



Comisiwn Ffiniau
i Gymru

Boundary Commission
for Wales

Boundary Commission
for Wales

Revised Proposals Consultation: Representations

Volume 14: 10831 - 10853

BCW-10831 / Cllr Paxton Hood-Williams / Swansea

I am fully supportive of the proposed boundary changes re the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency.

As I have previously commented, residents of both Three Crosses and Upper Killay naturally use both social and retail facilities in Killay, and travel through Killay, Dunvant and Gowerton to access areas further away. It is obvious by their names, that Killay and Upper Killay are effectively an entity. Also, the local Police and Community Together (Pact) meeting covers the area of Three Crosses, Upper Killay and Dunvant as they form a coherent area. Moreover, the current PCSO organisation is established to cover the same area.

On a wider scale, the organisation of local policing recognises the sociological structure of the area, in that the supervising South Wales Police sergeant, covers Gower, Killay and Dunvant as well as the Sketty, Mumbles and West Cross areas.

I am also very pleased to see that the name of the constituency is to be Gower and Swansea West.

BCW-10832 / [REDACTED] / Cardiff

I wish to object to the revised proposal to remove Cathays from Cardiff Central in creating Cardiff East and instead put it into Cardiff South. This makes little sense given the longstanding links between the Cardiff Central Wards which include their location, their proximity, overlapping secondary school and GP catchment areas, and the large student populations that span Plasnewydd and Cathays in particular. Also it is fairly easy to move between the current Cardiff Central Wards by foot/ bike/ bus (sustainable travel) reinforcing the community links. I was born in Cardiff and have lived/ worked in all of the current Cardiff Central Wards over a 52 year period and so can attest to the strength of community feeling and identity. I am unable to identify any strong link between Cathays and Cardiff South. Regrettably it seems to be a number balancing exercise with little thought as to the impact upon community spirit and identification. I hope the Commission will reconsider. Thank you

BCW-10833 / [REDACTED] / Bangor

Hello,

Please find attached in Word .doc format my supportive opinion on the proposal for a "Bangor Aberconwy" constituency, in addition to my less positive thoughts on the revised proposals for the rest of Wales.

Any improvement to the latter at the final proposal stage would be most welcome, as long as it does not affect the sensible proposed seats for this corner of the country.

I once more wish to thank the Commission for its time and efforts throughout this process.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

1. Reference to original submission

I thank the Commission for publishing my previous comment #10055 and for showing it due consideration.

2. Personal Circumstances Update

Since the initial consultation period, I have moved back to Wales and am now once again living in Bangor, this time not for the purposes of study but simply as the place where I have chosen to set up residence.

3. Backing for Local Arrangement

I am in favour of linking the Bangor area, for the purposes of parliamentary elections, with the Conwy Borough Council local authority. I would have called it 'Bangor and Llandudno' after its two principal settlements rather than 'Bangor Aberconwy' but I do not wish to query the actual boundaries at this stage, so I do not want to make too much of a fuss based solely on the name.

There are good transport links along the North Wales coast thanks to the A55 dual carriageway and the main railway line, as well as down to Betws-y-Coed via the A5 road. Furthermore, many temporary residents here in Bangor are more likely to look back towards the east as opposed to the west or south of the city.

Personally, since returning to Bangor long term I have only taken the bus in a westerly direction once, whereas I have taken the train to Llandudno, Conwy and Llandudno Junction and been driven to Colwyn Bay and Abergele.

I have not been to Anglesey since 2016, and in any case, the governing legislation for this Review does not permit Bangor to be linked with the island. At the time of writing, one of the bridges over the Menai Strait is also closed.

Between now and the next Review of boundaries I would expect to visit the aforementioned places more often than Caernarfon or the Llŷn Peninsula. Indeed, I am yet to set foot in the latter despite an on-and-off association with North West Wales stretching back as far as the summer of 2008.

4. Opinion on Revised Proposals for the Remainder of Wales

Whilst I could hardly have expected the Commission to adopt my proposal in full and unaltered, especially as there are many valid but imperfect ward combinations in certain areas (such as, in particular, the various possibilities for the Newport-Caerphilly-Cardiff-RCT stretch of local authorities) I would have hoped that the senior Commissioners would have taken the best parts of the all-Wales plans from other commenters and the Assistant Commissioners in order to produce a more coherent and sensible wholesale map by this point.

Although I appreciate the difficult constraints of the legal requirements since the last adopted Review, and that a drop of 39 seats to 31 for mainland Wales means there will be more disruption to existing constituencies than in any other part of the UK, I am nonetheless disappointed in the latest official efforts and can only now ask politely for more common sense at this late final stage.

I am not going to go through all the underwhelming proposed arrangements for North East Wales, Mid & West Wales or South Wales individually, but I would just like to plead that no proposed constituency be only a few metres away from lacking in contiguousness entirely.

5. Impact on Next Senedd Election

It does not appear that the Parliamentary Constituencies Act currently in force imposes a duty on the Commission to consider the knock-on effects of their proposal to the following Ordinary General Election to the Welsh Parliament, not due until the spring of 2026.

However, I believe it is important for Commissioners to keep these potential consequences in mind. There is currently a proposal by the Welsh Government to adopt a new electoral system.

If this proposal is adopted: Then Wales will be divided into 16 multi-member constituencies solely for the purposes of Senedd elections. This will initially be achieved by combining two neighbouring House of Commons constituencies across Wales. There would be a Senedd-only Review of boundaries in time for the following election, currently set for May of 2031. In the meantime, the Commission should be aware during its deliberations of the need to make such pairings cohesive.

If this proposal is NOT adopted: In such an instance, it is probable the present system will be maintained by default. This involves a coterminous link between the boundaries used for elections to the UK Parliament and for the simple plurality element of elections to the Welsh Parliament. The present Senedd boundaries were first used for the 2007 election to the then-Assembly and as such are already out of date, so I consider it likely that the Westminster boundaries based on newer electorate data will be adopted for the single-member constituency portion of the next Senedd election. The Commission therefore ought to be conscious of this additional responsibility when drawing up the proposed seats under this Review.

BCW-10834 / [REDACTED] / Pontardawe

I cannot comprehend why Pontardawe has been moved to the Brecon ward. Geographically the area is miles away, and the constituents from Neath/Swansea wards are not the same as from Brecon ward. Brecon is completely rural and our concerns will not be fought for as we are nearer the city and will not have the same concerns. I don't understand how both constituents needs will be taken into consideration fairly.

I think people are very unaware of these proposed changes and have had very little time to file a response.

I really hope this decision is reversed as the people of Pontardawe are being let down and will not have their voices heard fairly.

Dear Commission,

I appreciate your improvements and believe that these recommendations are more sensible than the previous ones. But I believe that further improvements are possible.

I welcome reuniting Penrhosgarnedd with the rest of Bangor. I also get the impression that the new recommendations tend to place similar areas together in the same constituency, for example the "Clwyd North" constituency places coastal, more urban areas together. This is an improvement.

But I believe there are still problems that can be solved.

Firstly, it is unfortunate that Bangor and Caernarfon are still separated. I appreciate that the commission is reluctant to consider keeping them together since this would require changes in other areas. But I strongly believe that it is possible to retain the natural constituency of Arfon, extended, without creating unnatural constituencies in other areas. The commission has indicated that the extended Arfon constituency would have to include the town of Conwy and that this would divide the Conwy community. But Conwy ward could be placed with a coastal constituency to the east, and Arfon extended only as far as Dwygyfylchi and Capelulo (and to the south, Arfon would need to include Penrhyndeudraeth in order to fulfil the quota). This would avoid dividing the Conwy community and enable the creation of a coastal Conwy and Colwyn Bay constituency, which is natural, and keep Bangor, Bethesda, and Caernarfon together. It would also create a rural Merionnydd, Vale of Clwyd and Vale of Conwy constituency.

Secondly, if the commission is unwilling to create constituencies as described above, it is still possible to solve the problem of separating Rhyl and Prestatyn. The "Clwyd East" constituency as proposed by the commission is unnatural and unfortunately looks like a combination of different areas that fail to fit into neighbouring constituencies. The Clwyd mountains divide the constituency into two halves. I agree that it is sensible to place Flint with Alyn and Deeside, but it is not sensible to place Mold with Ruthin. It would be better, in my opinion, to place Mold with Rhyl and Prestatyn, as that would enable the towns to be kept in one constituency and Mold would be in a constituency without mountains in the middle. Removing Rhyl from the "Clwyd North" constituency would make it necessary to expand that constituency, which could be done by extending it westwards. A coastal constituency could be created between Conwy (or as far as Llanfairfechan, should this appear to be a better option) and Kinmel Bay. Southern Denbighshire could then be part of a rural, agricultural constituency based on the Vale of Clwyd, the Vale of Conwy, and the Ogwen Valley. Corwen and Llangollen do not need to be part of the Montgomeryshire constituency; they could be part of a constituency that includes an extensive area of Denbighshire.

I believe that creating a coastal Conwy constituency, a coastal Denbighshire and western Flintshire constituency, and a constituency composed of inland Conwy,

inland Denbighshire, the Ogwen Valley and Bangor, would make a lot of sense and keep similar areas together in constituencies of a more uniform nature. I believe that transport would be convenient enough with the A55 linking the coastal constituencies and the A5 connecting the inland constituencies. The T10 bus service also connects areas from Bangor to Corwen.

Lastly, I beg the commission not to create a constituency that includes Caernarfon and call it "Dwyfor Meirionnydd". It is clear that "Dwyfor" and "Meirionnydd" refer to two specific areas, and neither of these includes Caernarfon or any location in the Caernarfon area. Placing the village of Rhiwlas in a constituency called "Dwyfor Meirionnydd" would be a very unfortunate situation and residents may not identify with a constituency that does not include them in its name. The Dwyfor area is located many miles from Rhiwlas. I note that the commission has agreed to use the name "Bangor Aberconwy" for that constituency for similar reasons and it is a substantial improvement on the name "Aberconwy". The commission has received a number of suggestions regarding constituency names that include Dwyfor, Meirionnydd and the Caernarfon area, and the commission should consider those proposals rather than choose a poor option. The commission should consider names such as "Gwynedd", "De a Gorllewin Gwynedd", and "Meirion, Dwyfor a Chaernarfon". It is quite possible that residents would refer to the constituency as "Gwynedd" regardless of its official name, and it would be sensible to avoid any misunderstandings by choosing a suitable name in the first place.

