



Comisiwn Ffiniau
i Gymru

Boundary Commission
for Wales

Boundary Commission
for Wales

Initial Consultation Period: Representations

Volume 6: 9623-9700

BCW-9623 / [REDACTED] / Cardiff



The Boundary Commission for Wales
Hastings House
Fitzalan Court
Cardiff
CF24 0BL

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: 2023 Parliamentary Review – Initial Proposals

In response to your Initial Proposals Report for the 2023 Parliamentary Review, I am writing to the Commission to highlight some of the challenges the Electoral Services Section in Cardiff Council may face should the proposals be implemented. This is an officer response only in relation to the technicalities of the proposal and not a council wide representation to the consultation as political parties may respond separately.

The work undertaken by the Boundary Commission for Wales is recognised in preparing the first set of draft proposals which include:

Cardiff Central

- Addition of Llanrumney (*previously Cardiff South and Penarth*)
- Addition of Rumney (*previously Cardiff South and Penarth*)

Cardiff North

- Addition of Taffs Well (*previously Pontypridd / Rhondda Cynon Taf*)

Cardiff South and Penarth

- Removal of Llanrumney (*changed to Cardiff Central*)
- Removal of Rumney (*changed to Cardiff Central*)
- Addition of Dinas Powys (*previously Vale of Glamorgan*)

Cardiff West

- Addition of Pont-y-clun (*previously Pontypridd / Rhondda Cynon Taf*)

The proposed changes will result in an increase of 15,304 electors (with effect March 2020) over the four Cardiff constituencies, resulting in two cross boundaries with the Vale of Glamorgan (Cardiff South and Penarth) and Rhondda Cynon Taf (Cardiff Central and Cardiff West).

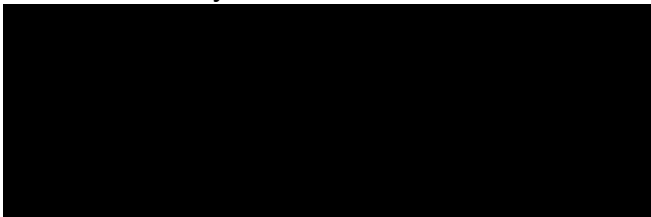
It's noted the changes in electorate reflect the aims of the Commission for the UK electoral quota, nevertheless it should be noted that the increase will impact on the resources for Cardiff Council.

The proposed changes will inevitably cause elector confusion with a total of nine wards being taken on from two other local authorities. This results in the electoral register being managed by the give away authority but the election being managed by ourselves, the take on authority. Cross boundary elections come with several challenges as often neighbouring authorities have different electoral management software and they are not always integrated enough to work effectively. In addition, electors are often confused whom to contact depending on the nature of their enquiry, electoral registration or elections.

Furthermore, the increase in cross boundary operational activity will cause complications for any future combined polls, in addition to the challenges of the franchise changes we currently face in Wales for votes at 16 and qualifying foreign nationals.

I trust the above covers the more technical concerns we have from an electoral administrator's perspective.

Yours faithfully,

A large black rectangular box redacting the signature and name of the sender.

BCW-9624 / [REDACTED] / Swansea

Pontardawe Town Council disagrees with the proposal for the following reasons:
 The Town Council disagrees with the reduction in the number of Welsh seats They also feel that the constituency of Brecon and Radnorshire is already an extremely geographically large area which is difficult to represent

Pontardawe forms part of a different County Borough Council, Police Force and Health Board than the majority of the original Brecon and Radnorshire constituency areas The Swansea Valley as a post-industrial area experiences issues that are far more in common with the Neath Valley than the predominantly rural areas of Powys

BCW-9625 / [REDACTED] / Swansea

I disagree merging us into the Gower, its trying to tip the balance into totalitarianism through Gerrymandering which I am against as as believer in democracy, this change is not needed and just at this time as I feel and would like to voice my opposition as intended.

BCW-9626 / [REDACTED] / Llanybydder

While the proposed merger of Ceredigion and the western coastal strip of Pembrokeshire makes some sense geographically, it would be a marriage of opposites politically. It is bound to create tensions and disagreements leading to political stalemate by the new County Council. It might be better for Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire to merge.

BCW-9627 / [REDACTED] / Aberystwyth

Appears to be designed to dilute the PC vot and favour the Tory party which does not represent the views of rural Welsh speaking Wales. All this nonsense seems to be little more than a Westminster power grab.

BCW-9628 / [REDACTED] / Caldicot

I don't agree with the number of MPs representing Welsh constituencies being reduced. Furthermore I am not happy for my local MP who I voted for to represent Newport East being replaced by the MP for Monmouthshire who I have never had the opportunity to vote for.

BCW-9629 / [REDACTED] / Caerphilly

I live precisely 10 minutes drive to the University Hospital of Wales yet the said designated hospital for the Caerphilly area is The Grange hospital Cwmbran Absolutely Ridiculous it 40 Minutes drive away to reach it by bus you need to take three buses where as the University Hospital of Wales one bus or a train from Caerphilly to Heath Halt before 1996 we where under the old Mid Glamorgan Authority which came under the University Hospital of Wales Cardiff, for goodness sake the Grange is not acceptable neither is Yspty ysyrd fawr its just a cottage Hospital the people of Caerphilly deserve better

BCW-9630 / [REDACTED] / Bridgend

Can't see the benefits of splitting Bridgend to align partially with Porthcawl, also finding it difficult to see the alignment of Porthcawl and Port Talbot other than sharing the coastline, services, transportation links and communities tend to link Bridgend with Porthcawl due to current county boundaries.

BCW-9631 / [REDACTED] / Caerphilly

I live precisely 10 minutes drive to the University Hospital of Wales yet the said designated hospital for the Caerphilly area is The Grange hospital Cwmbran Absolutely Ridiculous it 40 Minutes drive away to reach it by bus you need to take three buses where as the University Hospital of Wales one bus or a train from Caerphilly to Heath Halt before 1996 we where under the old Mid Glamorgan Authority which came under the University Hospital of Wales Cardiff, for goodness sake the Grange is not acceptable neither is Yspty ysyrad fawr its just a cottage Hospital the people of Caerphilly deserve better

BCW-9632 / [REDACTED] / Ruthin

It is perfectly ridiculous to include my postcode in Delyn, when we are totally in the Vale of Clwyd, and our lives are totally within the Vale. We shop in Ruthin not Mold, we work mostly in the Vale. We are not industrial Flintshire but rural Denbighshire. Whatever is the point of mucking about with already satisfactory boundaries?

BCW-9633 / [REDACTED] / Caldicot

First of all, this proposed change has not been well publicised by this Conservative government. No surprise there as this no doubt benefits you and no-one else. I do not agree with this proposal and wish to object you changing the boundaries which would have a detrimental effect on my my areas ability to elect a conservative candidate over a labour candidate.

BCW-9634 / [REDACTED] / Ruthin

It is wrong to include Vale of Clwyd postcodes in Delyn. We live in the Vale, go to school in the Vale, work in the Vale, go to doctors and hospitals in the Vale, shop in the Vale, get buried in the Vale. We have very little to do with Delyn, delightful though it may be over there. Why muck about with a perfectly satisfactory boundary?

BCW-9635 / [REDACTED] / Chepstow

Newport East is better being left intact as it is a highly built up and urban area, Monmouthshire is a rural area. We have different needs and concerns. Currently Monmouthshire comprises mostly rural areas and so is more representative of our concerns. Newport East needs will be wiped out by the dominant Monmouthshire needs. Newport East is also growing rapidly and should have a smaller constituency as it will soon become large due to building in this area.

BCW-9636 / [REDACTED] / Caldicot

It has come to my attention that that the boundary changes mean that Caldicot Town will change from Newport East to Monmouthshire. I am very unhappy about this and feel that this move is undemocratic. We voted to have Jessica Morden as our MP, this move will change that vote and our MP will be someone we haven't voted for.

Also instead of being a reasonable size constituency we will be swallowed up into an enormous one.

My suggestion would be, if we have to change, then to join Newport East and Newport West together.

Thank you for taking time to read my comments.

[REDACTED]

BCW-9637 / [REDACTED] / Wrexham

Councils throughout Wales are struggling financially so how much is all this going cost to implement these changes? Also how many houses will be lost throughout Wrexham? Less houses less revenue.

In the current climate this shouldn't even be debated.

BCW-9638 / [REDACTED] / Talsarnau

Initial proposals for Dwyfor Meirionydd look more consistent with the geography of the area, but that is little comfort to Arfon and there will generally be a weakening of local political accountability/involvement with these changes. I would also say that this version of Dwyfor M is spread thinner and there is a wide range of different territory and different local economies all bundled into one here, which has been the case for some time.

The criteria need to be connected to each proposed change along with some justification. If it is purely economic and driven by plans for the English ruling party to perpetuate its control under the current (first-past-post) system, then changes should only be agreed to once the electoral system itself has been changed to allow more nuanced representation of voters throughout Wales and the UK.

BCW-9639 / [REDACTED] / Caldicot

I do not believe that moving the eastern constituency border of Monmouthshire towards Newport will benefit the residents of Caldicot, Magor & Undy. This area is primarily suburban & light industrial & has little in common with the socio economics of rural Monmouthshire. The needs of the 2 areas not the same. It might be more appropriate to leave the area south of the M4 in the Newport area.

BCW-9640 + 9441 / [REDACTED] / Caerwent

I oppose in the strongest terms, the addition of Newport East, Caldicot to this constituency. Monmouthshire is already the largest constituency of the local area geographically, and has populations of high density within its borders. I also consider it undemocratic to redefine constituency borders, especially when the proposed plans remove a seat belonging to a party in opposition, whose constituents are then absorbed into the already considerably larger constituency of a sitting MP, David Davies of the Conservative Party. In light of the political gains this affords the current party in power, the Conservative Party, and how it weakens all parties in opposition particularly the affected and strongest party in opposition, Labour, I consider it likely that this proposal is an attempt to manipulate voting results through geographical boundary manipulation.

I further oppose in the strongest terms all reductions of seats for representation in Parliament for Wales and Scotland and consider them a violation of fair representation and democratic practice.

If the current Parliament feels it cannot support fair representation perhaps it should resign, and if it is a financial issue, perhaps consider minimum wage for MPs.

BCW-9642 / [REDACTED] / Gwent

Caldicot should remain in the Newport East constituency. I do not agree to the proposed new boundaries and to be collapsed into the Monmouthshire constituency - it is not democratic.

