

The Vale of Glamorgan Council

Cabinet Meeting: 18 September, 2017

Report of the Electoral Registration Officer

Community Review – Catalina, Cei Dafydd, Barry – Baruc and Castleland Wards (Vale of Glamorgan Council and Barry Town Council)

Purpose of the Report

1. To agree a community review of the boundary line bisecting the property Catalina, Cei Dafydd, Barry which is currently between Baruc and Castleland Wards of the Vale of Glamorgan Council and Barry Town Council.

Recommendations

1. T H A T Cabinet notes the report and grants delegated authority to the Electoral Registration Officer to conduct a review of the community boundary at Catalina, Cei Dafydd, Barry between Baruc and Castleland Wards of the Vale of Glamorgan Council and Barry Town Council in accordance with the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013.
2. T H A T Cabinet approves the terms of reference of the review attached at [Appendix A](#) to this report.

Reasons for the Recommendations

1. To inform Cabinet of the key requirements in conducting such a review; and to authorise the Electoral Registration Officer to act accordingly;
2. To comply with the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013.

Background

2. The Council has a duty under s25 of the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 ("the Act") to conduct a review of the community boundary for a community in its area either of its own initiative or at the request of the community council for the community.
3. A request has been received from the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales, for a review to be undertaken of the community boundary at Catalina, Cei

Dafydd, Barry between Baruc and Castleland wards of the Vale of Glamorgan Council and Barry Town Council.

4. The boundary line is historic and was established prior to the residential development on the Waterfront.
5. The dwelling 'Catalina' consists of 21 apartments.
6. The request highlights that the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales consider that the property has an anomaly whereby electors would be residents of one polling district yet live in a different county and community ward, in this case living in Baruc; but voting in a Casteland polling district. The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales highlights the need to adjust the community ward boundary to address this anomaly ensuring that the entire property is contained within one polling district and community ward.

Relevant Issues and Options

7. The attached terms of reference at [Appendix A](#), cater for the key statutory requirements for the review which are:
 - bring the review to the attention of the mandatory consultees and any other person it considers likely to be interested in the review;
 - consult the mandatory consultees on its intended procedure and methodology for the review;
 - conduct investigations as it considers appropriate;
 - after the initial consultation the Council must prepare a report containing any proposals for change or if it does not consider any change appropriate, a proposal to that effect and details of the review it conducted.
 - the review will be published electronically and will be available for public inspection. Copies of the report will also be sent to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales and the mandatory consultees and a response will also be provided to all representatives who took part in the review.

Resource Implications (Financial and Employment)

8. The publishing and administrative costs of the review will be met from the Electoral Registration Services existing budget.

Sustainability and Climate Change Implications

9. There are no direct implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications (to Include Human Rights Implications)

10. Sections 23 - 38 of the Act places the Council under a legal duty to conduct a review of electoral arrangements for a community in its area.

Crime and Disorder Implications

11. There are no direct implications arising from this report.

Equal Opportunities Implications (to include Welsh Language issues)

12. There are no direct implications arising from this report, however, any proposed changes will be subject to an Equality Impact Assessment.

Corporate/Service Objectives

13. Electoral Registration has links to the following corporate priority:
'Citizens of the Vale of Glamorgan can easily access efficiently managed services that are focused around their needs, have confidence in how decisions are made and are proud to live in the Vale.'

Policy Framework and Budget

14. This report is a matter for Executive decision by Cabinet. A report detailing the outcome of the review will be presented to cabinet in due course and thereafter the Council for consideration and approval.

Consultation (including Ward Member Consultation)

15. Consultation will take place as part of the review with the relevant ward Councillors.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee

16. Corporate Performance and Resources

Background Papers

Letter received from Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales dated 21 January 2016

Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013

Contact Officer

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Officers Consulted

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