Thank you for considering my comments, and I ask you to look at the attachments containing alternative maps illustrating my suggestions. They include a number of different options for the coastal Conwy constituency; the northern Denbighshire and western Flintshire constituency, and the inland Denbighshire, inland Conwy, and Bangor constituency. It also includes an option for keeping Bangor and Caernarfon together.

Plan Builder | New | Open | Save | Export | Settings | Tools

WalesPlan1

Seats: 31

Electorate: 2270262

Quota: 73234

Minimum: 69724

Maximum: 77062

Unassigned Avg: 73076

Assigned Avg: 73775

Unassigned: 1753834

1	Wales 001	70566	Yes
2	Wales 002	69803	Yes
3	Wales 003	76533	Yes
4	Wales 004	75695	Yes
5	Wales 005	77013	Yes
6	Wales 006	75854	Yes
7	Wales 007	70964	Yes
8	Wales 008	0	-69724
9	Wales 009	0	-69724
10	Wales 010	0	-69724
11	Wales 011	0	-69724
12	Wales 012	0	-69724
13	Wales 013	0	-69724
14	Wales 014	0	-69724
15	Wales 015	0	-69724

Ceredigion / Ceulanamaesmawr
Electorate: 1551

Active Ward

Name: Gerlan 1696

Local Auth: Gwynedd 87241 (1.19 Quotas)

Current Const: Arfon 42657

Active Plan Consistency

Name: Wales 001

Electorate: 70566

Up to 842 may be removed.
Up to 6496 may be added.

Colour:

Opacity: 0.75

W05000148	Uwch Conwy	1276
W05000113	Betws-y-Coed	967
W05000116	Caerhun	1677
W05000121	Cnwt	1581
W05000123	Eglwysbach	1257
W05000128	Gower	850
W05000146	Trefriw	1026
W05000132	Llangernyw	1104
W05000149	Uwchaled	1139
W05000163	Llanhaearn-yn-n...	1496

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WalesPlan1

Seats: 31

Electorate: 2270262

Quota: 73234

Minimum: 69724

Maximum: 77062

Unassigned Avg: 73076

Assigned Avg: 73775

Unassigned: 1753834

1	Wales 001	76870	Yes
2	Wales 002	69803	Yes
3	Wales 003	70229	Yes
4	Wales 004	75695	Yes
5	Wales 005	77013	Yes
6	Wales 006	75854	Yes
7	Wales 007	70964	Yes
8	Wales 008	0	-69724
9	Wales 009	0	-69724
10	Wales 010	0	-69724
11	Wales 011	0	-69724
12	Wales 012	0	-69724
13	Wales 013	0	-69724
14	Wales 014	0	-69724
15	Wales 015	0	-69724

Gwynedd / Llanengan
Electorate: 847

Active Ward

Name: Llansanffraid 1814

Local Auth: Conwy 90528 (1.24 Quotas)

Current Const: Aberconwy 44852

Active Plan Consistency

Name: Wales 003

Electorate: 70229

Up to 505 may be removed.
Up to 6833 may be added.

Colour:

Opacity: 0.75

W05000126	Glyn	3088
W05000112	Abergele Pensarn	1959
W05000118	Colwyn	3373
W05000143	Pentre Mawr	2861
W05000145	Towyn	1845
W05000124	Eirias	2800
W05000129	Kinmel Bay	4607
W05000130	Llanddulas	1353
W05000135	Llysfaen	1906
W05000144	Rhiw	4991

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WalesPlan1

Seats: 31

Electorate: 2270262

Quota: 73234

Minimum: 69724

Maximum: 77062

Unassigned Avg: 73076

Assigned Avg: 73775

- Unassigned 1753834
- 1 Wales 001 72380 Yes
- 2 Wales 002 69803 Yes
- 3 Wales 003 74719 Yes
- 4 Wales 004 75695 Yes
- 5 Wales 005 77013 Yes
- 6 Wales 006 75854 Yes
- 7 Wales 007 70964 Yes
- 8 Wales 008 0 -69724
- 9 Wales 009 0 -69724
- 10 Wales 010 0 -69724
- 11 Wales 011 0 -69724
- 12 Wales 012 0 -69724
- 13 Wales 013 0 -69724
- 14 Wales 014 0 -69724
- 15 Wales 015 0 -69724

Active Ward

Name: Llanisafraid 1814

Local Auth: Conwy 90528 (1.24 Quotas)

Current Const: Aberconwy 44852

Active Plan Consistency

Name: Wales 001

Electorate: 72380

Up to 2656 may be removed.
Up to 4682 may be added.

Colour:

Opacity: 0.75

W05000148	Uwch Conwy	1276
W05000113	Betws-y-Coed	967
W05000116	Caerhun	1677
W05000121	Crwst	1581
W05000123	Egwyssbach	1257
W05000128	Gower	850
W05000146	Trefriw	1026
W05000132	Llangernyw	1104
W05000149	Uwchaled	1139
W05000163	Llanfhaedr-vn-	1496

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WalesPlan1

Seats: 31

Electorate: 2270262

Quota: 73234

Minimum: 69724

Maximum: 77062

Unassigned Avg: 73076

Assigned Avg: 73775

- Unassigned 1753834
- 1 Wales 001 70850 Yes
- 2 Wales 002 77013 Yes
- 3 Wales 003 75702 Yes
- 4 Wales 004 75695 Yes
- 5 Wales 005 70964 Yes
- 6 Wales 006 75854 Yes
- 7 Wales 007 70350 Yes
- 8 Wales 008 0 -69724
- 9 Wales 009 0 -69724
- 10 Wales 010 0 -69724
- 11 Wales 011 0 -69724
- 12 Wales 012 0 -69724
- 13 Wales 013 0 -69724
- 14 Wales 014 0 -69724
- 15 Wales 015 0 -69724

Active Ward

Name: Llanisafraid 1814

Local Auth: Conwy 90528 (1.24 Quotas)

Current Const: Aberconwy 44852

Active Plan Consistency

Name: Wales 007

Electorate: 70350

Up to 626 may be removed.
Up to 6712 may be added.

Colour:

Opacity: 0.75

W05000151	Corwen	1799
W05000152	Denbigh Central	1462
W05000153	Denbigh Lower	3483
W05000154	Denbigh Upper / Henllan	2265
W05000156	Efenechtyd	1321
W05000157	Llanarmon-yn-Iâl / Llandegla	2033
W05000158	Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd / Llangynhafal	1170
W05000159	Llandrillo	931

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BCW-10836 / [REDACTED] / Pontardawe

Pontardawe has close ties and good transport links to both Neath and Swansea so should remain linked to one of those constituencies - given that Neath Port Talbot is the local authority, Neath makes most sense.

BCW-10837 / [REDACTED] / Monmouthshire

Dear Shereen,

I would like to reiterate the views of all Conservative councillors in Monmouthshire County Council in this consultation on the revised proposals for parliamentary boundaries.

We wholly support the proposals for a Monmouthshire constituency on the basis that it best meets the criteria set out in Rule 5, schedule 2. Aligning the local authority and constituency boundaries will improve public understanding, accountability and governance in the area.

Please accept this response on behalf of the entire Conservative Group at Monmouthshire County Council encouraging you to support the revised proposals for the Monmouthshire constituency.

Thank you in advance for the enormous work you and your colleagues have undertaken in this review.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

County Councillor for Mitchel Troy and Trellech United

Conservative Group Leader

Monmouthshire County Council

BCW-10838 / [REDACTED] / Cardiff

As a resident of Cardiff Central for over 30 years, writing in a personal capacity, I wish to object to your recent revised proposal to move the Cathays ward into the Cardiff South and Penarth constituency.

It is my understanding that the communities of Cathays and Plasnewydd have been joined in one constituency, in terms of parliamentary boundaries, for the past 70 years, and I know that, together with other wards such as Penylan and Adamsdown, they share many community ties.

To take just a few examples of these links:

a great number of the student population of Cardiff's universities live in Cathays and Plasnewydd.

The catchment area for Cathays High School includes Cathays and Plasnewydd.

There are strong links between the two areas in terms of public transport and travel routes.

Cardiff Council has made planning rules specifically to cover the two wards, and chose to pilot the introduction of 20mph speed limits initially in these two areas of the city.

I hope that in the light of these and other strong community connections, and taking into account the impact that changes in constituencies may have on these ties, you will reconsider your recent proposal in this respect.

With best wishes

[REDACTED]

Jenny Rathbone

Aelod o'r Senedd dros Canol Caerdydd

Member of the Senedd for Cardiff Central

Senedd Cymru

Welsh Parliament

Boundary Commission for Wales

By email

15th November 2022

Re revised Boundary Commission proposals affecting Cathays ward

I oppose the proposal to move the ward of Cathays into Cardiff South and Penarth.

I. The ward of Cathays is intrinsically linked to the other wards in the wider community of Roath; namely Penylan, Plasnewydd, and Adamsdown.

I ask the Commission to revert to the original proposal where the ward of Cathays is in Cardiff Central / Cardiff East, leaving the ward of Trowbridge in Cardiff South and Penarth.

This proposal meets the Commission's Rule 5 and involves only two wards moving from their existing constituencies, as opposed to the four that are moved in the revised proposals.

The boundaries of the Cathays ward have the natural barriers provided by the River Taff and the Swansea-London railway line. These provide clear dividing lines from both Cardiff South and Cardiff West.

All previous Boundary Commissions have recognised the close links between Cathays, Plasnewydd and Penylan and have ensured that those areas have been within the same Parliamentary seat for more than sixty years. Indeed the Commission in its previous aborted reviews since 2010 have never looked to separate Cathays and Plasnewydd.

The proposal to move Cathays into Cardiff South also has knock-on effects to the neighbouring ward of Adamsdown. Adamsdown would be sandwiched between two proposed Cardiff South & Penarth wards between Cathays and Splott in creates an unnatural cleavage in the constituency where splits is located. This could only cause confusion to anyone trying to understand where constituency boundaries lie.