BCW-9643 / [REDACTED] / Wrexham

I think it is absolutely ridiculous to create a single parliamentary constituency incorporating Ruabon and Chirk in Wrexham with Machynlleth, Llanidloes and Newtown in Powys. Absolutely no consideration has been given to the geography of this part of Wales or to community affinities. It makes no sense at all and smacks of either central government interference for the sake of it or someone sat at a desk carrying out a mere mathematical exercise and having no comprehension of the physical and communication links in this part of Wales. Not only will it be impossible for a constituent reliant upon public transport to attend their MP's surgeries, it is ridiculous to expect a single MP to get round his or her constituency in anything like a reasonable time, even with private transport. It recently took me 3 hours to travel from Wrexham to Aberaeron and that was using only main A class trunk roads. Much of that proposed constituency area is served by little better than poorly maintained dirt tracks. It is quite clear this has to be looked at again. At the very least, all the area comprised in the County Borough of Wrexham should be in the parliamentary constituency of Wrexham. If this creates too large an electorate for Wrexham, which is not accepted, then at the very worst any rejigging of boundaries should be in the North Wales wards not those of Powys, with which the people of Wrexham County Borough have no affinity whatever.

BCW-9644 / [REDACTED] / Haverfordwest

I think this is a terrible idea and should not go ahead , Welsh government is totally ruining wales, Born and bread in Pembrokeshire, if i wanted to live in Ceredigion I'd have moved there, All this is about is trying to swing more Lieber Votes!

BCW-9645 / [REDACTED] / Magor

I beg of you, please go ahead with this proposal. I have lived in this village my entire life, and trust me when I say, Magor does not belong under the Newport East catchment. Magor is very typically Monmouthshire. The people here do not fit in with the Newport type. We are not from Newport. We are from Monmouthshire,

BCW-9646 / [REDACTED] / Swansea

Combining parts of Swansea and Neath would create an area which crosses 2 local authorities. The differences between the two areas are great. At present, local people who understand the area and its needs represent us, and changing the boundaries would most probably create a situation where one area is left out. It's a large area. Changing the boundaries will do nothing to help the people of the area, or whoever will be elected. This is an idea by people who do not understand the area or the people living there.

BCW-9647 / [REDACTED] / Aberdare

The purpose of this response is to propose alternative boundaries for the Merthyr Tydfil & Aberdare constituency. The alternative boundaries I propose have knock-on effects for some other proposed constituencies (i.e. Islwyn, Pontypridd and the four seats covering Cardiff) but I believe the solutions proposed improve all of the constituencies concerned. As part of an "All Wales" solution I could propose some further changes to Islwyn and Pontypridd (which I might do elsewhere) but as my main concern is Merthyr & Aberdare I will limit this response to a solution that definitely works for this area.

As a resident of Aberdare I would have preferred to see the Cynon Valley survive as a constituency with extended boundaries. That said, given the difficult rules that the Boundary Commission for Wales is required to follow, I can understand why it hasn't been possible to propose such a constituency.

Whilst I have no objection to the creation of a Merthyr Tydfil & Aberdare constituency (it seems the best option in the circumstances) I don't understand the decision of the BCW not to include the wards of Aberaman North and Aberaman South in this proposed constituency. I would argue that the two Aberaman wards are integral parts of what most people think of as 'Aberdare'. They are part of the Aberdare post town and were both formerly included in the pre-1974 Aberdare Urban District. The ward boundary between Aberaman North and Aberdare East actually runs between houses in the same street. There are many other ties e.g. education - nearly all secondary school pupils in the two wards attend school in the proposed Merthyr Tydfil & Aberdare constituency, either at Aberdare Community School, Ysgol Rhydywaun or Bishop Hedley RC School.

Including the two Aberaman wards in the proposed Merthyr & Aberdare constituency would initially push the electorate above the statutory range but this is easily resolved by transferring Nelson to the proposed Islwyn constituency which, in my mind, would be a more suitable arrangement anyway. Nelson has much closer ties to other wards which have been proposed for inclusion in Islwyn such as Ystrad Mynach and St. Cattwg and is also part of the Caerphilly County Borough council area in common with the rest of the proposed Islwyn constituency. The addition of Nelson won't take the Islwyn electorate over the statutory range so this is not a problem.

Transferring the two Aberaman wards to Merthyr & Aberdare also impacts the proposed Pontypridd constituency, taking it below the statutory electoral range. Again, this can be resolved by including Pontyclun in the Pontypridd constituency, where I believe most people would think it more naturally belongs anyway, rather than being included as an add-on to a Cardiff constituency. Pontyclun is currently within the Pontypridd constituency and has been for decades. It is also part of the Rhondda Cynon Taf council area as is the rest of the proposed Pontypridd constituency and has very close ties to other wards in the constituency e.g. Talbot Green, Llantrisant Town etc.

Transferring Pontyclun to Pontypridd takes the proposed Cardiff West constituency electorate below the statutory range. However, the remainder of the Cardiff West constituency combined with the other proposed Cardiff (and Penarth) seats can be reorganised to form four alternative seats which all fall within the statutory electoral range. This can be done in numerous ways. I will propose one solution but I believe others are possible. My solution would also avoid the problematic current proposal for Cardiff South & Penarth.

In point 23 of your 'Criteria for reviewing Parliamentary constituencies' you claim that "As far as possible, the Commission will seek to recommend constituencies that: do not contain 'detached parts'; that is, where the only physical connection between one part of the constituency and the rest of it would require passage through a different constituency". With the proposed Cardiff South & Penarth constituency you seem to have more-or-less created such a detached part in the form of Trowbridge which is basically cut off from the rest of the constituency unless you walk along the seashore (possibly needing to avoid high tide). There are no road links between Trowbridge ward and the rest of the constituency and I believe it is possible to create viable constituencies in Cardiff without encountering this problem. This would require the creation of entirely new constituencies, possibly with different names, but I don't see why this course of action shouldn't be followed if it produces better outcomes.

In summary my solution would be as follows:

Merthyr Tydfil & Aberdare: the constituency as proposed by the BCW (71,218); plus Aberaman North (3,609) and Aberaman South (3,541); minus Nelson (3,563).
(Electorate: 74,805)

Islwyn: the constituency as proposed by the BCW (70,735); plus Nelson (3,563).
(Electorate: 74,298)

Pontypridd: the constituency as proposed by the BCW (71,237); plus Pontyclun (6,061); minus Aberaman North (3,609) and Aberaman South (3,541). (Electorate: 70,148)

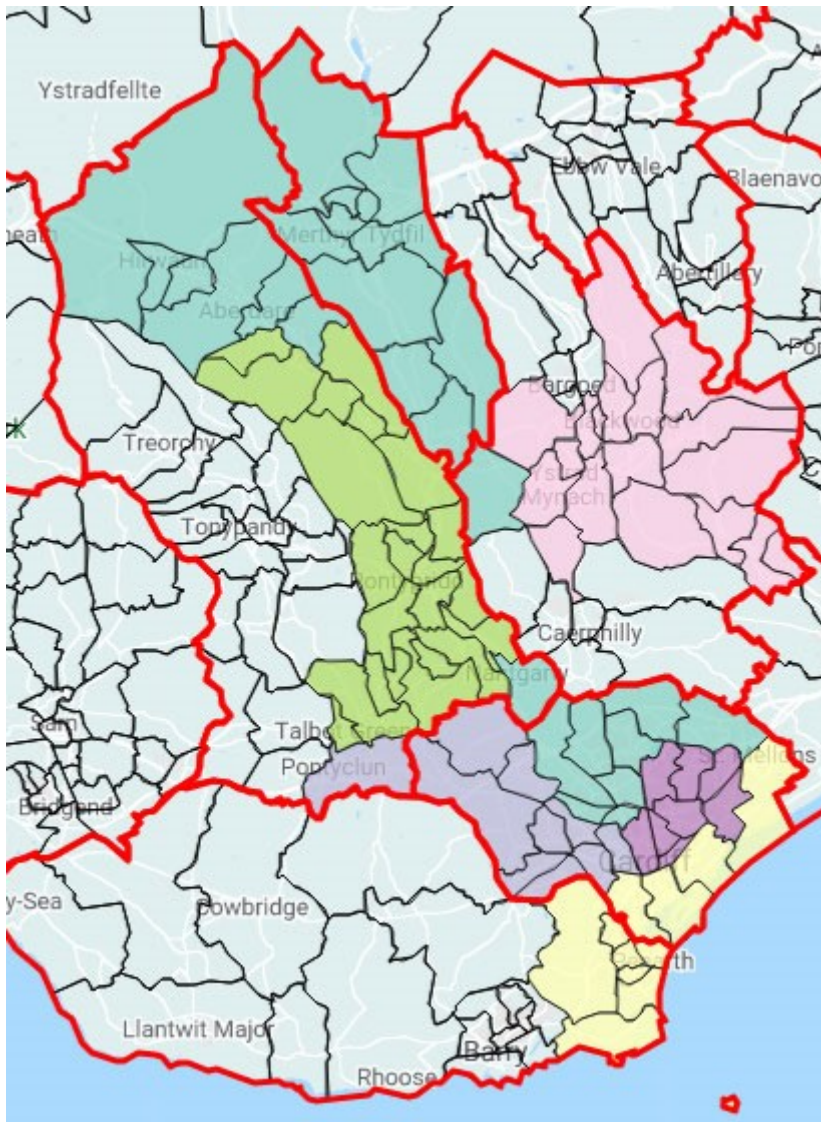
Cardiff North West: the existing Cardiff West wards of Creigiau/St Fagans (4,409), Fairwater (9,642), Llandaff (7,078), Pentyrch (2,819), Radyr (5,425) and Riverside (9,621) within the County of Cardiff; the existing Cardiff North wards of Llandaff North (5,992), Rhiwbina (9,354) and Whitchurch & Tongwynlais (12,928) within the County of Cardiff; and the existing Pontypridd ward of Taffs Well (2,855) within the County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf. (Electorate: 70,123)

Cardiff North East: the existing Cardiff North wards of Gabalfa (5,922), Heath (9,611), Lisvane (2,942), Llanishen (13,492) and Pontprennau/Old St Mellons (8,047) within the County of Cardiff; and the existing Cardiff Central wards of Cathays (13,099), Cyncoed (8,475) and Pentwyn (10,783) within the County of Cardiff. (Electorate: 72,371)

