

**Urgent item by reason of the need to apprise Cabinet of the Final Recommendations Report of the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales published on 5 February 2021 and the commencement of the 6 week period for comments to Welsh Government**

Meeting of:	<b>Cabinet</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>Monday, 08 February 2021</b>
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	Corporate Performance and Resources
Report Title:	Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales - Review of the Electoral Arrangements of the County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan: Final Recommendations Report
Purpose of Report:	To inform and advise Members of the Final Recommendations Report and the timescale for comments to Welsh Government
Report Owner:	Cabinet Member for Legal, Regulatory and Planning Services
Responsible Officer:	Debbie Marles, Electoral Registration Officer
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	Managing Director
Policy Framework:	This is a matter for recommendation by Cabinet to Council
<p>Executive Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales ('the Commission') has a duty under s29 of the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 to review the electoral arrangements for each principal area at least once every ten years.</li> <li>• The Commission commenced its Review of the Vale of Glamorgan Council ('the Council') on 8 May 2019, and the Council provided comments on the Commission's proposals as part of Stage 1 of the Review by 30 July 2019.</li> <li>• At Stage 2 of the Review, the Commission published its Draft Proposals Report and re-opened its suspended consultation (suspended due to the Covid-19 pandemic) on 1 September 2020 and closed on 20 October 2020.</li> <li>• This report includes a copy of the Commission's Final Recommendations Report published on 5 February 2021 (attached at Appendix A), outlines the Commission's final recommendations to Welsh Government, the timescale for comments to be submitted to Welsh Government and recommends that the Commission's report is noted with no further suggested comments.</li> </ul>	

## **Recommendations**

1. That Cabinet recommends to Council that the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales' recommendations for the Vale of Glamorgan Council's electoral arrangements (as detailed in its February 2021 Final Recommendations Report attached at Appendix A to this report) be noted with no further suggested comments.
2. That Cabinet notes the deadline of 19 March 2021 for comments to Welsh Government regarding the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales' Final Recommendations Report.
3. That Cabinet notes that any comments on the recommended names of the electoral wards be submitted to the Welsh Government's Minister for Housing and Local Government.
4. That this report be referred to the 11 February 2021 Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee meeting for information and to Council for consideration on 10 March 2021.

## **Reasons for Recommendations**

1. To note and consider the Commission's Final Recommendations Report.
2. To apprise of the deadline for the submission of comments.
3. To advise where to submit comments regarding recommended electoral ward names.
4. For Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee information and Council's consideration.

## **1. Background**

- 1.1 The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales ('the Commission') conducted a review of the electoral arrangements of the Vale of Glamorgan Council ('the Council') in line with its duty to conduct a review of all 22 of Wales' Principal Council's every 10 years.

- 1.2 Section 29 of the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 defines electoral arrangements as:

The number of members of the council for the principal area;

The number, type and boundaries of the electoral wards into which the principal area is for the time being divided for the purpose for the election of members;

The number of members to be elected for any electoral ward in the principal area; and

The name of any electoral ward (if a new ward is created).

**1.3** The Commission's Electoral Reviews: Policy and Practice 2016 document sets out the statutory requirements and relevant considerations adopted by the Commission when conducting a review of electoral arrangements of a principal area.

**1.4** As part of the Commission's Initial Consultation Stage / Stage 1 (which commenced on 8 May 2019) the Council considered in July 2019 the Commission's Policy and Practice 2016 documentation and its Council Size Policy and submitted proposals to the Commission namely:

Based on 'current and forecast data plus percentage variances based on a membership of 51 members in accordance with the Commission's Council Size Policy; it is proposed that the existing number of Councillors for each of the existing wards for the Vale of Glamorgan Council remains unchanged save for the Baruc ward which increases from 2 to 3 Councillors, Rhoose ward from 2 to 3 Councillors, St Athan from 1 to 2 Councillors and St Augustine's from 2 to 3 Councillors.

'With regard to St Brides Major ward the current ratio of Councillor to electorate is 1:2539; the 5 year population forecast reduces to 1:2377 or 1:2434 having regard to 16 and 17 year olds. Consideration has been given to changing the ward boundaries so that polling district WD0 forms part of the Llantwit Major ward however this has been discounted given the impact on effective and convenient local government including the patterns of settlements and local ties.