Cathays has no community links with the wards in Cardiff South and Penarth. Residents rely on public services like primary care and schools that are in Cathays, Plasnewydd, Penylan, Cyncoed or Gabalfa, none of which are in Cardiff South. The secondary school catchment area for Cathays High School includes Cathays, Adamsdown, Penylan and Plasnewydd. The children attending primary schools in Cathays and Plasnewydd go on to attend Cathays High School, Bro Edern (situated in Penylan) or St Teilo's CiWales School in Pentwyn ward. General



Practitioners' surgery catchment areas also cross the boundaries of Cathays, Adamsdown, Penylan and Plasnewydd and share common concerns and demographics.

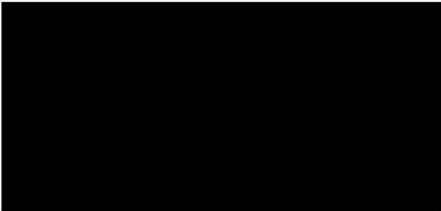
Cardiff University features prominently in the constituency. It has faculty buildings in Cathays and Plasnewydd and student accommodation is spread across Cathays, Plasnewydd and Penylan.

Cardiff Council considers the wards of Cathays and Plasnewydd so intertwined that planning rules have been passed solely to cover HMOs and letting agents' boards in those two wards (<https://www.landlordzone.co.uk/news/cardiff-to-vote-through-extension-to-large-student-area-hmo-licensing-scheme/>)

Cathays, Plasnewydd, Adamsdown Penylan and parts of Cyncoed consider themselves part of the Roath community centred around the ton centre shopping area of Albany Rd and City Rd.

I appreciate you have a difficult job creating 4 roughly equal sized constituencies but I would ask you to revisit the revised proposal.

Yours sincerely,



BCW-10840 / [REDACTED] / Pontardawe

The position of Pontardawe in relation to boundary proposals.

It is of great concern to me and the local community that Pontardawe in the Swansea Valley, which in many respects is traditionally, a dormitory town of Swansea and only a mile or so from the boundary of the City and County of Swansea, that Pontardawe should be included in a proposed 'super constituency with no real relationship with the rural communities of Brecon and Radnor. To use an arbitrary population denominator as a reason for realignment seems unfair to the population both in Pontardawe and Brecon and Radnor. Would it not be more desirable for Pontardawe to be included in the proposed Swansea Central and North Constituency.

I also notice that the changes affecting Swansea are not consistent with Newport and Cardiff namely. Should it be - Swansea East and Neath and Swansea West and Gower which would be consistent with the renaming of, I am led to believe, is Newport West and Islwyn and Cardiff South and Penarth.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

BCW-10841 / [REDACTED] Aber Valley Community Council / Caerphilly

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of Aber Valley Community Council, we would like to thank you for listening to public opinion and for your revised counter proposal.

Regards

[REDACTED]

BCW-10842 / [REDACTED] / Cardiff

I have lived in the constituency of Cardiff Central for the past 40 years. Originally I lived in Cathays and since moved to Cyncoed.

I am writing following the publication of the revised proposals from the Boundary Commission for Wales on Wednesday 19th November.

I write with regard to the proposal to move the ward of Cathays into Cardiff South and Penarth.

I oppose this move. The ward of Cathays is intrinsically linked to the remaining wards in the wider community of Roath; namely Penylan, Plasnewydd, Cyncoed and Adamsdown.

The Commission should return to the original proposal whereby the ward of Cathays is in Cardiff Central / Cardiff East and the ward of Trowbridge is in Cardiff South and Penarth.

This proposal meets the Commission's Rule 5 and involves only two wards moving from their existing constituencies, opposed to the four that are moved in the revised proposals.

All previous Boundary Commissions have recognised the close links between Cathays, Plasnewydd and Penylan and have ensured that those areas have been within the same Parliamentary seat for more than sixty years. Indeed the Commission in its previous aborted reviews since 2010 have never looked to separate Cathays and Plasnewydd.

The Commission received one submission (from a resident based in Altrincham) suggesting this change.

The Commission received dozens of responses (from residents of Cardiff) backing the keeping of Cathays, Plasnewydd, Penylan and Adamsdown within the wider Roath community in the same constituency.

I accept that Trowbridge is a ward with no direct road access to Splott. However the Commission proposed exactly the same situation within its revised proposal for Rhondda. Splott and Trowbridge bring with them decades of history as part of the same constituency unlike the proposed solution in the new Rhondda seat.

Moving the Cathays ward into Cardiff South and Penarth has not been mentioned as an option during the previous proposals and consultation processes. To present it as a 'fait accompli' at the last stage seems disingenuous, and not in the spirit of the statement made by the Secretary to the Commission, Shereen Williams, at the beginning of the process. "We're determined to develop the best possible proposals for Wales' new constituencies, and we know that we can only do that by having the greatest public involvement we've ever had." "Accessibility is at the heart of what we're trying to achieve. Everyone in Wales has a

valuable voice to add to the discussion about Wales' boundary changes, and we want to make sure everyone can express their views."

Cathays has no community links with the wards in Cardiff South and Penarth. To position it within the same constituency as Dinas Powys and Sully is frankly absurd and will not be easily understood by the electorate. However, Cathays, Plasnewydd, Penylan and Adamsdown have many community ties:

Overwhelmingly the student population from Cardiff University, Cardiff Metropolitan University and the Cardiff campus of the University of South Wales live in Cathays and Plasnewydd. Cardiff University buildings span Cathays, Plasnewydd and Penylan, with halls of residence in close proximity in Cathays and Plasnewydd.

Many thanks for your consideration of these issues.



BCW-10843 / Cllr Lyndon Jones / Swansea

Dear Sir/s,

I fully support the proposal to retain the composition of the Gower and Swansea West constituency as mentioned in your initial proposals and also support Gower coming first in the constituency name, as I proposed at the Boundary Commission Hearing held in Swansea, which I note is something that the Gower Society also support.

Yours faithfully,

Lyndon Jones

CLLR. LYNDON JONES MBE

Leader of the Conservative Group

City & County of Swansea Council

BCW-10844 / [REDACTED] / Blackwood

I would like to voice my concerns about the proposed boundary changes for the Islwyn constituency. Islwyn has been a parliamentary constituency for nearly 40 years with a real constituency identity. It covers much of Caerphilly County Borough including the towns of Blackwood, Newbridge, Abercarn and Risca.

However, under the recently revised proposals, the constituency would cease to exist and the majority of it would be submerged into a larger Newport West seat.

The original proposals of September 2021 to revise Gwent's electoral map would have seen Islwyn survive and be combined with four wards in the Caerphilly area. The addition of Ystrad Mynach, St Cattwg, Llanbradach and Hengoed to Islwyn would be fitting, given the shared communities within the area. Hengoed and Maesycwmmmer are linked by the viaduct flowing into Ystrad Mynach and Llanbradach, while St Cattwgs borders Pengarn. These communities are therefore a natural addition to the constituency.

Instead, the adopted counter proposal would amend the proposed Newport West and Caerphilly constituency.

Pontllanfraith, Cefn Forest, Maesycwmmmer and Pengarn would be taken from Islwyn, creating a Caerphilly seat and a so-called Newport West and Islwyn seat would be created from the rump of the existing constituency.

To divide Newbridge from Blackwood and Pontllanfraith makes no sense. The area of Pontllanfraith, Newbridge and Blackwood are inextricably connected with shared families and communities. No Islwyn Primary school feeds into secondary schools outside the constituency. The catchment area for the new Islwyn High based in Oakdale includes schools from Pontllanfraith. In transport terms, there is no train link between Islwyn and Newport.

As a concerned resident of Islwyn, I oppose these new proposals and I oppose the decision to remove Islwyn as a constituency. I do not wish my resident town to be absorbed into Newport West. I do not feel that there are enough important local, historic or cultural ties with Newport West to warrant the loss of the Islwyn constituency.

BCW-10845 / [REDACTED] Returning Officer for Carmarthenshire / Carmarthen

Good afternoon,

Please find attached letter in response to your letter dated 18th October 2022.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]



Eich cyf / Your ref:

Gofynner am / Please ask for:

Fy nghyf / My ref:

Llinell Uniongyrchol / Direct Line:

Dyddiad / Date: 15.11.2022

E-bost / E-mail:

Ty Hastings / Hastings House
Llys Ffitalan / Fitzalan Court
Caerdydd / Cardiff
CF24 0BL

Annwyl / Dear Ms. Shereen Williams,

**AROLWG 2023 O ETHOLAETHAU
SENEDDOL YNG NGHYMURU –
CYNIGION DIWYGIEDIG**

Fel Swyddog Cofrestru Etholiadol/Swyddog Canlyniadau ar gyfer Cyngor Sir Caerfyrddin, hoffwn gynnig y sylwadau canlynol o ran Adolygiad o Etholaethau Seneddol yng Nghymru 2023.

Er fy mod yn derbyn bod trothwy etholwyr y Comisiwn Ffiniau yn golygu nad yw cynnal y sefyllfa bresennol yn opsiwn, rwy'n falch o weld eich bod wedi ailystyried lleoli Ward Etholiadol Llangynnwr a'i chadw yn etholaeth newydd Caerfyrddin.

Felly, o ran yr argymhellion ynghylch Sir Gaerfyrddin, rwyf wedi ystyried y cynigion a gyflwynwyd gan y Comisiwn ac rwy'n eu cefnogi.

**THE 2023 REVIEW OF
PARLIMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES IN
WALES - REVISED PROPOSALS**

As Electoral Registration Officer/Returning Officer for Carmarthenshire County Council, I would like to offer the following comments with regards the 2023 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales.

Whilst I accept that the Boundary Commission's electorate threshold means that maintaining the status quo is not an option, I am pleased to see that you have re-considered the positioning of the Electoral Ward of Llangunnor and retained this in the new Carmarthen Constituency.

Hence with regards Carmarthenshire's proposals, I have considered and support the proposals put forward by the Commission.