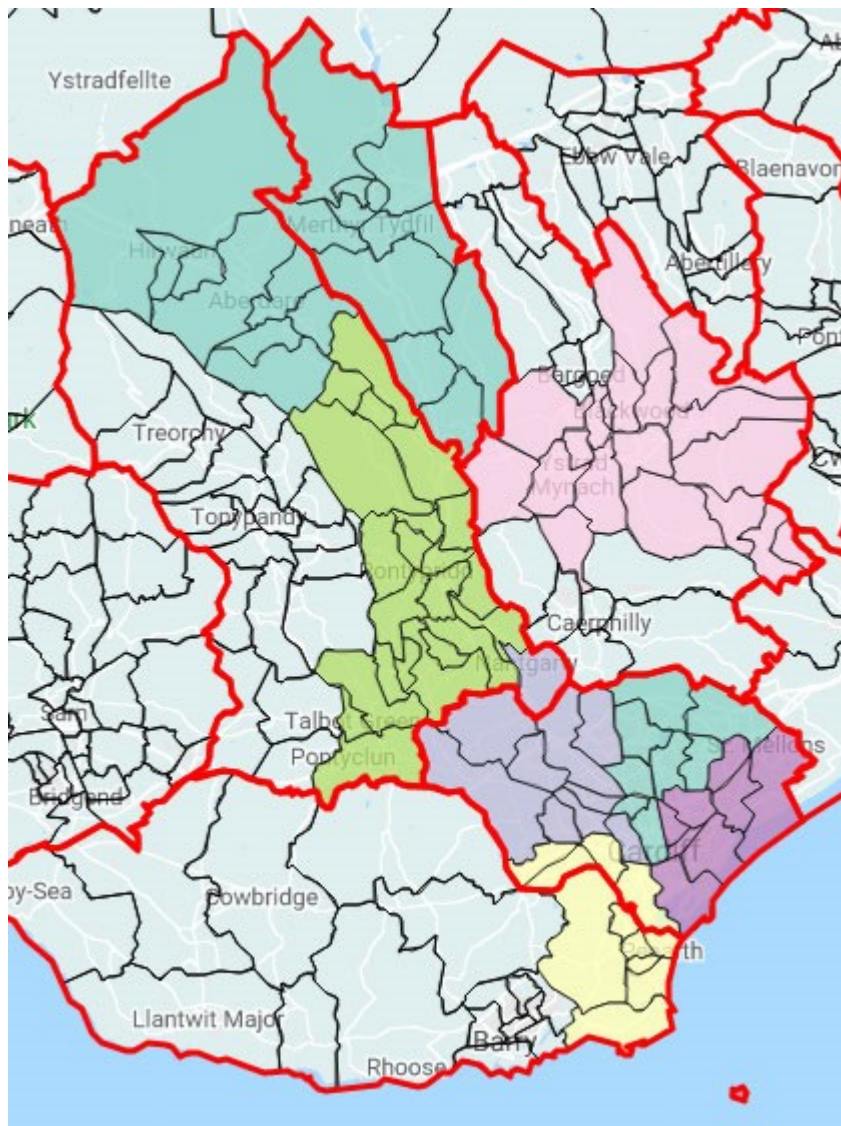
Cardiff South East: the existing Cardiff Central wards of Adamsdown (5,692), Penylan (9,858) and Plasnewydd (12,285) within the County of Cardiff; and the existing Cardiff South & Penarth wards of Butetown (7,834), Llanrumney (7,758), Rumney (6,536), Splott (9,081) and Trowbridge (11,076) within the County of Cardiff. (Electorate: 70,120)

Cardiff South West & Penarth: the existing Cardiff West wards of Caerau (7,859), Canton (11,457) and Ely (9,576) within the County of Cardiff; the existing Cardiff South & Penarth ward of Grangetown (13,257) within the County of Cardiff; the existing Cardiff South & Penarth wards of Cornerswell (4,069), Llandough (1,578), Plymouth (4,584), St Augustine's (5,318), Stanwell (3,365) and Sully (3,696) within the County of Vale of Glamorgan; and the existing Vale of Glamorgan ward of Dinas Powys (6,388) within the County of Vale of Glamorgan. (Electorate: 71,147)

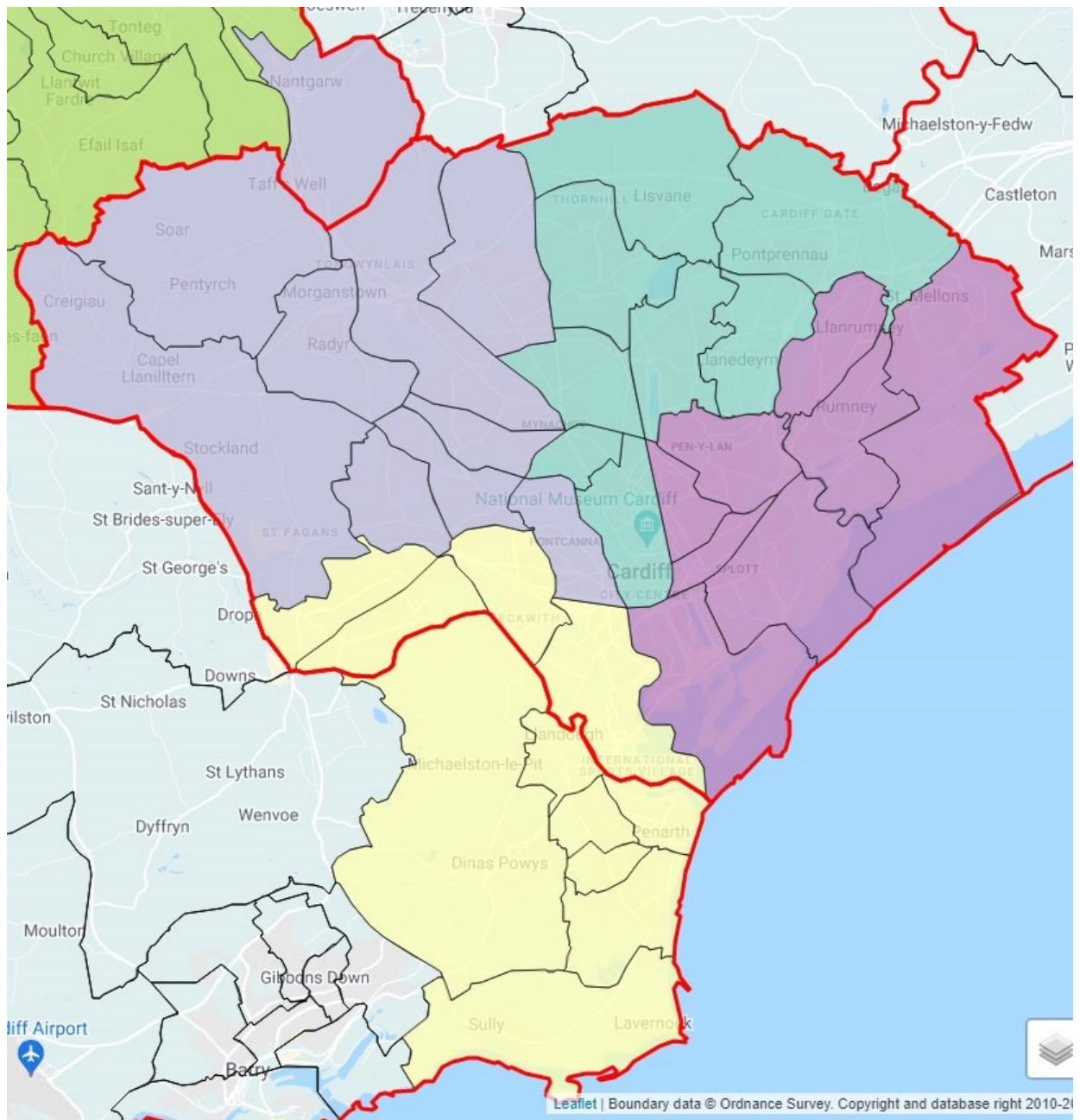
Please see attached maps.



BCW Initial Proposals MTA Islwyn Pontypridd Cardiff



Alternative Proposal MTA Islwyn Pontypridd Cardiff



Alternative Proposal Cardiff

BCW-9648/ [REDACTED] / Leckwith

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 25 October 2021 16:28

To: BCW <bcw@boundaries.wales>

Subject: Proposed Changes to Vale of Glamorgan Constituency

Dear Sir/Madam

I am very concerned that the proposal that Dinas Powys should be included with Cardiff South and Penarth would be detrimental to the residents of our village. The constituency has long historical links with Barry and the rural Vale of Glamorgan. I can see no advantage in changing the boundary and there would be tremendous disadvantages to the population.

I hope this proposal is withdrawn.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

BCW-9649 / [REDACTED] / Newport

I don't think Newport fits with Caerphilly, we should be split into Newport west and east. The geographic spread just doesn't make sense at all, this decision need to be reconsidered

BCW-9650/ [REDACTED] / Unknown

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 25 October 2021 18:59

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Boundary change

I am very upset about proposed boundary changes as usual all about politicians and not about people. I use Barry hospital, when I have accidents university hospital too far and impossible to park I am in my 80s there is still a bank in barry and I use barry train it will force more car journeys. [REDACTED]

BCW-9651/ [REDACTED] / Ammanford

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 October 2021 16:55
To: Enquiries <enquiries@boundaries.wales>
Subject: Draft proposals for the Upper Swansea and Amman Valleys

2023 PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW- INITIAL PROPOSALS.

25th October 2021

I am sending this e-mail in response to The Commission's draft proposals as they affect the Upper Swansea and Amman Valleys.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I am a life long resident of this area.

I have represented this area as a councillor at Community, County and County Borough tiers and as the former member for Neath of The Nations Assembly for Wales. (as it then was). This privilege as a public representative spanned in total a period of 35 years. I say this as I believe I have a deep knowledge and understanding of valley life.

I know you will give serious consideration to the points I raise as in my opinion they fall within your area of discretion in regard to community ties and convenient and easy access to Parliamentary representation and the democratic process.

I will be grateful if you will acknowledge receipt of this e-mail.

Gyda llawer o ddiolch / With many thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] — MY COMMENTS ON WHY I STRONGLY OPPOSE THE
BOUNDARY COMMISSION'S DRAFT PROPOSALS FOR THE UPPER SWANSEA AND
AMMAN VALLEYS.

THESE PROPOSALS:

1. At best make no sense and at worse, if adopted, would create huge inconvenience to the individuals and communities affected by them. The geographical difficulties which would be

created if Parliamentary representation was placed within Brecon and Radnor's already huge, land locked area would be significant. The individual's right to convenient access to Parliamentary representation would be severely weakened. My fear is that this area could be seen to provide a convenient set of numbers in order to comply with proposed quotas. The Upper Swansea and Amman Valleys should firmly remain where they belong within the Neath Constituency.

2. Would cut all long held ties with other valley communities within Neath. These valley communities share a history of familiar life styles, cultural links, industrial heritage, and traditions.