'With regard to the Wenvoe ward the current ratio of Councillor to electorate is 1:2650. The 5-year population forecast increases in the Wenvoe ward to 1:2941 or 1:3007 having regard to 16 and 17 year olds. Consideration has been given to changing the ward boundary so that polling districts PC0 (St Nicholas) and PD0 (Bonvilston) formed part of Peterston-Super-Ely ward however the impact would be as follows:

**'Wenvoe** - without PC0 and PD0

Member to electorate ratio

Current - 1:1957

Forecast - 1:1931

Forecast inc 16/17 year olds - 1:1968

**'Peterston-Super-Ely**

Peterston-Super-Ely - with no change to boundaries

Members to electorate ratio

Current - 1:1840

Forecast - 1:1804

Forecast inc 16/17 year olds - 1:863

'Peterston-Super-Ely - including PC0 and PD0 from Wenvoe

Member to electorate ratio

Current - 1:2533

Forecast - 1:2814

Forecast including 16/17 year olds - 1:2902

'By changing the ward boundary this would move the under representation from one ward to another and therefore it is proposed that no change is made to the Wenvoe ward.

'On the issue of four member wards it is proposed that the Dinas Powys and Llantwit Major wards remain unchanged having regard to the impact of the 5 year population forecast, the local support for the existing arrangements from Councillors and no concerns having been raised with the Electoral Registration Officer by the electorate'.

- 1.5** At Stage 2 of the Review, the Commission published its Draft Proposals Report and re-opened its suspended consultation (suspended due to the Covid-19 pandemic) on 1 September 2020 which closed on 20 October 2020. It was reported to Cabinet on 7 September 2020 when it was resolved:

"(1) THAT it be recommended to Council that the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission's proposals for the Vale of Glamorgan Council's electoral arrangements (as detailed in its February 2020 Draft Proposals Report) be accepted save for the proposals relating to the Cornerswell and Llandough electoral wards which it was recommended continue to be two separate electoral wards for the reasons detailed in paragraph 2.7 of the report.

(2) THAT in advance of the Council meeting on 21 September 2020 the Electoral Registration Officer's recommendations for the names of the proposed electoral wards as detailed in paragraph 2.8 of the report be circulated to Members for their comments, subject to any amendments made by Cabinet.

(3) THAT the report, together with Cabinet's comments in respect of Resolution (2) above, be referred to Council for consideration on 21 September 2020."

Below is a link to the 7 September 2020 report and Cabinet Minute No. C327 (page 589) of the link

[https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/Documents/\\_Committee%20Reports/Cabinet/2020/20-09-07/Minutes.pdf](https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/Documents/_Committee%20Reports/Cabinet/2020/20-09-07/Minutes.pdf)

- 1.6** No comments were received from Members (including Cabinet) on the names of the proposed electoral wards.

- 1.7** Council received Cabinet's referral on 21 September 2020 when it was resolved - "THAT the Cabinet proposals as set out in minute No. C327 ..... not be approved."

Below is a link to minute No. 47 (see pages 4-10).

[https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/Documents/\\_Committee%20Reports/Council/2020/20-09-21/Minutes.pdf](https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/Documents/_Committee%20Reports/Council/2020/20-09-21/Minutes.pdf)

## 2. Key Issues for Consideration

2.1 A copy of the Commission's Final Recommendations Report (attached at Appendix A) was published on its website on 5 February 2021, and in summary recommends to Welsh Government as follows:

- Increasing the Vale of Glamorgan Council size from 47 to 54 Members resulting in a recommended County average of 1,775 electors per Member.
- That the Vale of Glamorgan principal area be comprised of 24 electoral wards consisting of 19 multi-member wards in the County comprising of 11 two-member electoral wards, 5 three-member electoral wards and 3 four-member electoral wards.
- The largest under-representation (in terms of electoral variance) within the recommendations is in the Plymouth ward (25% above the recommended County average). At present the greatest under-representation is in Rhoose (72% above the recommended County average).
- The largest over-representation (in terms of electoral variance) within the recommendations is in the St Athan ward (25% below the recommended County average). At present the greatest over-representation is in Llandough (16% below the recommended County average).
- Retaining the following 13 electoral wards:

