



Press Release
06 April 2011

Powerful new partnerships launched for languages support

Following productive discussions with the coalition Government about the future of support for language teaching and learning, CILT, the National Centre for Languages is to merge with the education charity CfBT Education Trust with effect from today. Its branch in Cardiff, CILT Cymru, which is funded by the Welsh Assembly Government, will continue to provide services to teachers in Wales by merging with the WJEC. The brands and core objectives of both CILT, the National Centre for Languages, and CILT Cymru will remain unaffected.

Kathryn Board, Chief Executive of CILT, said:

"We are delighted that the DfE and the Welsh Assembly Government have supported us in achieving these new partnerships which will strengthen our ability to meet the needs of schools and further develop the support for languages which is so desperately needed. CfBT and WJEC are both excellent organisations which will add enormous value to our work. By combining our operations in this way we will be able to make the most efficient use of public funds and provide teachers and schools with the help, advice and support they need to expand and improve languages teaching."

Neil McIntosh, Chief Executive of CfBT said:

"CILT 's expertise and track record in the field of language teaching are internationally recognised. We are delighted that this essential work will continue - and be developed further - within the framework of the CfBT. Together we can offer an even wider range of support for languages which will enhance education in schools and enable young people increasingly to use languages in their future careers in business and the public services."

From today the majority of CILT services including: the Graduate Teacher Programme, CILT Plus, the online membership community offering expert support and guidance on language learning, CPD and resources; and programmes currently funded by the DfE, will transfer as a unit to CfBT along with staff working on these activities and the CILT brand.

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Notes for Editors:

1. **CILT** (www.cilt.org.uk) was established on 25 August 1966 by the then Department for Education and Science as the Centre for Information on Language Teaching, for 'the promotion of education by means of the collection of information on all aspects of modern languages and the teaching of modern languages and the making available of such information to such persons or bodies of persons as may be concerned with the educational interest of the people of the United Kingdom'. Following the demise of the Committee on Research and Development in Modern Languages and the transfer of some of its responsibilities to CILT, it was renamed the 'Centre for Information on Language Teaching and Research' in 1971. Following the publication of the National Languages Strategy in 2002 CILT announced its intention to merge with its close partner the Languages National Training Organisation (LNTO) to become CILT, the National Centre for Languages. This process was completed in 2005. Following Kathryn Board's appointment as CEO, the organisation has been pursuing a strategy of partnership development and diversification of its income base to achieve financial independence from the DfE, a process which has culminated in the measures announced today. CILT's vision is a society where everyone recognises the value of languages and intercultural relationships and is able to use more than one language.

Directors of CILT:

1966 George Perren

1978 John Trim

1987 Alan Moys

1992 Lid King

2003 Peter Boaks (Acting)

2004 Isabella Moore (CEO)

2007 Geoff Swinn (CEO - Acting)

2008 Kathryn Board (CEO)

2. **CILT Cymru**, the National Centre for Languages (www.ciltcymru.org.uk) is the national centre of expertise on language teaching in Wales. Established in 2002 as part of the CILT network, CILT Cymru has been given a key role in implementing 'Languages Count', the Welsh Assembly Government strategy for Modern Foreign Languages.

2. **CfBT Education Trust** (www.cfbt.com) is a leading education consultancy and service organisation. Our object is to provide education for public benefit both in the UK and internationally. Established 40 years ago CfBT Education Trust now has an annual turnover exceeding £100 million and employs more than 2,650 staff worldwide who support educational reform, teach, advise, research and train. As a not-for-profit organisation we commit around £1million of our surpluses every year for practice-based educational research.

3. **WJEC** (www.wjec.co.uk) previously the Welsh Joint Education Committee, was established in 1948 as a consortium of local education authorities in Wales. It is now a registered charity, and a company limited by guarantee, owned by the 22 local authorities in Wales.

WJEC provides examinations, assessment, professional development, educational resources, support for adults who wish to learn Welsh and access to youth arts activities. It also provides examinations throughout England as well as Wales.

4. The mergers have been achieved via a process of managed administration, as a result of a substantial pension deficit. This process was implemented by **FRP Advisory LLP** (www.frpadvisor.com). FRP Advisory LLP is focused on creating, preserving and recovering value for its clients.

The firm offers a comprehensive suite of services to the mid-market and financial community. These focus on enhancing the performance of businesses, as well as saving businesses in distress.

Services include: commercial & asset finance, corporate insolvency, restructuring, independent business reviews, interim management & placement services, personal insolvency & advisory, creditor services, insolvency investigation services and banking live-side support.

With 28 partners and 200 staff, FRP Advisory is one of the largest restructuring, recovery and insolvency firms in the UK, operating out of 9 regions including: East Midlands, Eastern Region, Kent, London, North East, North West, St Albans, Sussex and West Midlands.

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