3. Would place Parliamentary representation outside of the geographical boundaries of The Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board which serves these upper Swansea and Amman Valley Wards thereby creating a barrier to ease of access and familiarity.

4. Would place Parliamentary representation outside the boundaries of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council and all Town and Community Councils that serve these wards. Again creating a barrier to ease of access and familiarity.

5. Would cause confusion by moving these wards completely outside the constituency of Neath where they are placed for The Welsh Parliament representation.

6. Would cut links with many West Glamorgan regional partnerships both within the statutory and voluntary sectors. These partnerships serve these wards well and promote community cohesion and integrated provision.

7. Would cut the link with the preserved County of West Glamorgan which dates back to the ancient County of Glamorgan. West Glamorgan remains a preserved County for the Lieutenancy and Shrievalty. These functions feature prominently in the civic life of these valley communities and they promote and encourage the voluntary sector and individual volunteering.

2. Would weaken the fundamental and basic right of the people of the Upper Swansea and Amman Valleys to easy and convenient access to democracy and its processes.

BCW-9652 / [REDACTED] / Neath

I live in Briton Ferry which has always been part of Neath, NEVER Port Talbot! I feel all of Briton Ferry should come under NEATH again. Not Aberavon & Porthcawl!!!!

I hate this idea! I don't understand why we can't go back to how it was before with Glamorgan. Or is it all to do with politic

BCW-9653 / [REDACTED] / Pontypridd

This whole process appears to be completely politically motivated, with no real or tangible benefit to the communities to be served at all. Reducing the number of constituencies in Wales will benefit one political party only, the ones currently in power in Westminster and it is not difficult therefore to understand their motivation for doing this. The new boundaries will create constituencies that have no real links or cohesion, for example parts of Aberdare put in with Pontypridd and the Rhondda linked with the M4 corridor area, there seems to be no real logic or thought put in to this. A child with a map and marker pen could have done a better job!

BCW-9654 / [REDACTED] – Wales Green Party / Llanrhystud

In the Swansea council area, where the Commission has proposed three constituencies (Swansea East and Neath, Swansea Central and North, Swansea West and Gower), the Wales Green Party, having consulted with party members in the council area wish to propose a different three constituency alignment.

We propose a Gower constituency made up of Bishopston, Dunvant, Fairwood, Gorseinon, Gower, Gowerton, Killay North, Killay South, Kingsbridge, Lower Loughor, Mayals, Newton, Oystermouth, Penclawdd, Penllergaer, Pennard, Penyrheol, Sketty, Upper Loughor and West Cross wards for an electorate of 70,576 (96.16% of the UKEQ).

We also propose a Swansea constituency made up of Bonymaen, Castle, Cockett, Cwmbwrla, Landore, Morriston, Mynyddbach, Penderry, St. Thomas, Townhill and Uplands wards for an electorate of 74,949 (102.12% of the UKEQ).

The Commission will note that the wards of Clydach, Llangyfelach, Llansamlet, Mawr and Pontardulais are missing from these proposals. These wards will form part of a proposed Amman, Neath and the Swansea Valleys constituency which will be detailed in our submission for the Neath and Port Talbot council area.

(The) Gower

Electorate: 70,576 (96.16% of the UKEQ)

Google Earth

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO



(City of) Swansea
Electorate: 74,949 (102.12% of the UKEQ)

BCW-9655 / [REDACTED] - Wales Green Party/ Llanrhystud

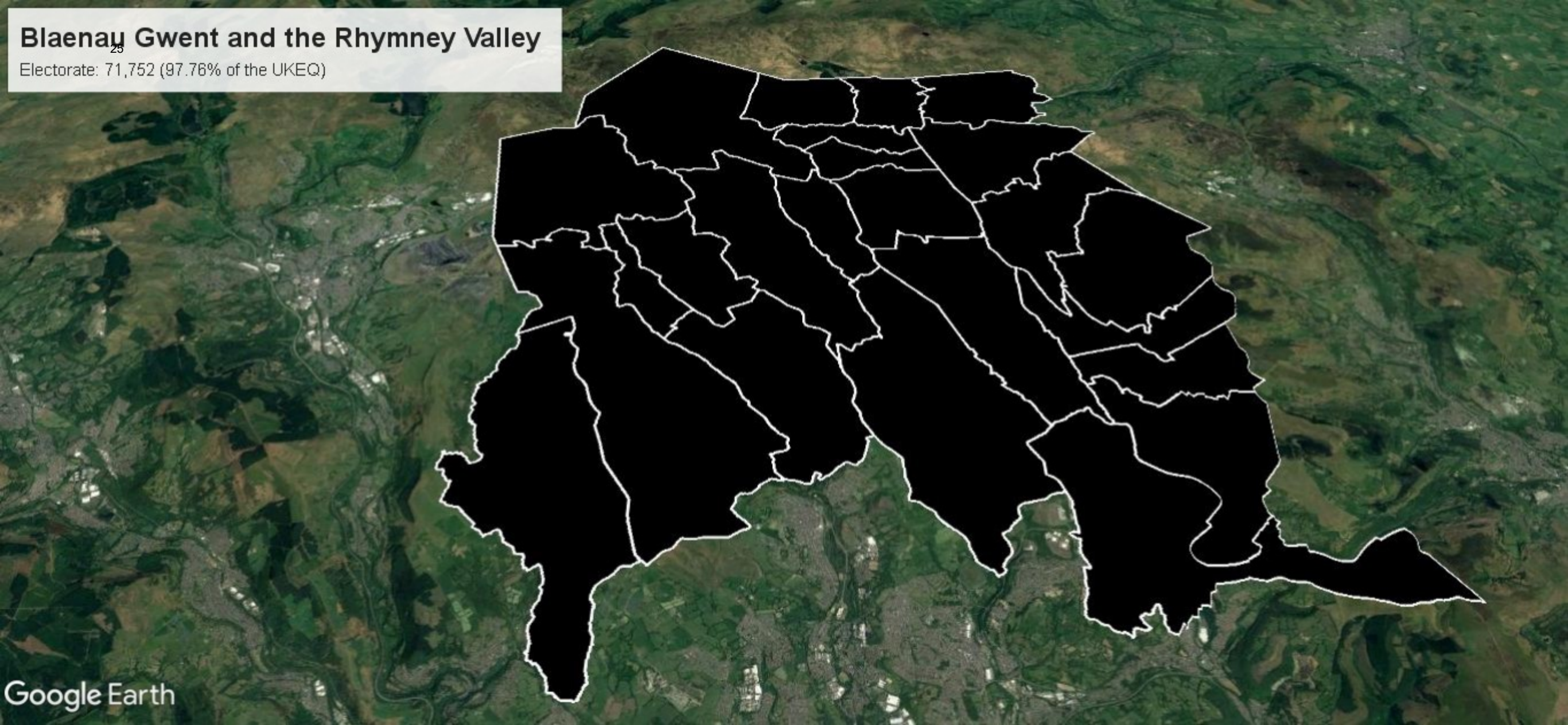
The Commission's proposals for a Blaenau Gwent and Rhymney constituency we agree with, save for two amendments.

First, we wish to propose that Argoed and Crumlin wards (which the Commission have proposed to place in the new Islwyn constituency) be placed in this proposed constituency and secondly, we wish to propose the name Blaenau Gwent and the Rhymney Valley for the proposed constituency.

The wards that would make up our proposal of Blaenau Gwent and the Rhymney Valley are: Abertillery, Badminton, Beaufort, Blaina, Brynmawr, Cwm, Cwmtillery, Ebbw Vale North, Ebbw Vale South, Georgetown, Llanhilleth, Nantyglo, Rassau, Sirhowy, Six Bells, Tredegar Central and West, Argoed, Crumlin, Darren Valley, Moriah, New Tredegar, Pontlottyn, Twyn Carno and Bedlinog which would give the proposed constituency an electorate of 71,752 (97.76% of the UKEQ)

Blaenau Gwent and the Rhymney Valley

Electorate: 71,752 (97.76% of the UKEQ)



BCW-9656 / [REDACTED] – Wales Green Party / Llanrhystud

The Commission proposes two constituencies covering this council area (Vale of Glamorgan, Cardiff South and Penarth). We also propose two constituencies, but with a different alignment

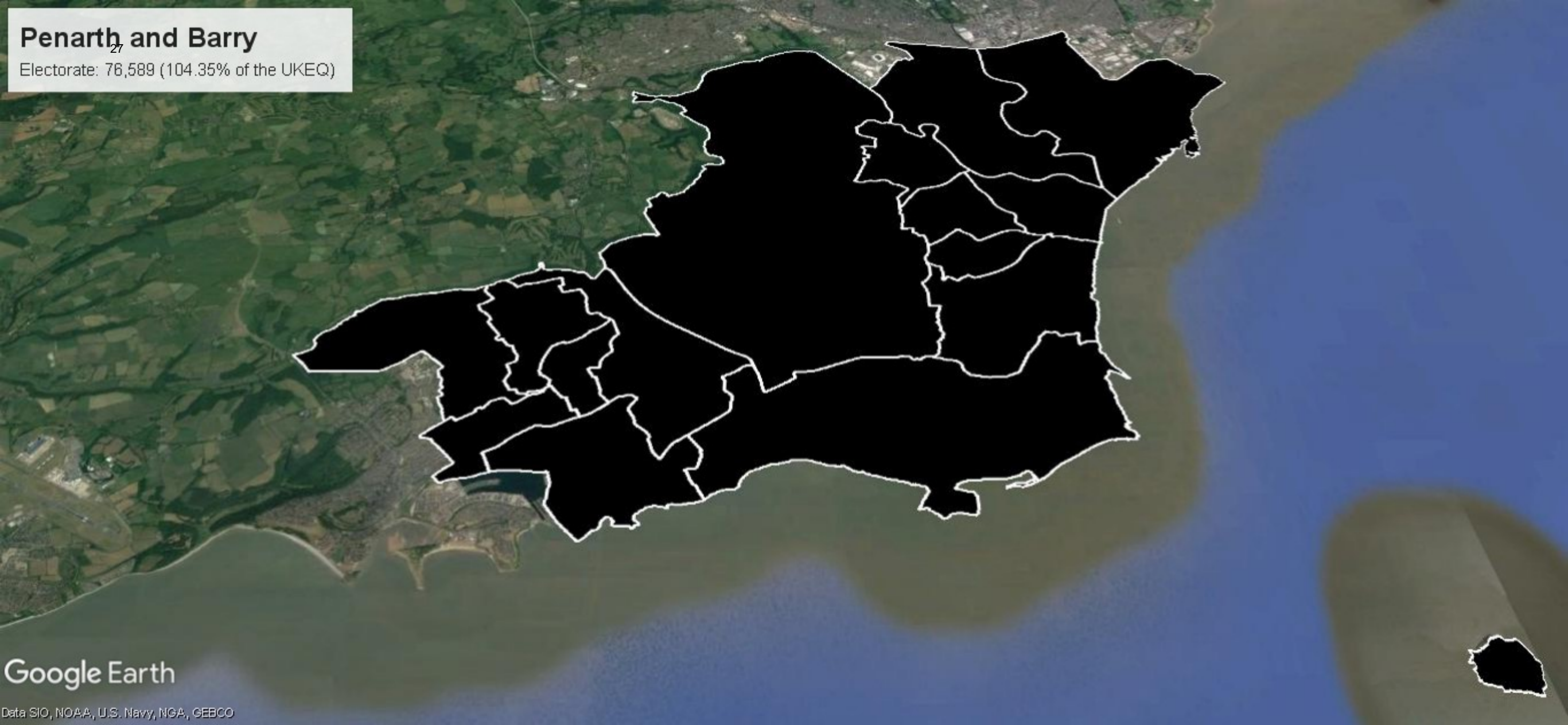
We propose a Pencoed and the Vale of Glamorgan constituency made up of Bryntirion, Laleston and Merthyr Mawr, Brackla, Coity, Coychurch Lower, Felindre, Hendre, Litchard, Morfa and Pendre from Bridgend council and Baruc, Cowbridge, Illtyd, Llandow/Ewenny, Llantwit Major, Peterston-super-Ely, Rhoose, St. Athan, St. Bride's Major and Wenvoe from the Vale of Glamorgan council, the electorate of which would be 75,148 (102.39% of the UKEQ)