- Buttrills	- Gibbonsdown
- Castleland	- Illtyd
- Cornerswell	- Llandough
- Court	- Plymouth
- Cowbridge	- Stanwell
- Dinas Powys	- Sully
- Dyfan	
- That the existing arrangements are retained for the existing Cornerswell and Llandough electoral wards and the existing Dinas Powys electoral ward.
- St Augustine's - that the St Augustine's ward forms an electoral ward of 5104 electors which, if represented by 3 Councillors (an increase of 1 Councillor) would result in a level of representation that is 4% below the recommended County average. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the name of St Augustine's as an English and Welsh name.
- Baruc - that the Baruc ward forms an electoral ward of 5589 electors (6680 projected) which, if represented by 3 Councillors (an increase of 1 Councillor) would result in a level of representation that is 5% above the recommended County average. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the name of Baruc as an English and Welsh name.
- Cadoc - that the Cadoc ward forms an electoral ward of 7000 electors (7825 projected) which, if represented by 4 Councillors (an increase of 1) would result in a

level of representation that is 1% below the recommended County average. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the Welsh language name of Cadog and the English language name of Cadoc.

- St Bride's Major - that the communities of Ewenny, St Bride's Major, St Donats and Wick combine to form an electoral ward of 3375 electors (3209 projected) which, if represented by 2 Councillors would result in a level of representation that is 5% below the recommended County average. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the Welsh language name of Saint-y-brid and the English language name of St Bride's Major.
- Llandow - as a consequence of the above, that the communities of Colwinston, Llandow and Llangan combine to form an electoral ward of 1649 electors (1615 projected) which, if represented by 1 Councillor, would result in a level of representation that is 7% below the recommended County average. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the Welsh language name of Llandŵ and the English language name of Llandow.
- Llantwit Major - that as a further consequence of the above, the town of Llantwit Major and the community of Llanmaes form an electoral ward of 7432 electors (9179 projected) which, if represented by 4 Councillors would result in a level of representation that is 5% above the recommended County average. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the Welsh language name of Llanilltud Fawr and the English language name of Llantwit Major.
- St Athan - that the community of St Athan forms an electoral ward of 2659 electors (4124 projected) which, if represented by 2 Councillors (an increase of 1) would result in a level of representation that is 25% below the recommended County average. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the Welsh language name of Sain Athan and the English language name of St Athan.
- St Nicholas and Llancarfan - that the communities of Llancarfan, St Georges-super-Ely and St Nicholas and Bonvilston combine to form an electoral ward with 1621 electors (1880 projected) which, if represented by 1 Councillor would result in a level of representation that is 9% below the recommended County average. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the Welsh language name of Sain Nicolas a Llancarfan and the English language name of St Nicholas and Llancarfan.
- Peterston-Super-Ely - as a consequence of the above, that the communities of Pendoylan, Peterston-Super-Ely and Welsh St Donats combine to form a new electoral ward with 1515 electors (1490 projected) which, if represented by 1 Councillor would result in a level of representation that is 15% below the recommended County average. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the Welsh language name of Llanbedr-y-fro and the English language name of Peterston-Super-Ely.
- Wenvoe - as a further consequence of the above, the community of Wenvoe forms an electoral ward of 1957 electors (1930 projected) which, if represented by 1 Councillor would result in a level of representation that is 10% above the recommended County average. The Commission has given the recommended

electoral ward the Welsh language name of Gwenfô and the English language name of Wenvoe.

- Rhoose - that the community of Rhoose forms an electoral ward of 5508 electors (5879 projected) which, if represented by 3 Councillors, would result in a level of representation that is 3% above the recommended County average. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the Welsh language name of Y Rhws and the English language name of Rhoose.

**2.2** Further details relating to the recommended electoral arrangements are contained within the Commission's Final Recommendations Report including details of representations received, levels of electoral representation within the County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan, potential improvements to the electoral representation across the County should the recommendations be implemented and considerations taken into account by the Commission including the legal framework governing the process.

**2.3** The Commission's Final Recommendations Report was submitted to Welsh Government on 5 February 2021 and it is now a matter for Welsh Government to determine whether to give effect to the Final Recommendations Report as submitted by the Commission or with modifications.