Yn awir / Yours sincerely

Wendy Walters
Returning Officer

Wendy Walters

Tŷ Hastings
Llys Ffitalan
Caerdydd
CF24 0BL



Hastings House
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18 October 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

THE 2023 REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES IN WALES – REVISED PROPOSALS

Please find enclosed 2 copies of the Commission's report containing revised proposals for changes to Parliamentary constituencies in Wales, also enclosed is 2 copies of the Assistant Commissioners report. Enclosed separately are A0 maps of the revised proposals which will concern your Authority for your information. This report is to be published on 19 October 2022 and until that time a press embargo is in operation. The Commission ask that you respect this embargo.

Representations about the revised proposals should be made within 4 weeks of publication on 19 October 2022. As revised proposals are on an all-Wales basis, the Commission ask that all representations make it clear which area or areas they concern. All representations received by the Commission will be acknowledged. The representation period will end on 15 November 2022.

I also enclose 3 copies of both reports and any relevant A0 maps for deposit and I would be grateful if you would make these available for inspection by the public from 19 October 2022 until further notice at the following address:

Customer Service Centre, Unit A, St Catherine's Walk, Carmarthen, SA31 1GA
Electoral Services, Block 4, Parc Myrddin, Richmond Terrace, Carmarthen, SA31 1HQ
Llanelli Library, Llanelli SA15 3AS

Further copies of this report are available by accessing the Commission's web site at www.bcomm-wales.gov.uk

Yours sincerely


Shereen Williams
Secretary

Tŷ Hastings
Llys Ffitalan
Caerdydd
CF24 0BL

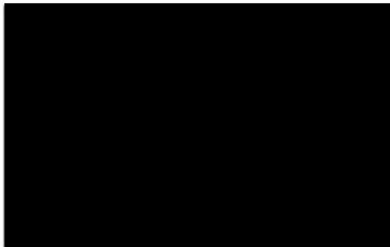


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www.bcomm-wales.gov.uk



18 Hydref 2022

Annwyl 

AROLWG 2023 O ETHOLAETHAU SENEDDOL YNG NGHYMRO – CYNIGION DIWYGIEDIG

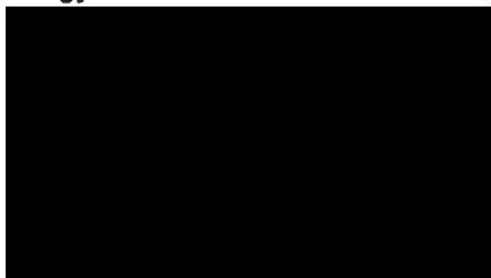
Amgaeir gopi 2 adroddiad y Comisiwn yn cynnwys cynigion diwygiedig am newidiadau i etholaethau seneddol yng Nghymru, hefyd amgaeir 2 copi o adroddiad y Comisiynwyr Cynorthwyol. Ar wahân, danfonir fapiau A0 sy'n dangos cynigion diwygiedig y Comisiwn a fydd yn effeithio ar eich Cyngor am eich wybodaeth. Cyhoeddir yr adroddiad ar 19 Hydref 2022 a than hynny ni chaniateir sôn am yr adroddiad yn y wasg. Gofynna'r Comisiwn i chi barchu'r embargo hwn.

Dylid cyflwyno sylwadau am y cynigion diwygiedig o fewn 4 wythnos ar ôl y cyhoeddiad ar 19 Hydref 2022. Gan fod y cynigion diwygiedig wedi'u cyhoeddi ar gyfer pob ardal o Gymru ar yr un pryd, gofynna'r Comisiwn i chi nodi'n glir pa ardal/ardaloedd y mae'r sylwadau yn cyfeirio ati/atynt. Bydd y Comisiwn yn cydnabod yr holl sylwadau y bydd yn eu derbyn. Daw'r cyfnod ar gyfer sylwadau i ben ar 15 Tachwedd 2022.

Amgaeaf, hefyd, 3 copi o'r ddau adroddiad a'r mapiau A0 perthnasol i'w hadneuo a byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe baech yn sicrhau eu bod ar gael i'w harchwilio gan y cyhoedd o 19 Hydref 2022, nes y clywir yn wahanol, yn y cyfeiriad canlynol:

Canolfan Gwasanaethau Cwsmeriaid Caerfyrddin, Unit A, St Catherine's Walk Caerfyrddin, SA31 1GA
Gwasanaethau Etholiadol, Bloc 4, Parc Myrddin, Waun Dew, Caerfyrddin SA31 1HQ
Llyfrgell Llanelli, Llanelli SA15 3AS

Gellir cael rhagor o gopiau o'r adroddiad ar wefan y Comisiwn yn www.comffin-cymru.gov.uk.
Yn gywir



Shereen Williams
Ysgrifennydd

Mae'r Comisiwn yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg
The Commission welcomes correspondence in English or Welsh

BCW-10846 / [REDACTED] Wrexham County Borough Council's Independent Group / Wrexham

Good evening

Please find attached a letter from Wrexham County Borough Council's Independent Group, regarding the above.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Cynghorydd / Councillor [REDACTED]

Arweinydd y Cyngor/Leader of the Council
Y Cyngorydd/Councillor [REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

Via email

Boundary Commission for Wales
(bcw@boundaries.wales)

Eich Cyf/Your Ref
Ein Cyf/Our Ref
Dyddiad/Date
Gofynner am/Ask for
[REDACTED]

MP
15 November 2022
[REDACTED]

Dear Sir/Madam

Parliamentary Boundary Commission Review

The Members of Wrexham County Borough Council's Independent Group strongly object to the proposed boundary changes which would see electoral wards such as Esclusham, Pant, Ponciau, Rhos and Johnstown move into Montgomeryshire and Glyndwr.

Independent Group Members agree that the above wards should remain part of Wrexham and not be pushed into a Montgomeryshire/Glyndwr constituency.

These wards have extremely close ties to Wrexham, historically and culturally, its workings, its events and people.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

Councillor [REDACTED]
Leader of the Independent Group

BCW-10847 / [REDACTED] Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council / Merthyr Tydfil

Good afternoon,

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council considered the amended proposals for the 2023 Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries at Full Council and within their political groups, and would like to make the following submissions:

1. The name of the Constituency be Merthyr Tydfil and Aberdare / Merthyr Tudful ac Aberdar which was the historical name of the Constituency over 120 years ago; and
2. As per the attached plan:
 - Amend the northern periphery to follow the natural boundaries at the start of both the Taf Fechan and the Taf Fawr valleys which converge to create Merthyr Tydfil. This would then align with what Merthyr Tydfil sees as the true fit for the County Borough where Garw Nant and the Brecon Mountain Railway are part of Merthyr Tydfil rather than Powys; and
 - Amend the western boundary to follow the line of the A4059 to where it meets the A470; rather than cutting off at the last 1.8 miles of the A4059

Regards

[REDACTED]

Gwasanaethau Democrataidd / Democratic Services



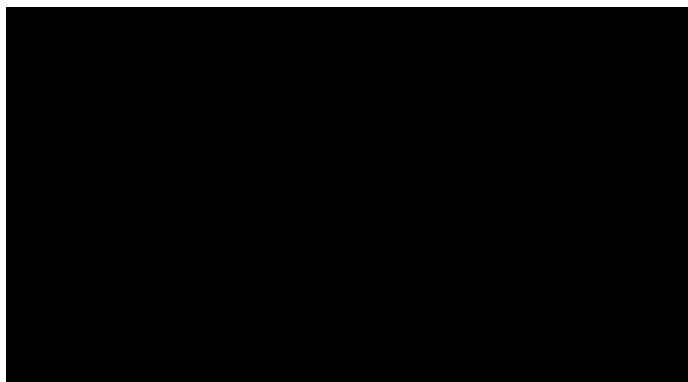
Boundary Commission for Wales
Hastings House
Fitzalan Court
Cardiff
CF24 0BL