We also propose a Penarth and Barry constituency made up of Butetown and Grangetown wards from Cardiff and Buttrills, Cadoc, Castleland, Cornerswell, Court, Dinas Powys, Dyfan, Gibbonsdown, Llandough, Plymouth, St. Augustine's, Stanwell and Sully wards from the Vale of Glamorgan, the electorate of which would be 76,589 (104.35% of the UKEQ).

I wish to apologise for the lack of a descriptive map of the Penarth and Barry constituency, this was due to technical difficulties.

Penarth and Barry

Electorate: 76,589 (104.35% of the UKEQ)



Google Earth

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

BCW-9657 / [REDACTED] / Dinas Powys

Although we have our own excellent medical centre in Dinas, we have used Barry Hospital on occasion for emergency use. As for shopping - this is principally carried out in Barry. Almost forgot to mention, the Barry Memorial Hall is where we prefer to watch films. All considered, Dinas Powys should stay where it is - in the Vale.

BCW-9658 / [REDACTED] / Mold

I do not agree to the proposed changes. It further diminishes the representation of the people of Wales.

BCW-9659/ [REDACTED] – Wales Green Party / Llanrhystud

Cardiff council is the largest council area in Wales by electorate (251,908) and the Commission believes it should have four constituencies (Cardiff Central, North, West, South and Penarth). We disagree with the number of constituencies (we believe there should be three in the city) and wish to propose:

Cardiff, Bute: Adamsdown, Canton, Cathays, Gabalfa, Penylan, Plasnewydd, Riverside, Splott West (72,475, 98.75% of the UKEQ)

Cardiff, Llanishen: Cyncoed, Heath, Llanishen, Llanrumney, Pentwyn, Rumney, Splott East, Trowbridge (72,271, 98.47% of the UKEQ)

Cardiff, St. Fagans: Caerau, Creigiau/St. Fagans, Ely, Fairwater, Llandaff, Llandaff North, Pentyrch, Radyr, Rhiwbina, Whitchurch and Tongwynlais (75,082, 102.30% of the UKEQ)

As the Commission will no doubt have realised there are no such wards as Splott East and Splott West, just a Splott ward with an electorate of 9,081. In order to fit in with the rules as laid down which the Commission have had to follow, we propose dividing this ward (along polling district lines) to ensure that half the ward are in Cardiff, Bute and half the ward is in Cardiff, Llanishen.

Cardiff₂₉ Bute

Electorate: 72,475 (98.75% of the UKEQ)

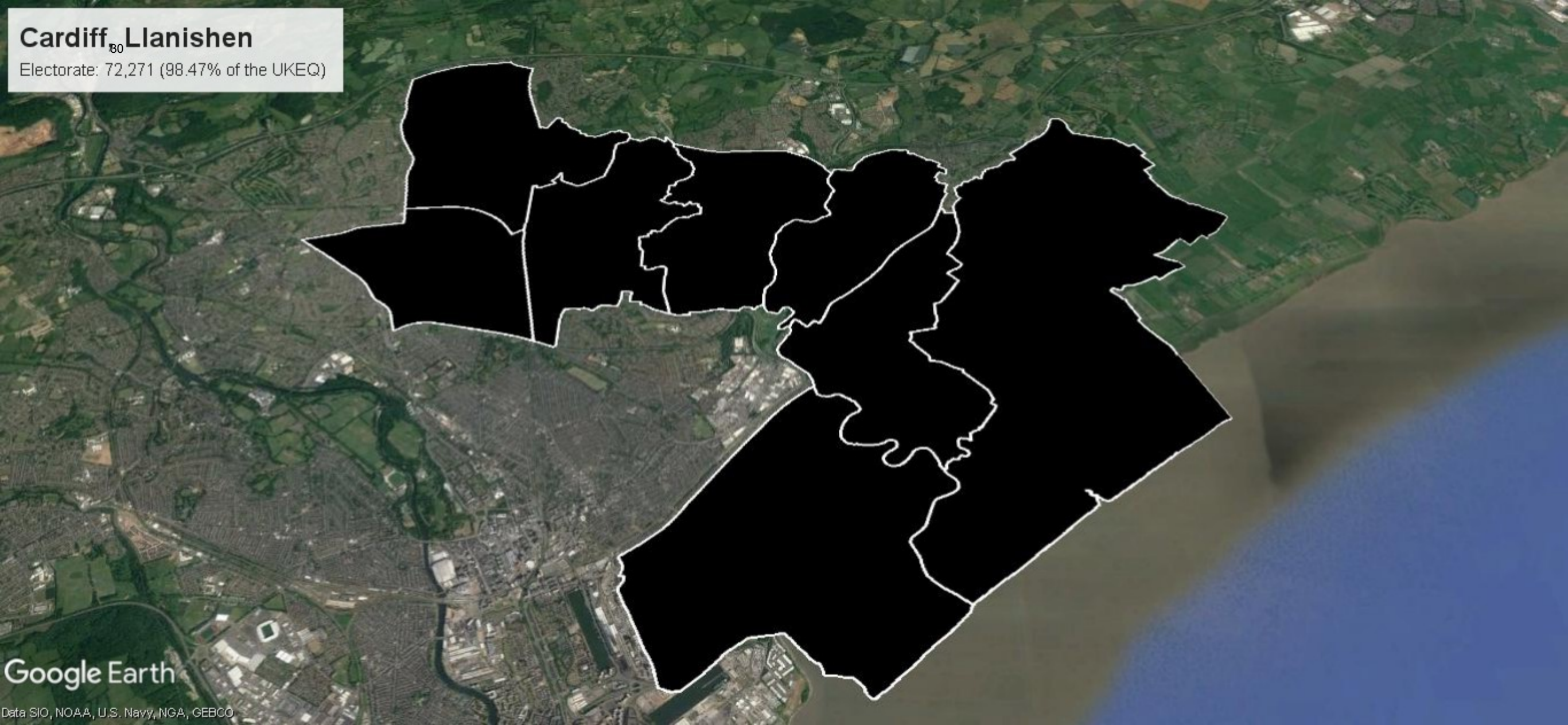


Google Earth

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

Cardiff₈₀ Llanishen

Electorate: 72,271 (98.47% of the UKEQ)

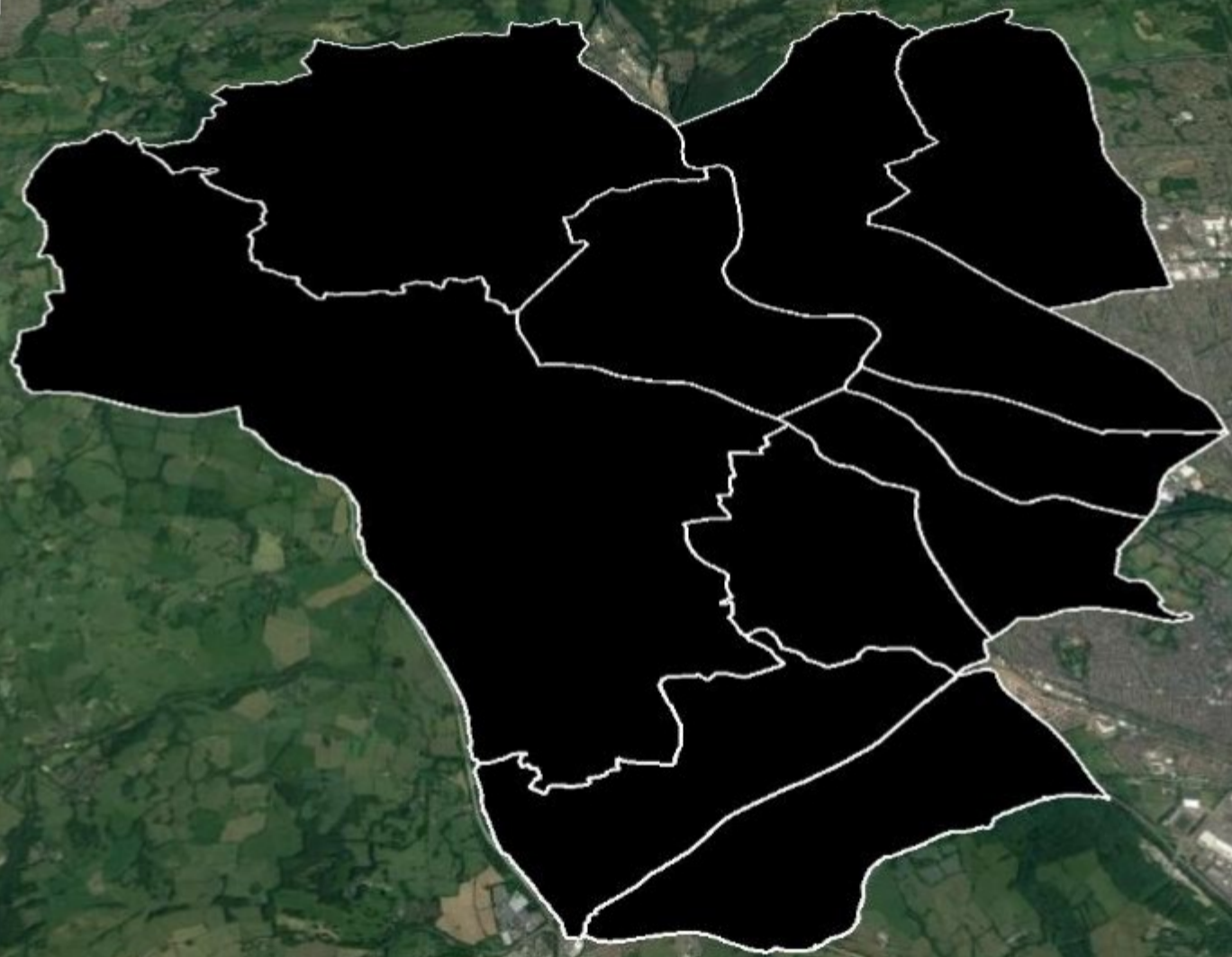


Google Earth

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

Cardiff_{B1} St. Fagans

Electorate: 75,082 (102.30% of the UKEQ)



BCW-9660 / [REDACTED] Wrexham

I wish to raise concerns with regards to the new boundary suggested of montgomery and glyndwr.

