the Welsh language (e.g. Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic, low-income or working class) in addition to the (in)equality of the Welsh language itself within Wales.
* *Health and Well-being*:our work uses the power of literature to transform the lives of those who need it the most. Perhaps a brief exploration of the importance of Welsh-language in health and social care could be relevant here, and a sensitive encouragement during the training session for participants who are not multi-lingual to consider the challenges of having to explore and deal with emotions in a second language.
* *The Climate Emergency*:as a fundamental part of the world’s linguistic ecology and as a minority language, the Welsh language faces immense challenges due to the strong influence of more widely spoken languages. There are links to explore here between the language, the land and survival.

For further reading about these priorities and about Literature Wales’ commitment and relationship to the Welsh language, please read our Welsh Language Development Plan, available on request.

**Tone of voice**: the training session should provide informed legal and historic context into public bodies’ responsibilities towards the Welsh language. It should be aimed at a professional, educated audience who are already allies to the Welsh language. To encourage engagement and retainment of information – it should also be presented in an interesting and fun tone, led by a narrative interspersed with anecdotes and interesting facts that participants could recall and share with others. It should be a positive presentation on the benefits of understanding, learning, promoting and using the Welsh language in our work and daily lives.

**Language of the session**: We require a session which is inclusive for fluent Welsh-speakers as well as those who don’t speak Welsh. However, we understand the challenges in providing this service. As part of the tender, we ask that you suggest how you would ensure a bilingual session that is unlikely to alienate anyone, regardless of their language skills. All presentations and handouts will need to be provided bilingually.

**Practicalities:** The training session should last at least 90 minutes. A visual presentation (e.g. PowerPoint) should be created to a professional standard to accompany the training session. The session can be interactive, for example featuring short quizzes or audience participation. The session can be delivered virtually (e.g. on Zoom or Teams) or face-to-face. Travel or other expenses related to any in-person sessions will be negotiated separately to the fee mentioned below. The first training session should be ready to be delivered before the end of May 2023. Literature Wales will be available to offer some guidance, feedback and advice on the training session during development.

**Fee:** £850 is offered to develop this training session, and an additional £150 will be offered as a fee to present the training session and a short 15-minute Q&A session at the end to a group of up to 30 individuals.

**\*Further Opportunities**: Literature Wales believes that a training session on Welsh language awareness will appeal to – if not be in high demand by – a number of other art, culture and public sector organisations. In discussions with the successful individual/company, we will discuss how we can collaborate to develop a short business plan to further the commercial potential of this commission. Details on copyright, commission and acknowledgement will be discussed before exchanging contracts.

**How to apply:**

1. Please send a letter of expression (maximum 2 pages of A4) outlining your interest in this commission, and mention your ideas for a good presentation, your relevant experience/knowledge/education, and information about similar work you have developed and delivered in the past. Alternatively, you are welcome to send us a 5-minute video including the same details.
2. Please include a short, relevant CV.

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For further information or for an informal chat with a staff member at Literature Wales before submitting your expression of interest, please contact post@literaturewales.org / 017 6652 2811 (Tŷ Newydd) or 029 2047 2266 (Cardiff).

Literature Wales might invite you for a brief conversation to find out more about your proposal during the application process.