14.11.22

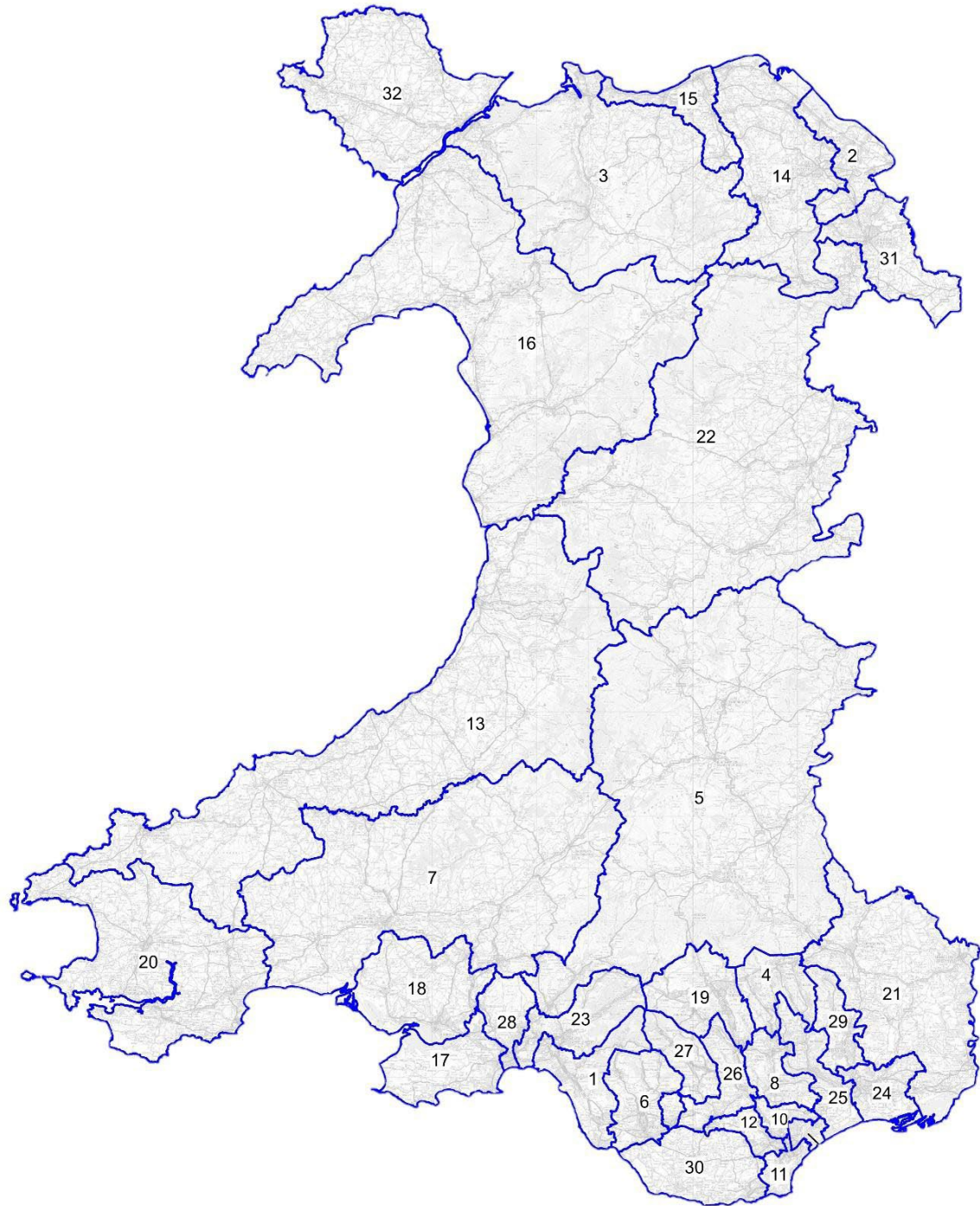
To whom it may concern,

We have much pleasure in enclosing the response of the Welsh Conservative Party to your revised proposals, which we support in full.

Yours faithfully,



 Chairman of the Welsh Conservative Party



**Response of the Welsh Conservative Party to the Revised Proposals
for Parliamentary Boundaries in Wales**

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 We note that the Boundary Commission for Wales has made considerable alterations to the initial proposals, changing the composition of 22 of the constituencies and proposing 9 name changes.

1.2 We also note that they have rejected many of the recommendations of the Assistant Commissioners, who proposed changing the composition of 26 of the constituencies.

1.3 We believe that the Commission have listened to the representations and have made changes which reflect these to the best of their ability.

1.4 Although we do not support all the recommendations, we accept that our arguments might have led to difficulty in the surrounding constituencies.

1.5 We therefore accept in full the revised proposals and hope the Commission will confirm them as their final proposals in due course.

1.6 We will look at the 5 areas we used during our submissions and comment on the proposed changes. We will first say why we believe the Commission is absolutely right to reject the report of the Assistant Commissioners in the majority of the constituencies.

2 ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS REPORT

2.1 We believe the Commission is correct to reject the proposals of the Assistant Commissioners in 20 of the 32 proposed constituencies.

2.2 As the Assistant Commissioners rightly say in paragraph 9 of the report, “It is entirely for the Commissioners to decide whether such changes should be adopted”.

2.3 We believe the Assistant Commissioners have sought to draw up a new map which neither reflects the initial proposals or the current map of existing constituencies.

2.4 We have sought throughout this process to apply the Rules for redistribution of seats, in particular Rule 5 Schedule 2 which specifies a number of factors the Commission may take into account:

- a) Special Geographical Considerations
- b) Local Government Boundaries
- c) Existing Constituencies
- d) Local Ties
- e) Inconveniences

2.5 We believe in terms of Rule 5 (1) c and d the Assistant Commissioners recommendations are considerably worse than both the initial and the revised recommendations.

2.6 The measure of existing constituencies is how many electors are retained in their existing constituencies. Our table below shows the comparison between the revised proposals, the initial proposals, and the Assistant Commissioners’ proposals.

	Initial Proposals	Revised Proposals	Assistant Commissioners' Proposals
Electorate retained in existing constituencies	1584164	1603683	1519443
% of electorate of 2,270,262	69.7%	70.6%	66.9%

2.7 This shows that the Commission's revised proposals improve the position so that 19,519 less electors move constituency.

2.8 Under the Assistant Commissioners' proposals 64,721 more electors would move than under the initial proposals and 84,240 more electors under the revised proposals.

2.9 In addition, under the revised proposals the Commission retain 15 existing constituencies within the same constituency. In 6 of these cases the Assistant Commissioners did not (Aberafon, Aberconwy, Cardiff North, Dwfwr Merionnydd, Montgomeryshire, and Wrexham).

2.10 We believe therefore that the Commission has improved the position under Rule 5 (1) c. The Assistant Commissioners' proposals would have considerably worsened it.

2.11 In respect of local ties Rule 5 (l) d we believe the revised proposals have improved them. For example, by including Bymbo and Minera in Wrexham rather than Alyn and Deeside, Nelson is included with Caerphilly rather than Merthyr Tydfil, Pentir being included with Bangor and Aberaman included with Aberdare.

2.12 We note the Assistant Commissioners' report does deal with a number of these. The consequence of their proposals is to break further ties for example in Wrexham, in Barry and in the Neath Valley.

2.13 One of the strengths of both the initial and the revised proposals is that no communities are split between constituency whereas the Assistant Commissioners would split the communities of Abergele and Laleston.

2.14 We believe the Assistant Commissioners' recommendations worsen the position under Rule 5 (I) d 'Local Ties', whilst the Commission's revised proposals improve the position under Rule 5 (I) d.

2.15 Therefore, we support the revised proposals and totally reject the Assistant Commissioners' report wheresoever they differ from them.

3 SOUTH EAST WALES

3.1 This covers the local authorities of Monmouthshire, Torfaen, Caerphilly, Newport and Blaenau Gwent. They are exactly entitled to 6 constituencies.

3.2 We note that this area represents half the constituencies where the Assistant Commissioners' report and Commission agree. We think there is broad consensus for the proposals in this area.

3.3 We particularly welcome the proposal to include Nelson in this group linked with Ystrad Mynach in its current constituency of Caerphilly. This improves the position in respect of Rule 5 (1) b, c and d.

3.4 We note that 4 constituencies do not change from the initial proposals. Blaenau Gwent and Rhymney, Monmouthshire, Newport East, and Torfaen.

3.5 We note widespread agreement that these Constituencies should be as in the initial proposals. We note the support of the Commission and of the Assistant Commissioners in this. Indeed, this represents 4 of the 6 constituencies where the Assistant Commissioners recommended no change.

3.6 We note that there was more concern about the proposed constituencies of Newport West and Caerphilly and Islwyn.

3.7 Although we supported these apart from the inclusion of Nelson with Islwyn we accept that the decision was fairly balanced, and we therefore support the proposals for Caerphilly and Newport West and Islwyn. We believe the inclusion of the Nelson ward with Caerphilly where it currently sits makes complete sense and justifies this change.

3.8 We therefore support in full the revised proposals for the 6 constituencies in this grouping.

4 MID & SOUTH GLAMORGAN

4.1 This covers the local authorities of Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Cardiff, and the Vale of Glamorgan.

4.2 We note that in the revised proposals this area does not include the Nelson ward. However, we note in the revised proposals it does include 3 wards from the County borough of Bridgend. We support this approach as the least worst and least disruptive option.

4.3 We note this area is entitled to 8 constituencies. We support all the revised proposals in this area. We therefore support the proposed constituencies of Cardiff East, Cardiff North, Cardiff South and Penarth, Cardiff West, Merthyr Tydfil and Upper Cynon, Pontypridd, Rhondda, and Vale of Glamorgan.

4.4 We note that both the Commission and the Assistant Commissioners support the composition of the Merthyr Tydfil and Upper Cynon constituency albeit they propose different names.

4.5 We fully support the composition of this constituency and believe recognising the Cynon Valley in the name Upper Cynon is important.

4.6 We particularly support the exclusion of the Nelson ward and the inclusion of the two Aberaman wards. This reflects the close ties between Aberaman and Aberdare and the constituency is more compliant with Rules 5 (1) b and d.

4.7 We support the revised Pontypridd constituency less the Aberaman wards plus the Llanharan, Llanharry and Brynna wards. This makes for a cohesive constituency and we support it.

- 4.8 We note the changes to the Rhondda constituency which we support. We note that it still includes the whole of the existing Rhondda constituency which means it is compliant with Rule 5 (1) c.
- 4.9 We appreciate that adding to the Rhondda constituency the 3 wards of Penprysg, Hendre and Felindre, making up the community of Pencoed, means a small connection with the Rhondda constituency but we believe it is acceptable.
- 4.10 These three wards within the Bridgend Borough are currently in the Ogmore constituency and are proposed to be joined in the revised proposals to Gilfach Goch which is also in the Ogmore constituency maintaining an existing constituency link.
- 4.11 The advantage of this arrangement is that no community is split and that it enables the whole of Bridgend to be included in the same constituency.
- 4.12 We believe it is the least worst option and that any other arrangement would have been more disruptive. If there was support for the constituency to be named Rhondda and Pencoed we would not object.
- 4.13 We note that the Commission have just altered two wards in Cardiff. This is in order to address the anomaly in the initial proposal that there was no land border between the Splott and Trowbridge wards.
- 4.14 We therefore support the inclusion of the Trowbridge ward in Cardiff East (correctly renamed from Cardiff Central) and the inclusion of the Cathays ward in Cardiff South and Penarth.
- 4.15 We note that the Commission make no changes to the Cardiff West and Cardiff North constituency both of which are based on the existing constituencies so very compliant with Rule 5 (1) c

- 4.16 We note the Assistant Commissioners would have made much more radical changes in Cardiff which we do not support. We note there was considerable support for the initial proposals in Cardiff.
- 4.17 We accept the constituency of Vale of Glamorgan as proposed in the initial proposals. We would have preferred to see the inclusion of the Dinas Powys ward but accept that this would have caused more disruption in Cardiff.
- 4.18 We note the Assistant Commissioners would have made radical changes in this area which would have included the division of the town of Barry between two constituencies which is a serious breach of Rule 5 (1) c and d.
- 4.19 We therefore support in full the eight constituencies in this grouping.