I simply do not know how an MP could truly represent such a large area with such differing needs. I believe that Ruabon/Chirk/Penycae should really be a part of Wrexham, as surely the needs will be more similar, and certainly geographically, I am confused how we could be part of the same constituency as Machynlleth. (2 hours on a train via Shrewsbury . . . 1 hour 40 to drive. . . (70 miles) seems very odd.

We here certainly identify with being part of Wrexham. I would encourage the boundary (see attachment) to cut off as it gets more rural.

I would say Ruabon, Penycae, Acrefair, Cefn Mawr would be part of Wrexham.

This in part due to geography, as these are built up villages, with good links to Wrexham town, it becomes very rural as you travel south west from these and this feels like a very different part of Wales to me.

Identity wise, these areas are very much Wrexham, due to the shared industrial past and present links to work. . . no one is really going from these areas into Montgomery for work everyone will be heading up into Wrexham/ Chester/Cheshire or east to Shropshire.

I do not consent for my name to be shared publicly.

BCW-9661 [REDACTED] Pontypridd

Nantgarw is no where near Cardiff North and should not be within its bounds, the people living there have no tangible connection to Cardiff through employment either.

The general mood in the area is hostile towards Cardiff, as they believe Cardiff is attempting to aggressively expand its boundaries in attempt to compete with London. The fundermental problem is that the families that live in the area have a deep historical connection with Rhondda Cynon Taff, as well as mining and feel that Cardiff is trying to strip them of that heritage.

BCW-9662 / [REDACTED] / Ruthin

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 26 October 2021 10:28

To: BCW <bcw@boundaries.wales>

Subject: 2023 review of Parliamentary Constituencies

Please find attached my representation in relation to your preliminary proposals

THE BOUNDARIES COMMISSION WALES

Hastings House

Fitzalan Court

Cardiff CF24 0BL

26.10.21

2023 REVIEW OF WELSH PARLIAMENTARY BOUNDARIES

I refer to your preliminary proposals and wish to make the following representation in relation to the proposed new constituencies of Clwyd and Delyn.

I propose that the ward of RUTHIN (4,260 electors) should be included in the constituency of Clwyd and **not** Delyn.

To counterbalance that, and to comply with the rules with regard to EQ, I propose that the wards of St Asaph East (1,620), St Asaph West (1,290) and Trefnant (1,503) be placed in Delyn and not Clwyd.

I propose this on the basis that the exclusion of Ruthin from the constituency of Clwyd would significantly offend against the following statutory considerations:-

Local ties. Ruthin has long been linked economically and socially with the Vale of Clwyd and has strong ties with the town of Denbigh which you propose should be in the new Clwyd.

Geography. Ruthin stands on the River Clwyd and it is located west of the Clwydian range.

The inclusion of the St Asaph wards and Trefnant in Delyn would not be as offensive to the statutory considerations, as is the case with the glaring incongruity of Ruthin not being in the Clwyd constituency.

BCW-9663/ [REDACTED] / Newport

Having proposed alterations to earlier boundary proposals, it is with a certain disappointment that I have to acknowledge that I can offer no improvement on the excellent work done by the Commission this time.

While I appreciate that the constituency population size is not a decision of the Commission, I do think it appropriate to acknowledge that it was clearly wrong that Arfon had half the population of East Ham while each were represented by one MP. This review was necessary and within the criteria put forward I cannot improve upon the initial proposals for Newport.

With Monmouthshire and Torfaen containing an appropriate number of constituents for the local authority to be coterminous with the parliamentary constituency, these were obvious decisions to take and it naturally led to the proposed Newport East constituency. It is disappointing that Newport ends up being carved up through the city centre but one has to concede that this seems unavoidable given the criteria.

Equally, the combination on Newport West with Caerphilly might not be the most obvious connection to make, but once again taken with the criteria it is a reasonable proposal and, while I would give way to a Caerphilly resident should they tell me otherwise, it appears to respect the settlement integrity of Caerphilly. While an alternative approach for Newport West could be taken within the preserved county boundary to include areas in a Risca, Cross Keys, Newbridge direction; or to cross into Cardiff where there is a urban synergy with Newport, I do not think that either of these options offer a significant improvement to what has been proposed.

As such, I look forward to making friends with my soon to be fellow constituents in Caerphilly and congratulate the Boundary Commission for Wales for a job well done.

BCW-9664/ [REDACTED] Caldicot

I object to this boundary alteration.

Rogiet is demographically closer to Newport East than it is Monmouth.

The issues for Rogiet are more akin to those experienced in Newport East. These are completely different to issues that arise in rural Monmouth.

There is in my opinion a biased between the South and North of the County, with the South losing out.

This proposal can only be bad for Rogiet

BCW-9665/ [REDACTED] / Ruthin

I have major concerns about the proposed changes for the Clwyd and Delyn seats specifically, but also on a wider level. Wales is a small nation, but how can it be an equal member of the UK when it has only 32 parliamentary seats (reduced from 40) in a chamber of six hundred and fifty members. This hardly denotes equal status and signifies Wales' voice in Westminster becoming ever smaller and marginalised, thus weakening the Union. I fundamentally agree with the principle of equality in democracy, but this change gives rise to the concept that the UK is not equal and raises questions about the wider constitution. There is the added factor of whether these seat changes will be replicated as part of the proposed changes to the number of Senedd members in Cardiff, or will Senedd constituencies remain the same.

Specifically on the two seats. It splits the community of Ruthin and the surrounding area in half between the Clwyd and Delyn seats, paying no respect to historical links or the fact that the river Clwyd runs through Ruthin. Ruthin will be split from the Southern, Northern and Western parts of its community since it serves a much wider rural hinterland as a service centre and has very strong links with these areas and communities, and has no links to North Flintshire. I have looked specifically at the maps and would like to put forward a solution:

Ruthin, Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd/Llangynhafal and Llandyrnog (total electors 7195) to join the Clwyd seat

Rhuddlan, St Asaph West and St Asaph East (total electors 5675) to join the Delyn seat

This makes much more sense since St Asaph and Rhuddlan have strong geographic links with Prestatyn in the Delyn seat and both were historically part of Flintshire (before 1974). Both seats would still be above the advised population per constituency of 73,393 (Delyn at 74,554, and Clwyd at 77,900) and neither would be either smallest seat in Wales in terms of population when compared with other seats, but Clwyd would be the largest by population (but only marginally e.g. Aberafan Porthcawl at 76,792 electors).

Ruthin being in the Delyn seat is completely unacceptable and impractical for any MP to serve both areas which are vastly different from each other e.g. geographically, linguistically. I'm afraid whoever put these boundaries in place does not know the character of the area nor consulted with the local population. The solution above might not be perfect, but it is better than the current proposal for the seats.

BCW-9665 / [REDACTED] / Ruthin

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BCW-9666/ [REDACTED] / Port Talbot

Aberafan & Porthcawl links two areas across authority boundaries, with no shared history or socioeconomic issues in common.

BCW-9667/ [REDACTED] / Rogiet

I absolutely protest at the suggested boundary change! Jessica Morden as our Newport East MP as part of Rogiet is absolutely amazing.

To even suggest changing our boundary's is ludicrous. Monmouthshire MP conservative has no interest or links to our area and is totally against the local interests. The only reason I can see why this suggestion is being made is to increase conservative rule in Wales!

BCW-9668/ [REDACTED] / Caerphilly

Get it done. Labour are barely competent in opposition. They will never be elected back into national government while my backside has a hole in it.

BCW-9669 / [REDACTED] / Rogiet

I have two concerns:

1. I don't agree with the driving requirement to reduce the number of UK Parliament constituencies in Wales. This feels like an attempt to reduce the influence of Wales in the UK parliament.
2. I don't agree with the change of boundary between Newport East and Monmouthshire constituencies. Currently the Severnside settlements of Caldicot, Rogiet, Undy and Magor are served by the excellent Newport East MP (Jessica Morden, Labour), who is very engaged with our settlements, which are of a working class / commuter nature. Conversely, the MP for Monmouthshire (David Davies, Conservative) is relatively unknown to us. I fear he will be focused mainly on the interests of the current Monmouthshire constituency (farming, agriculture and tourism) and will not understand the needs of our settlements along Severnside.

BCW-9670 / [REDACTED] / Caldicot

Should always have been part of Monmouthshire....we live in Monmouthshire, pay council tax to Monmouthshire but elect representatives for Newport....how would they ever represent us whilst also representing a city area with differing ne

BCW-9671 / [REDACTED] / Wrexham

If this means where I live will no longer be included under Wrexham borough I welcome the change.

My house used to be Denbighshire then moved over to clwyd then Wrexham borough.

BCW- 9672 / [REDACTED] / Magor

I agree it makes more sense to align the constituency with the council boundary but I am not happy to move into a conservative constituency and feel my vote will now be worthless.

BCW-9673 / [REDACTED] / Port Talbot

Another way the conservative government can strip and split labour held seats .

Do you honestly think the well off people of Porthcawl are going to be happy having areas of Port Talbot associated with them.

Divide and conquer !

BCW-9674 / [REDACTED] / Marloes

I cannot understand why an administration area as small as Wales with less than 4m population has to have 22 County Councils and an Assembly. The cost must be phenomenal and it creates an over inflated system. Birmingham and some of the larger metro Councils are larger than Wales with more streamlined administrations. Lets reduce the number of County Councils and get rid of the Welsh Assembly.

BCW-9675 / [REDACTED] / Bethesda

I feel very strongly that the area in which I live should not become part of Aberconwy. Arfon is a Plaid Cymru constituency and so it should remain. The redrawing of these boundaries is just another way for Westminster to give Wales less representation.

BCW-9676 / [REDACTED] / Tregaron

The proposed boundary constitutes a large geographical area. An area whose communities face common and diverse issues. Traveling between communities means that residents cannot enjoy the amount of contact time with their elected representative that they may have once experienced. There are no direct public transport services that link up each end of this proposed constituency

.

For political parties with active branches in the constituency, resources will be stretched and support for their members reduced. Members will face increased travel time or be more isolated.

I also have concerns about language and culture. Ceredigion has a high level of Welsh speakers and learners. I feel that incorporating an area that doesn't have the same commitment may have adverse consequences for Ceredigion.

BCW-9677 / [REDACTED] / Newport

It. Doesn't. Work.

The map cannot be viewed properly to get an overview of implications for eg South Wales.

It is not clear whether the boundaries (drawn in jumbo yellow crayon) are current or proposed, either way there is no comparison. Very difficult to know what's changed, no explanation.

Very poor consultation.

BCW-9678 / [REDACTED] / Bridgend

This is a disgraceful proposal. To move my vote from bridgend to port talbot is unethical and corrupt.

I live on bridgend and expect my vote to count for bridgend. Not port talbot where a donkey standing for Labour will get voted in.

I moved from port talbot and do not want to be associated with it through electoral boundaries being shifted.

It is also confusing as you are dividing the town.

Make boundaries outside of built up areas not split them.

BCW-9679 / [REDACTED] / Sully

While understanding the need for appropriate numbers in each constituency - I do not understand why Penarth, Dinas Powys and Sully, all of whom are in the Vale of Glamorgan come into a Cardiff constituency? If you are considering cutting the number of seats, perhaps a complete re-think of the Cardiff / VoG boundaries would be a good place to start? I would very much like my MP to actually reflect the county I live in!

BCW-9680 / [REDACTED] / Caldicot

I agree with the changes to Caldicot. It makes more sense to be part of Monmouthshire area rather than Newport East. I consider the area Monmouthshire rather than Newport and was surprised to learn of the current regions - the proposed regions make more sense

BCW-9681 / [REDACTED] / Caldicot

I agree with the changes to Caldicot. It makes more sense to be part of Monmouthshire area rather than Newport East. I consider the area Monmouthshire rather than Newport and was surprised to learn of the current regions - the proposed regions make more sense

BCW - 9682 [REDACTED] / Neath

Hi Neath is a historical town and a major borough of Neath Port Talbot County with elected county councillor representatives. I don't understand therefore how Neath can become part of the Swansea East constituency? Neath needs its own member of Parliament to represent the important and unique issues of the people of Neath

BCW-9683 / [REDACTED] / Barry

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: 26 October 2021 14:36
To: BCW <bcw@boundaries.wales>
Subject: Boundary change Dinas Powys

To Whom it May Concern

I would like to register my objection to the proposed boundary change removing Dinas Powys from the Vale of Glamorgan constituency. I own 2 rural businesses in the vale, one in Barry and the other in Dinas Powys. Many of our activities are directed and governed out of the Vale of Glamorgan offices, and I feel we have no direct attachment to Cardiff. I feel that the if the Cardiff South constituency included Dinas Powys it would become too large and unrepresentative of the views of Dinas Powys residents, which tends to be more rurally centred.

Yours sincerely
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

BCW-9684 / [REDACTED] / Newtown

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 26 October 2021 16:26

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Consultation Response Newtown & Llanllwchaiarn Town Council - 2023
Parliamentary
Review Initial Proposals

Dear BCW

Thank you for your consultation '2023 Parliamentary Review - Initial Proposals',
received
8th Sep'21.

It the meeting of Newtown & Llanllwchaiarn Town Council 25th October, it resolved
to
submit the following response...

The response is regarding Montgomeryshire only
The Town Council supports the BCW initial proposals for reasons that:

No existing communities would be split by a new constituency boundary
The current constituency remains intact
The name Montgomeryshire is retained.
and the Council adds additional comment that it would be helpful to explain in the
final proposals:

Why the Chair of the Commission takes no part in the work of the Commission
The distinction between the names 'Borough Constituency' an 'County
Constituency'

A clear explanation of severance arrangements resulting from a reduction of 8
parliamentary seats in Wales.

I trust you will this this submission into consideration.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

BCW-9685 / [REDACTED] / Rhondda Cynon Taf



Boundary Commission for
Wales
Hastings House
Fitzalan
Place
Cardiff
CF24 0BL

20th October 2021

Dear Sir/ **Madam**,

Re 2023 Parliamentary Review Initial Proposals- Consultation of Proposed Electoral Constituency changes.

I am writing to lodge my objections with regard to the proposed constituency changes as set out in the above review to change constituency sizes across the UK, which means the government with the Boundary Commission has outlined changes to many current electoral constituencies, and in so doing will reduce Welsh MP seats down from 40 to 32, altering in the process the majority of Welsh constituencies, and in the case of my constituency Cynon Valley eliminating it altogether as a recognised constituency.

I would challenge the Boundary Commission's proposal in this Review that you have applied your stated criteria in your consideration of the existing Cynon Valley constituency as you have stated-

"(As per the Act) a Commission may take into account

- special geographical considerations, including in particular the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency;
- local government boundaries which existed or were prospective on 1 Dec 2020;
- boundaries of existing constituencies;
- any localities that would be broken by changes in constituencies and
- the inconveniences attendant on such changes."

Also your Review proposal has stated "as far as possible, the Commission seeks to create constituencies in Wales

- from electoral wards that are adjacent to each other; and
- that do not contain any detached parts, ie. where the only physical connection between one part of the constituency and the remainder would require passage through a different constituency."

With regards to your proposal for the current Cynon Valley constituency, your Boundary Commission review has totally contradicted several of the above points and you have actually created some of the above issues with your demolition job on the Cynon Valley constituency.

Your proposal has chopped Cynon Valley in half at Aberdare town centre with the areas north of Aberdare, plus Cwmbach in which you have included the geographical part of Aberaman behind the Asda store at Aberaman being added to Merthyr constituency as Merthyr Tydfil and Aberdare constituency, with the rest of Aberaman, Godreaman, Cwmaman and lower Cynon being added to Pontypridd constituency.

I wish to point out that Cardiff Road, Aberaman is the first street and main road leading southwards out from Aberdare town centre and Aberaman residents are literally on the doorstep of Aberdare town centre which is the main and central area of the Cynon Valley constituency but the Boundary Commission has decided to split Aberaman from its town which residents walk to constantly with some living literally only one minute's walking distance from the town, but will instead under your proposed plans come under constituency for Pontypridd which is about 12 miles away with its associated MP there.

I do not think the Boundary Commission has considered anything about the geographical layout, connections and accessibility of Cynon Valley constituency making local access to MP representation far more difficult under these new proposals for many of the Cynon Valley's residents as we have many older, disabled and vulnerable residents, and working people and families struggling or actually living in poverty, who do not have the means to be able to connect with an MP no longer accessible within Cynon Valley itself, but out of their reach at Pontypridd.

Most of Aberaman, Godreaman, Cwmaman and the rest of lower Cynon will be dumped onto the Pontypridd constituency under the Commission proposal with our Aberaman wards becoming the northernmost extremity of the new Pontypridd constituency and many Cynon Valley residents will be isolated and excluded from democratic access to the Pontypridd MP. Many have very limited income or benefits, many are reliant on public transport, are not digitally aware or included, and their connection is with their local services close to home which included the local MP.

Under your new proposed constituency change the Boundary Commission has actually split Aberaman into different localities and into different constituencies as the Commission has no local knowledge of the Cynon area itself and the way that parts of Aberaman are spread by its local geography following the valley and river routes. I cannot fathom how the Commission has decided to split Aberaman with the new housing development of the Coed Dyffryn site, Aberaman of approximately 200 properties on the land behind the Asda store at Aberaman, which is only accessible from the one road in from Aberaman off the bypass roundabout onto that

Riverside retail park site at Asda's, Aberaman. It is not part of Cwmbach, but

Aberaman, but has been included with Cwmbach to join Aberdare and upper Cynon wards into the new proposed Merthyr and Aberdare constituency. By the

Commission considering this part of Aberaman as part of the new Merthyr/ Aberdare constituency you have actually cut a local area connection but that housing site itself would then also become a "detached part where the only physical connection between one part of the constituency and the remainder would require passage through a different constituency"- in effect for anyone living in those properties behind Asda's their only road access in and out of that site is at the Asda Aberaman bypass roundabout so would have to go into the rest of the Aberaman ward which you propose would be Pontypridd constituency. That housing development behind Asda's Aberaman is bounded on three sides by the river, by a footpath over the river into central Aberaman, by a footpath walkway between Aberaman to Cwmbach skirting wetlands on the Aberdare side of the footpath, and then on the other side of the housing another brook and the main railway line running southwards through the valley, with its neighbouring station at Cwmbach but this is not directly accessible from that housing site.

The Aman valley tributary of Cynon Valley comprising the villages of

Aberaman, Godreaman and Cwmaman does not connect directly with Pontypridd region. Its natural link has always been with Aberdare, its connection with Aberdare town centre and its local shops, and for its services. Many residents use medical services, GP, dentist, opticians in Aberdare which will then fall under a different constituency in your plans and if any MP support is needed for whatever reason it will no longer be Aberdare but Pontypridd.

I object to this Boundary Commission proposal to chop up Cynon Valley as a constituency as Cynon's identity will be lost with no recognition of Cynon Valley as a constituency, and ignoring our geographical/ community/ cultural and historical links, and lower Cynon will be dumped onto the Pontypridd constituency, with which we in Aberaman North and South do not have a natural link, but which is to Aberdare.

Why should Cynon Valley have to be swallowed up by merging into the new constituencies with Merthyr or Pontypridd? Why cannot Cynon Valley be left complete, with adjustments of other areas made if you are determined to steamroller through these proposals to reduce numbers of Welsh constituencies and MPs by adjusting numbers? The South Wales Valleys are distinct areas in their own right, and it is not a simple matter of assuming a location can be easily linked with what you believe is its neighbour as these Parliamentary reviews do not recognise the geography of our valleys and its historic communities and transport issues, as not everyone has their own private transport to travel freely within that constituency, as a distance of, for example two or three miles may appear straightforward to the Boundary Commission but there may actually be physical rivers or a mountain

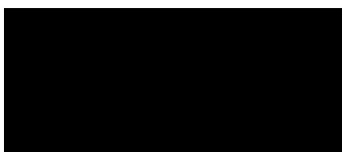
between two villages which you may think as neighbours but are actually either side of that physical division.