5 WEST GLAMORGAN, and BRECON & RADNOR

5.1 This covers the local authorities of Bridgend, Neath, Port Talbot and Swansea and the Brecon and Radnor part of Powys.

5.2 This area is entitled to 6 constituencies, and we support the revised proposals in all these constituencies.

5.3 We have already supported the proposal to include the 3 Pencoed wards in Rhondda as a least worst option.

5.4 This enables the whole of Bridgend to be included in the same constituency. There were many representations opposing the division of the town of Bridgend between two constituencies. We are pleased the commission have rectified this by including the whole of Bridgend in the Bridgend constituency. This improves the position under Rule 5 (1) c and d.

5.5 We note that the Assistant Commissioners would not have achieved the unity of Bridgend and would have split the community of Laleston. This would have been unacceptable and would have broken local ties being a serious breach of Rule 5 (1) d.

5.6 We note that the inclusion of the whole of Bridgend in the constituency enables the whole of the Aberavon existing constituency to be included within the proposed Aberavon Porthcawl constituency.

5.7 We support the inclusion of the town of Skewan (the 3 wards of Coedffranc) in this constituency where it is currently included thus improving the position under Rule 5 (1) c.

- 5.8 We therefore support the revised proposals that Neath and Swansea East excludes the town of Skewen but includes the Swansea ward of Llandore which is in the same constituency and has close ties to the wards of Llansamlet, Bonymaen and St Thomas.
- 5.9 We also support including Neath first in the name of the constituency. We also reject the Assistant Commissioners' report which would have arbitrarily split the Neath Valley between two constituencies.
- 5.10 We consequently support the Swansea Central and North constituency which is the constituency proposal less the ward of Llandore.
- 5.11 We totally agree with the Commission in paragraph 28.6 where they reject the Assistant Commissioners' report and say they are of the view that it is "inappropriate to create constituencies along faith, racial demarcation, or educational status lines".
- 5.12 We fully support the revised proposal to retain the composition of the Gower and Swansea West constituency as in the initial proposals. We also support Gower coming first in the name of the constituency as supported by the Gower society.
- 5.13 We believe a strength of this proposal is that it unites the community of the Mumbles in one constituency. We support the Commission in upholding that position whilst rejecting other proposals that it would be split between two constituencies.
- 5.14 We fully support the decision of the Commission to make no change to the composition of the Brecon Radnor and Cwm-tawe constituency. We also fully support the proposed name change including Cwm-tawe in the name to represent the Ystradgynlais area currently in the constituency and the area to be added to it such as Ystalyfera and Pontardawe.
- 5.15 We totally support the explanation of the Commission in 5.6, "The Commission considers that the largest town in the existing Brecon and Radnor constituency is

Ystradgynlais which is part of the Swansea Valley and has good links to the areas of Pontardawe and Ystalyfera* which are proposed to be added to the existing constituency. All of these communities are within the Swansea Valley and are also similar in nature and share good links. The Commission considered the alternative arrangements put forward but is of the view that the initial proposal causes the least amount of disruption across the surrounding constituencies which then creates a ‘domino effect’ on other outlying constituencies across Wales”.

5.16 We strongly agree and support that statement and particularly note that the Assistant Commissioners’ alternative would have considerable domino effects throughout the rest of Mid and North Wales which we believe would have been much more disruptive and more unacceptable.

5.17 We therefore support in full the 6 Constituencies within this grouping.

*In the report they state Ystradgynlais but we believe they meant Ystalyfera.

6 DYFED

6.1 This covers the local authorities of Ceredigion, Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire. The area is entitled to exactly 4 constituencies, and we support the minor changes to these constituencies.

6.2 We note this is the other area where the Commission and the Assistant Commissioners are in agreement.

6.3 We note the minor changes to the initial proposals making changes to each of the proposed constituencies.

6.4 We fully support the ward swap between the proposed Caerfyrddin and Llanelli constituencies which proposed swapping the ward of Llangunnor between the two constituencies.

6.5 There was widespread support for this alteration which showed the close ties to the ward of Carmarthen.

6.6 Although we did not advocate the changes between Ceredigion, Preseli and Mid and South Pembrokeshire we are prepared to accept them.

6.7 This moves just 4 wards with Maenclochog into Ceredigion Preseli and St David's, Solva and Letterston being included in Mid and South Pembrokeshire.

6.8 We accept this is a minor improvement in terms of local ties and community links.

6.9 We therefore support in full the 4 proposed constituencies in this area.

7 NORTH WALES & MONTGOMERYSHIRE

7.1 This covers the local authorities of Gwynedd, Conwy, Denbyshire, Flintshire, and Wrexham, plus the Montgomeryshire part of Powys.

7.2 We note this area is entitled to seven constituencies. We believe the Commission has listened to the arguments on local ties in this area and has proposed a sensible arrangement reflecting these local ties.

7.3 We note that the Assistant Commissioners proposed radical alterations which would have split Montgomeryshire, as well as not including all of the existing constituencies of Aberconwy and Wrexham in one constituency. Thus, the alteration would have been much more inferior terms of Rule 5 (1) c. In addition, they would have split the community of Abergele being a breach of Rule 5 (1) d. We believe therefore that the Commission was absolutely right to reject the Assistant Commissioners' recommendations for all the constituencies in North Wales.

7.4 We support the minor change to the Dwyfor Meirionydd constituency. Excluding the Pentir ward so that Bangor would be united had widespread support and is a clear improvement in terms of Rule 5 (1) d.

7.5 We accept that there were strong arguments that the town council of Bay of Colwyn area should not be split across constituencies.

7.6 We therefore accept the alterations to the proposed Bangor Aberconwy constituency as the least worst option. We also fully support the inclusion of the name Bangor in the constituency.

7.7 We consequently support the proposed Clwyd North constituency which incorporates the North Wales coast from Rhos-on-Sea to Rhyl, together with Denbigh and St. Asaph. We believe this a well-constructed constituency which we support.

7.8 We note that the Assistant Commissioners would have split the community of Abergele, breaking important local ties and breaking Rule 5 (1) d. We believe therefore that the Commission was absolutely right in rejecting their proposals.

7.9 We fully support the proposed Clwyd East constituency, both the composition and the name.

7.10 We agree with the Commission “that Ruthin shares commonality with the communities to its’ south which look to Ruthin for their services”. We therefore support the inclusion of the Llangollen wards and Llanfiar Duffryn Clwyd. We also support the inclusion of the Argoed, Leeswood and New Brighton wards which have close ties to Mold.

7.11 We strongly support the proposed Alyn and Deeside constituency. It is important that the existing Alyn and Deeside constituency is kept intact. We believe the revised proposals are correct in adding to the constituency the Flint and Bagillt wards which have strong links in Deeside to Connah’s Quay.

7.12 This ensures that the whole constituency includes only wards from Flintshire and excludes Wrexham wards. This improves the position in respect of Rule 5 (1)b. We note the Assistant Commissioners, whilst excluding Brymbo and Minera, include two other wards, Rossett, and Marford and Hosely. We believe this would be detrimental and therefore fully support the Commission in rejecting their proposals for this constituency.

7.13 We fully support the proposed Wrexham constituency. It is important that the whole of the Wrexham constituency is kept intact. We note the Commission do so in the initial and revised proposals but the Assistant Commissioners recommend excluding Rossett and

Marford and Hoseley, which is not only worse under Rule 5 (1) c, it is also worse under Rule 5 (1) d as there are strong local ties between these wards and Gresford. So moving these two wards worsens the position under Rule 5 (1) b, c and d.

7.14 We fully support including the Brymbo and Minera wards in the Wrexham constituency. There was a lot of concern about the inclusion in the initial proposals of these wards in Alyn and Deeside and it makes absolute sense to include them in a Wrexham constituency, improving the position under Rule 5 (1) b and d.

7.15 We also support the exclusion of the Esclusham, Johnstown, Pant and Ponciau wards of Wrexham, and their inclusion in Montgomeryshire and Glyndwr. These wards have strong links to Ruabon and their inclusion together makes sense.

7.16 We also strongly support the decision to retain the whole of the Montgomeryshire constituency intact. We note the widespread support for this position.

7.17 We therefore strongly support the proposal of the Commission which retains Montgomeryshire intact. In doing this they have sensibly rejected the Assistant Commissioners' recommendation which would have split Montgomeryshire and breaks ties between Newtown and wards to its south. Their proposal would have been worse in respect of Rule 5 (1) c and d.

7.18 We also do not support the Assistant Commissioners' proposal of a very large and unwieldy constituency of Montgomeryshire and Meirionnydd, which stretches from the English border to the Welsh coast. In doing this, both the existing constituencies of Dwyfor Meirionnydd and Montgomeryshire are split, being a serious breach of Rule 5 (1) c.

7.19 We therefore support the revised proposals for all 7 constituencies in this area.

8 CONCLUSION

8.1 We have commented on 31 of the proposed constituencies in the revised proposals.

8.2 We have made no comment on the Ynys Mon constituency as this a protected constituency and there is no debate on it.

8.3 We believe the Commission have improved on the initial proposals in a number of ways.

8.4 In terms of Rule 5 (1) b they have improved on the initial proposals by splitting the Wrexham local authority between 2 constituencies rather than 3, by splitting the Caerphilly authority by 3 constituencies rather than 4. It also ensures Alyn and Deeside and Caerphilly constituencies are both contained within one local authority rather than two.

8.5 In terms of Rule 5 (1) c it retains 15 existing constituencies totally within a revised constituency. It also retains more electors in their existing constituency than the initial proposals.

8.6 In terms of Rule 5 (1) d it retains local ties between Nelson and Ystrad Mynach, between Aberaman and Aberdare, between Ruabon and Ponciau, in Bangor, in Rhos-on-Sea, and in Wrexham.

8.7 The Assistant Commissioners' proposals overall would be worse than the Commission in terms of the Rules and we believe they were absolutely correct to reject them in the majority of constituencies.

8.8 We therefore fully support the revised proposals in full and hope the Commission will adopt these proposals as their final proposals.

BCW-10849 / [REDACTED] Ceredigion County Council / Ceredigion

Amgaeaf ymateb ar ran Cyngor Sir Ceredigion oddi wrth Y Cynghorydd Bryan Davies, Arweinydd y Cyngor, ynghylch Arolwg 2023 o

Etholaethau Seneddol - Cynigion Diwygiedig.