I totally object to the loss of Cynon Valley being recognised as a constituency and, in so doing, the loss of our own Cynon Valley MP, who provides a vital service for Cynon, so local Cynon residents will not feel they are represented by Pontypridd as the focus will be on their own historic Pontypridd region, and our part of Cynon will be tagged on to it like an afterthought, so I fear there will be a true loss of representation and engagement which will only worsen Cynon's democratic participation. I feel this boundary carve up of Cynon Valley with its obliteration as a constituency is reminiscent of England's past disregard of Welsh people and community- please take a history lesson Cofiwch Dryweryn- Remember Tryweryn- the decision taken in England despite Welsh objection to flood Tryweryn and Capel Celyn, North Wales to build a reservoir to supply water to England. This action will never be forgotten by the Welsh people.

Allegedly this Boundary Review is still at Proposal Consultation stage so I would request the Commission totally reconsiders its demolition of Cynon Valley constituency, and reinstate Cynon Valley complete, unless I am being cynical that the decision has already been made by the Commission and the UK government, and will bulldoze through these changes regardless of objections from the electors, in which case there will be a decline in the voting system if this goes ahead, as I believe many Cynon Valley residents would not bother to engage with voting as they would feel Cynon Valley does not exist in the eyes of government and Parliament, so would have no democratic voice.

Please reconsider the hatchet job which you are proposing to apply to the Cynon Valley as this Boundary Commission proposal is not a boundary change to Cynon Valley but boundary extinction of Cynon Valley and should not be carried out.

Yours faithfully,



BCW-9686 / Arwyn Woolcock/ Ammanford

Boundary Commission for Wales
Ground Floor, Hastings House
Fitzalan Court
Cardiff
CF24 0BL

24 October 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Review of Parliamentary Constituencies

I refer to the current review of Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales and would be grateful if you would accept the following observations in objection to the initial proposals:

Firstly, I would like to object to the disproportionate effect these proposals will have on Wales, as a result of a proposed reduction in Parliamentary Constituencies from 40 to 32 - a 20% reduction. This cannot be considered to enhance effective representation and will diminish engagement in the democratic process.

As a local Councillor representing the Lower Brynamman electoral division on Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, I would specifically wish to object in the strongest terms about proposals to transfer the areas of the upper Amman and Swansea valleys from the Neath Constituency, into Brecon and Radnor.

The upper Amman and Swansea valley areas have traditionally been part of either the Neath or Gower constituencies and this proposal would sever the long standing affiliation that these areas have enjoyed with both constituencies. Indeed, the initial proposal appears not to take account of such a vitally important community link, but merely a method of acquiring the electoral numbers to satisfy the UK electoral quota of electors.

In proposing that the upper Amman and Swansea valley areas form part of the Brecon and Radnor constituency - a constituency that is, arguably, already too large geographically - it would result in an even larger parliamentary constituency, which would not serve the electorate or elected representative well. Indeed, according to the RAC route planner, the distance between Trebanos in the south of the proposed new constituency, to Beguildy in the north, is just over 79 miles, and takes 1 hour 58 minutes to travel. The Council that will have responsibility for administering elections will be Powys. The distance from Trebanos to County Hall in Llandrindod Wells is 60.46 miles, and involves a journey of 1 hour 28 minutes. These distances and travelling times are based on travelling by private car. Travelling by public transport is, at best, extremely difficult, at worst, virtually impossible.

Clearly, therefore, this proposal is entirely undemocratic and unworkable, and falls completely foul of Rule 5 in Schedule 2 of the 1986 Act, which refers to "special geographical considerations, including in particular the size, shape and accessibility of a

constituency," "any local ties that would be broken by changes in constituencies," and "the inconvenience attendant on such changes."

Additionally, the initial proposal does not give any consideration to population sparsity, deprivation or geographical isolation - considerations which would have a detrimental effect on the ability of elected representatives to undertake the work that is expected of them by their constituents.

For all of the above reasons, I would respectfully request that this initial proposal is scrapped and that a completely new arrangement is put forward in respect of the upper Amman and Swansea valleys - a proposal that would see these areas remain within the Neath constituency.

Yours faithfully

Councillor Arwyn Woolcock

BCW-9687 / [REDACTED] / Caldicot

As a Rogiet resident i would prefer to stay with Newport East. Jessica Morden is a good MP and does her best for our community as a labour MP. David Davies does not care for communities or the environment in which we live even voting recently to allow raw sewage to be discharged into our already polluted rivers. Labour not Conservative for our village.

BCW-9688 / [REDACTED] / Crymych

You say that boundaries 'must' change but don't explain why this is.

We are already underrepresented and ignored by a Westminster parliament that treats Wales as a colony and by making areas bigger will surely just give us even less representation in that parliament.

I object to changing the boundaries on this basis and that we need stronger representation not weaker if we are to truly stand a chance of tackling the threat of climate change which will require smaller geographical areas making changes appropriate to each across the whole country.

BCW-9689/ [REDACTED] / Caldicot

Proposal makes sense to me. Glad to see Caldicot in same constituency as Chepstow and the rest of rural Monmouthshire rather than lumped in with Newport East.

Always felt my vote made little difference before as Labour Party have won the Newport East seat every election since I've lived here.

This creates a more balanced playing field and removes the dominance of the Labour vote in my town.

BCW-9690/ [REDACTED] / Unknown

Don't agree with reducing number of Welsh Mps

BCW-9691/ [REDACTED] Bwlchgwyn

Hello, I find it incredible that my postcode location is proposed to be changed to the constituency of Alyn and Deeside by the Boundary Commission for Wales. We are a small village (Bwlchgwyn) just 5 miles from the centre of Wrexham town and have 'No' affiliation with the proposed constituency of Alan and Deeside. Our village is not even in the same county!

Why would any sensible authority think it would be perceivable to move the boundary to include our village in a constituency that's base is more than 30mins drive away when the one that the village currently sits in, is only 8 mins away by car and in the same County.

Regards and hoping that common sense prevails.

[REDACTED]

BCW-9692/ [REDACTED] / Cardiff

Why is Cardiff East being still lodged as Cardiff South and Penarth, which it has nothing in common with not is it fairly represented. Why not have a Cardiff East and a Cardiff Central and Penarth and then you could have llanrumney, rumney, Trowbridge, st.Mellons, pentwyn and llanedyrn all part of Cardiff east. Makes much more sense with the demographics of areas.

BCW-9693 / [REDACTED] / Maesteg

It is a disgrace against democracy that Westminster still has control of so many facets of Welsh life, yet the Welsh voice is being reduced.

BCW-9694 / [REDACTED] / Caldicot

I feel the whole process of changing boundaries is purely politically motivated to assist the Conservative Party in gaining additional seats at the expense of democracy.

It would mean I will be losing a much valued MP (Jessica Morden) who connects with my community for one who has little or no contact with the locality I live in (David Davies).

The “equalisation” of constituencies on a version of the electoral register that potentially omits hundreds of thousands of people, especially students and recent migrants. This obscure technical change looks like a deliberate, aggressive manoeuvre to make sure the new constituencies are as Tory-friendly as possible.

The changes are based on data that is now out of date!

Government ministers are bound by the principle of collective responsibility to support government policy in parliament. If the number of MPs is reduced but there is no reduction in the number of government ministers, this means a smaller percentage of parliament will be able to hold the government to account.

BCW-9695/ [REDACTED] / Ruthin

I wish to express my strong disapproval at the intention to place Ruthin and a number of adjacent Vale of Clwyd in the Delyn constituency. It does not take into consideration the following:

- local connections - Ruthin is one of the main towns of the Vale of Clwyd and Denbighshire, and is not associated with areas in Flintshire
- geographical factors - the Clwydian Hills are a natural geographical boundary and have formed a political boundary since the Middle Ages. The proposal completely ignores this geographical factor, and creates a new boundary which zig-zags across the lower Vale, splitting communities in an unnatural manner
- local government boundaries – Ruthin is the administrative centre of Denbighshire, but under this proposal will be included with Flintshire
- after years of being unnaturally a part of the Clwyd West constituency which, after all is half of Conwy county, Ruthin will form another unnatural constituency which will be chiefly in Flintshire. The Vale of Clwyd towns such as Denbigh, St Asaph, Rhuddlan and Rhyl are Ruthin's geographical and cultural neighbours, as part of Denbighshire. Ruthin's voice has been weakened for years, since it does not sit naturally within a constituency which is coterminous with the local authority.

I am concerned also about the effect of the proposal on the Welsh language and its culture if Ruthin, where half the residents speak Welsh, were to be joined with an area where the percentage of Welsh speakers in the population is considerably lower.

I would also wish to state by heartfelt objection to the proposal to weaken the democratic voice of the people of Wales through the reduction in the number of constituencies and thereby its elected representatives.

BCW-9696 / [REDACTED] / Magor

Our current MP Jessica Morden is so engaged and involved with our community and does so much for the residents it would be a huge shame to lose her and end up with someone with no local relationships. It will be very disappointing and to the detriment of the local people to lose someone who serves us so well if this goes ahead.

BCW – 9697 / [REDACTED] / Caldicot

I am not in favour as I am in Newport east constituency and I always never vote conservative in Monmouthshire they have always over the past 20 yrs have voted conservatives and I feel that Caldicot which is a non conservative area will unfortunately not have a representative that believes in the values of the people they serve and the MP and AM behaviour does not reflect that of their constituents, also as a council as it is a conservative led council does exactly the same they have no consideration of the people they serve and as Caldicot is under that council's regime the freedom of choice to have an MP and AM that has the right views of its constituents is the only thing that this area has to have have people who fight and voice what the people want to say. I feel by doing what you are doing will just entrap the populations right to have the right representation in political circles and you are only giving 1 political party better advantage over the rest and then does not represent they population of Wales true political views

BCW- 9698 [REDACTED] / Rogiet

I would be devastated to lose access to Jessica and being part of Newport East. Monmouthshire will become such a huge area and include very different areas with very different needs. Just because the amount of people living in this area would be balanced, their lifestyles and needs differ incredibly.

BCW-9699 [REDACTED] / Caldicot

I think that becoming part of the Monmouthshire constituency is a wonderful idea.

We're in the county of Monmouthshire. Makes perfect sense.

Cracking on.

BCW-9700 [REDACTED] / Porthcawl

The new constituency area does not reflect local government boundaries or community links.



Comisiwn Ffiniau
i Gymru

Boundary Commission
for Wales

The Commission welcomes correspondence, e-mails and telephone calls either in English or Welsh.

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