I enclose a response on behalf of Ceredigion County Council from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Leader of the Council, in relation to the

2023 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies - Amended Proposal.

Yn gywir,

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Uwch Gynorthwydd Personol i'r Prif Weithredwr, Arweinydd a Chadeirydd y Cyngor

Senior Personal Assistant to the Chief Executive, Leader and Chairman of the Council



Boundary Commission for Wales

Sent by e-mail only to :
bcw@boundaries.wales

Dyddiad
Date

14 November, 2022

Gofynnwch am
Please ask for

[Redacted]

Dear Sir / Madam

Re: 2023 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies - Amended Proposal

Many thanks for the opportunity to provide our views on the Amended Proposals for the 2023 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies.

Consideration has been given to your Amended Proposals. Ceredigion County Council reaffirms its views made to the Initial Proposals in October 2021.

We acknowledge that the Ceredigion county constituency falls well below the statutory electorate range. However, we do not believe that the proposal presented in the Initial or Amended Proposals would be the most favourable for a number of reasons.

The Commission’s proposed constituency is significant in terms of geography, with the travel time from the north to south being approximately 2 hours 15 minutes and 85 miles. We also see that there are very few natural linkages with many of the electoral wards with Ceredigion and the distance would result in a potential reduction of engagement between electors and their MP.

In addition, from past experience when the parliamentary constituency was Ceredigion and North Pembrokeshire, there was general consensus that it didn’t work for anyone – it was geographically too large for a serving MP and it reduced access to that MP.

An alternative proposal

Ceredigion County Council therefore proposes an alternative proposal to the proposal for a Ceredigion Preseli constituency. This proposal would see a county constituency created from:

- 1. The following electoral wards within the County of Ceredigion (which currently make up the existing Ceredigion CC):



Aberaeron (1,088), Aberporth (1,839), Aberteifi/Cardigan-Mwldan (1,522), Aberteifi/Cardigan-Rhyd-y-Fuwch (895), Aberteifi/Cardigan-Teifi (824), Aberystwyth Bronglais (936), Aberystwyth Canol/Central (1,358), Aberystwyth Gogledd/North (1,478), Aberystwyth Penparcau (2,084), Aberystwyth Rheidol (1,776), Beulah (1,413), Borth (1,677), Capel Dewi (1,068), Ceulanamaesmawr (1,551), Ciliau Aeron (1,613), Faenor (1,985), Lampeter (1,660), Llanarth (1,222), Llanbadarn Fawr – Padarn (767), Llanbadarn Fawr – Sulien (973), Llandyfriog (1,466), Llandysilio-gogo (1,653), Llandysul Town (1,067), Llanfarian (1,193), Llanfihangel Ystrad (1,666), Llangeitho (1,168), Llanybi (1,186), Llanrhystyd (1,255), Llansantffraed (1,935), Llanwenog (1,419), Lledrod (1,812), Melindwr (1,578), New Quay (810), Penbryn (1,762), Pen-parc (1,933), Tirymynach (1,403), Trefeurig (1,382), Tregaron (951), Troedraur (1,110) and Ystwyth (1,673).

2. The following electoral wards within the County of Pembrokeshire (which currently form part of the existing Preseli Pembrokeshire CC):

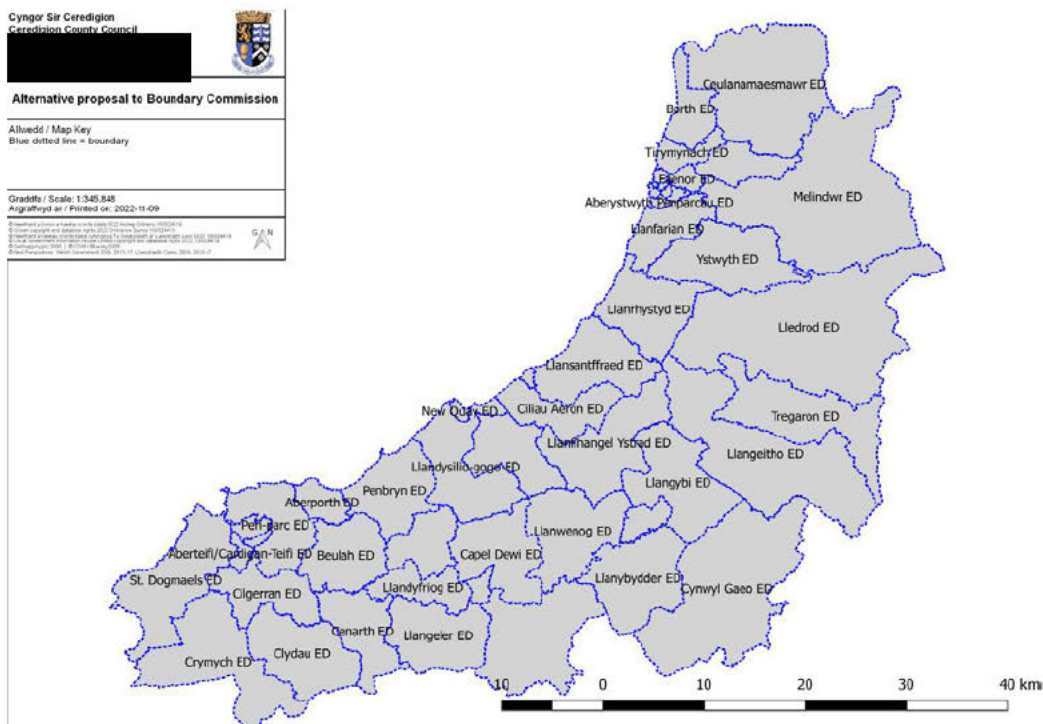
Cilgerran (1,594), Clydau (1,189), Crymych (2,099) and St.Dogmaels (1,775).

3. The following electoral wards within the County of Carmarthenshire (which currently form part of the existing Carmarthen East and Dinefwr CC):

Cenarth (1,669), Cynwyl Gaeo (1,351), Llanfihangel-ar-Arth (2,196), Llangeler (2,772) and Llanybydder (2,027)

This preferred constituency would have 72,823 electors and falls within the statutory electorate range.

In this proposal, this county constituency could be called Ceredigion a Dyffryn Teifi / Ceredigion and Dyffryn Teifi.



Our proposal combines electoral wards which have similar characteristics to Ceredigion as well as other advantages:

- The language and cultural characteristics of these electoral wards are similar in nature, with a high proportion of the electorate being first language Welsh speakers;
- There is a natural synergy between these electoral wards and form natural communities with social and economic ties along the river Teifi;

This proposal reinforces the ties between natural communities of the Teifi Valley, including urban hinterlands of the market towns of Cardigan, Newcastle Emlyn, Llandysul, Llanybydder and Lampeter.

The Teifi Valley is critical to Ceredigion and the residents who live in those communities. Its importance is also recognised from an economic perspective through the Teifi Valley Growth Scheme.

- The electoral wards within the Dyffryn Teifi area use services cross-boundary provided within the Ceredigion constituency area i.e. at Lampeter, Llandysul and Cardigan. These include:
 - Education – Ysgol Bro Pedr (Lampeter), Ysgol Bro Teifi (Llandysul) and Ysgol Uwchradd Aberteifi (Cardigan) in particular, but also includes those in other primary schools. 581 pupils from Carmarthenshire attend schools in Ceredigion and 219 pupils from Pembrokeshire (*source Ceredigion Local Education Authority, 13th October 2021*);

There are many pupils from Ceredigion who also attend schools in Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire, specifically Ysgol Preseli (Crymych) and Ysgol Gyfun Emlyn (Newcastle Emlyn) as well as some primary schools.

- Primary Care services such as GP and dentist. There are currently 13,166 patients who are registered with a GP from Carmarthenshire and 3,072 from Pembrokeshire (*source Mconnect Mid & West Wales, Swansea and North Wales, 13th October 2021*);
- Leisure and Recreation, which includes the use of libraries, leisure centres in Lampeter, Llandysul and Cardigan but also rugby, football, hockey netball teams as well as other recreation such as canoeing, Young Farmers, Urdd etc;
- Hospitality and cultural activities– the towns on the borders offer hospitality and cultural activities for those who live in electoral wards in Dyffryn Teifi, just over the border in Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire;
- Employment – the towns on the borders provide employment for a number of residents in electoral wards within Dyffryn Teifi;
- Travel links – there is road infrastructure as well as transport links that allow people to travel easily between those electoral wards in Dyffryn Teifi.

- Considerably reduces length of the Ceredigion Preseli constituency proposed by the Boundary Commission from 85 miles to 60 miles for Ceredigion a Dyffryn Teifi and maximum travel time within constituency from 2 hours 15 minutes to 1 hour 35 minutes. Given the need to consider carbon omissions, the proposed smaller constituency of Ceredigion and Dyffryn Teifi would support the Council and Welsh Government's aim to reduce its carbon omissions;
- Retains a greater proportion of Pembrokeshire within one constituency and reflects connection of Fishguard and northern Pembrokeshire to urban service centre of Haverfordwest.

It is our view that our proposal of the Constituency of Ceredigion and Dyffryn Teifi would best serve the residents of the area.

Enclosed for your attention is a document that outlines how our proposal would affect the other county constituencies. You will see that what we propose would reduce the variations from the UKEQ for the three constituencies (from +3.93% / -3.80% to +1.30% / +0.78%) and also significantly reduce the travel time for each.

If you would like any further information, or wish to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Leader of Ceredigion County Council

Enc.



Cyngor Sir
CEREDIGION
County Council

Arweinydd y Cyngor /
Leader of the Council

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL'S ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL AND AMENDED PROPOSALS FOR CARMARTHENSHIRE AND PEMBROKESHIRE

Boundary Commission proposed Constituency	Electorate (statutory range = 69,724 – 77,062)	CCC proposed alternative Constituency	Electorate (statutory range = 69,724 – 77,062)	Wards <u>added</u> compared to the Boundary Commission proposal	Wards <u>removed</u> compared to the Boundary Commission proposal
Ceredigion Preseli	76,269	Ceredigion a Dyffryn Teifi	72,823	Cenarth (1669), Llangeler (2772), Llanfihangel-yr-Arth (2196), Llanybydder (2027), Cynwyl Gaeo (1351) [from Caerfyrddin]	St David's (1521), Solva (1274), Llanrhian (1232), Letterston (1873), Scleddau (1158), Fishguard NE (1495), Fishguard NW (1208), Goodwick (1509), Dinas Cross (1313), Newport (878) [to Pembrokeshire]
Mid and South Pembrokeshire	74,614	Pembrokeshire	74,348	St David's (1521), Solva (1274), Llanrhian (1232), Letterston (1873), Scleddau (1158),	Narbeth (1704), Narbeth Rural (1293), Lampeter Velfrey (1284), Kilgetty/Begelly (1830), Amroth (992), Saundersfoot (1904), Penally (1398),

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Cewch ateb Cymraeg i bob gohebiaeth Gymraeg ac ateb Saesneg i bob gohebiaeth Saesneg. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh and English. Correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and correspondence in English will be answered in English. Corresponding in Welsh will not involve any delay.



Cyngor Sir
CEREDIGION
County Council

Arweinydd y Cyngor /
Leader of the Council

Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion, Penmorfa, Aberaeron. SA46 0PA
www.ceredigion.gov.uk

Boundary Commission proposed Constituency	Electorate (statutory range = 69,724 – 77,062)	CCC proposed alternative Constituency	Electorate (statutory range = 69,724 – 77,062)	Wards <u>added</u> compared to the Boundary Commission proposal	Wards <u>removed</u> compared to the Boundary Commission proposal
				Fishguard NE (1495), Fishguard NW (1208), Goodwick (1509), Dinas Cross (1313), Newport (878) [from Ceredigion Preseli]	Tenby North (1658), Tenby South (1664) [to Carmarthen & Tenby]
Caerfyrddin	70,606	Carmarthen and Tenby	74,318	Narbeth (1704), Narbeth Rural (1293), Lampeter Velfrey (1284), Kilgetty/Begelly (1830), Amroth (992), Saundersfoot (1904), Penally (1398), Tenby North (1658), Tenby South (1664) [from Mid & South Pembrokeshire]	Cenarth (1669), Llangeler (2772), Llanfihangel-yr-Arth (2196), Llanybydder (2027), Cynwyl Gaeo (1351) [to Ceredigion a Dyffryn Teifi]

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Cewch ateb Cymraeg i bob gohebiaeth Gymraeg ac ateb Saesneg i bob gohebiaeth Saesneg. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh and English. Correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and correspondence in English will be answered in English. Corresponding in Welsh will not involve any delay.



Boundary Commission for Wales

By email to:

bcw@boundaries.wales

14/11/2022

Dear Commissioners,

Response to the consultation on the revised proposals for the 2023 Parliamentary Review

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the consultation on the revised proposals for the 2023 Parliamentary Review. The Welsh Language Commissioner responded to the consultation on the initial proposals in 2021 outlining our involvement with the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales in the process of determining ward names and expressing our dissatisfaction with some of the final decisions regarding those names. Our previous response also drew attention to inconsistencies in the consultation document, to the problematic term 'alternative names' used when discussing the Welsh names of the constituencies, and to how the Commissioner's recommendations were incorrectly represented and communicated in the Boundary Commission's final reports to Welsh Government. I do not intend to repeat those comments here. However, further inconsistencies can be found in the revised proposals, and I would like to address those in this response.

Aberhonddu, Maesyfed a Chwm-tawe / Brecon, Radnor and Cwm-tawe

We recommend writing *Cwm Tawe* as two separate words in both Welsh and English names as it is the name of a topographical feature rather than a settlement name. Settlement names (cities, towns, villages etc) are usually written as one word while topographical names (valleys, rivers, mountains etc) are written as separate words. Please note that *Cwm Tawe* is the form in BydTermCymru and that is the form used by the Welsh [Wikipedia](#). When referring to the Swansea Valley area in your Welsh consultation document, [Cynigion Diwygiedig](#), the form *Cwm Tawe* is always used; *Cwm-tawe* is only used when referring to the name of the constituency. In the [English version](#) of the document, *Cwm-tawe* is used three times to refer to the area but *Swansea Valley* is mostly used.

Gŵyr a Gorllewin Abertawe / Gower and Swansea West

It needs to be ensured that the circumflex is always used in the name *Gŵyr*. It is always correct in the consultation document, but incorrect (without the circumflex) in the Welsh Excel document, *Cynigion Diwygiedig data etholwyr gan Awdurdod Lleol*. It is necessary to ensure that the forms are consistent in all the Commission's documents to avoid confusion and mistakes.

Canol a De Sir Benfro / Mid and South Pembrokeshire

This is the Welsh form used everywhere except for on page 30 of the Welsh consultation document, where *De a Canol Sir Benfro* is used. Note that if the Commission wished to use *De a Chanol Sir Benfro*, the 'canol' element needs to be mutated as shown.

Maldwyn a Glyndŵr / Montgomeryshire and Glyndŵr

It needs to be ensured that the circumflex is always used in the name *Glyndŵr* in both Welsh and English names. It is incorrect in the English name on the 'Contents' page of the Welsh version of the consultation document, and incorrect several times in the English version of the document. It is also incorrect (without the circumflex) in the Welsh and English versions of the Excel document, *Revised Proposals Electoral Data by Local Authority*. It is necessary to ensure that the forms are consistent in all the Commission's documents to avoid confusion and mistakes.

Bilingual names

The English and Welsh names of the constituencies are set out next to each other in the table of contents in the consultation document and in the headings of the individual sections, but it would be beneficial to include both names when there is a map as on page 30, and in the Excel document, *Revised Proposals Electoral Data by Local Authority*. It is important to ensure that it is clear that the constituencies have an official bilingual name to prevent any translators from translating the names themselves and using a different form from the official name. We would also argue that placing the Welsh name in brackets after the English name in the consultation document implies that the Welsh name has a lesser status than the English name.

The blemishes and inconsistencies that continue to appear in constituency names are a cause for concern and indicate a wider problem with the Commission's naming processes. Although we provided recommendations and detailed notes regarding ward names during that consultation process, the standard forms have not always been adopted. In fact, some non-standard and orthographically incorrect names have been adopted at times, as in the case of *Bryn-côch North* and *Bryn-côch South*, for example. Any Welsh dictionary consulted would confirm that the circumflex is never used in the word *coch* (red). It is also frustrating that there is no commitment from the Commission to use the forms we recommend, even when we have agreed the standard forms of those names with local authorities. This has led to the use and introduction of new non-standard forms which adds to an existing problem in Wales where various different forms exist for one place-name in some cases.

You will be aware, of course, that the Welsh Government has launched a consultation on the electoral administration and reform White Paper. That consultation paper highlights the keen public interest in electoral ward names and recognises that, based on this, naming should be given a more central place in the review process. This exercise certainly underlines the need for naming to have a clearer and more robust role in our democratic processes. It must be ensured that Welsh is not treated less favourably than English in determining those names that will be at the heart of democracy in Wales.


Should you wish to discuss the above comments in more detail, my officials would be more than happy to discuss.


Yours sincerely,



Gwenith Price
Deputy Welsh Language Commissioner

CC:

Minister for Finance and Local Government, 


Secretary of State for Wales, 


To Boundary Commission
For Wales

Dear Commission

I am a resident of
Coph yfaest and proud to be in the
constituency of Islwyn; Most
importantly identify with the
communities of Islwyn. When the
pits closed sadly communities were
weakened too. To put us into a
constituency that we have nothing
in common with will only help to
weaken us further.

None in Islwyn. are our roots not
with Ciler or other constituencies, So I
ask respectfully that you revert
your latest proposal and return to
your original proposal. and let us
remain in Islwyn where we belong.

Thankyou
Yours faithfully

**BCW-10852 / [REDACTED] Cynon Valley Constituency Labour Party /
Aberdare**

**FO: Mrs Justice Jefford DBE Boundary Commission for Wales Via [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]**

[REDACTED]

13th November 2022

Re: Cynon Valley Boundary changes

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for the Review 2023 concerning the changes to the Cynon Valley constituency.

The Cynon Valley Labour Party has discussed the review and have accepted the name of 'Merthyr Tydfil and Upper Cynon' but wish the commissioners to consider the following change to the name 'Pontypridd' to 'Lower Cynon and Pontypridd'.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]
Secretary for the Cynon Valley Constituency Labour Party

Cefn FForest and Pengam Labour Party Branch

12th November 2022

Dear Sir,

I have been asked to write to you on behalf of Cefn Fforest and Pengam Ward Labour Party. The wards of Argoed, Blackwood, Penmaen, Cefn Fforest, Pengam, Pontllanfraith, Ynyeddu, Crosskeys and Risca East and West have been together as a constituency unit since before the 1st World War. Your proposals break your own guidelines as Argoed, Blackwood and Penmaen have to traverse Pontllanfraith (placed in Caerphilly) to reach the rest of the new constituency. The communities of Bargoed, Gurfach, Den and Aberbargoed have no links whatsoever with Blaenau Gwent and your proposals would mean Blaenau Gwent would stretch across four valleys.

There are no direct bus routes linking Gwlyyn to Marshfield, Craig and Treddegar Park. However the Newport-Bargoed bus goes through Craig linking it to Caerphilly. Surely it would make more sense to place Marshfield, Craig and Treddegar Park (electorate 13,279) in Caerphilly while Cefn Fforest, Pengam, Pontllanfraith and Maesycwimmer (electorate 13,759) revert back to Gwlyyn.

Alternately Bargoed, Gurfach, Aberbargoed and Den (with possibly Pontllanfraith and New Treddegar) being retained by Caerphilly which will make a compact constituency. Cefn Fforest, Pengam, Pontllanfraith and Maesycwimmer revert to Gwlyyn while Crumlin, Newbridge and Abercarn which were formerly part of the Abertillery constituency join Blaenau Gwent.

Yours sincerely,

Word Secretary.