**2.4** Any further representations on the Final Recommendations Report are to be submitted to Welsh Government as soon as possible but no later than 19 March 2021. Thereafter Welsh Government may make an Order if deemed appropriate with or without modifications. The Commission have indicated that Welsh Government have given an assurance that the Order will be made in a timely manner. The final stage of the process will be Welsh Government's Order coming into force in advance of the May 2022 Local Government Elections. A copy of the Welsh Government's Order will be reported to Cabinet and Council when it becomes available.

**2.5** As indicated in the Final Recommendations Report, any comments on the recommended names of the electoral wards are to be sent to the Welsh Minister for Housing and Local Government.

### **3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?**

**3.1** The review of electoral arrangements safeguards the long-term needs of local residents to ensure an effective and convenient local government and electoral parity.

**3.2** As part of the electoral review the Commission has had regard to the forecasted population changes to prevent electoral wards, with plans for development, being under-represented.

- 3.3** Albeit the Commission has undertaken the electoral arrangements review, the Council has supported the Commission in ensuring the relevant Notices are published and facilitating presentations to encourage engagement with stakeholders.

## **4. Resources and Legal Considerations**

### **Financial**

- 4.1** An increase in the number of Councillors for the Vale of Glamorgan Council will result in an additional £14,368 per Councillor (this is the figure allocated by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales for 2021/22). Associated funding will be required for 2022/2023 in readiness for May 2022 when the Commission's proposals (subject to an Order by Welsh Government) will take effect.

### **Employment**

- 4.2** There are no direct implications arising from this report.

### **Legal (Including Equalities)**

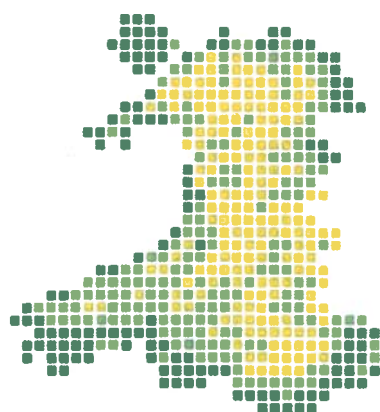
- 4.3** The statutory requirements relating to an electoral arrangements review are set out in the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013.

## **5. Background Papers**

- As set out in the Appendix and linked documents.
- The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales' document entitled Electoral Reviews: Policy and Practice 2016



# LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES



Comisiwn Ffiniau a  
Democratiaeth Leol  
Cymru

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Local Democracy and  
Boundary Commission  
For Wales

## Review of the Electoral Arrangements of the County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan

### Final Recommendations Report

February 2021

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## **FOREWORD**

The Commission is pleased to present this Report to the Minister for Housing and Local Government, which contains its recommendations for revised electoral arrangements for the County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan.

This review is part of the programme of reviews being conducted under the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013, and follows the principles contained in the Commission's Policy and Practice document.

The issue of fairness is at the heart of the Commission's statutory responsibilities. The Commission's objective has been to make recommendations that provide for effective and convenient local government, and which respect, as far as possible, local community ties. The recommendations are aimed at improving electoral parity, so that the vote of an individual elector has as equal a value to those of other electors throughout the County Borough, so far as it is possible to achieve.

The Commission is grateful to the Members and Officers of the Principal Council for their assistance in its work, to the Community and Town Councils for their valuable contributions, and to all who have made representations throughout the process.

**Dr Debra Williams**

**Chair**

**LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES**  
**REVIEW OF THE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS OF THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF THE**  
**VALE OF GLAMORGAN**  
**FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT**

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1<sup>st</sup> Edition printed February 2021

**The Commission welcomes correspondence and telephone calls in Welsh or English.**

**Mae'r ddogfen ar hon ar gael yn y Gymraeg.**

**This document has been translated into Welsh by Trosol.**

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**Julie James, MS**

**Minister for Housing and Local Government**

**Welsh Government**

## **Chapter 1. INTRODUCTION**

1. The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales (the Commission) has conducted a review of the electoral arrangements of the County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan. This review was conducted in accordance with the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 (the Act), specifically Sections 29, 30 and 34-36.
2. Pursuant to the Act, the Commission has completed the review of the electoral arrangements for the County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan and presents its final recommendations for future electoral arrangements.
3. This programme of reviews has come as a result of the former Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government's Written Statement of 23 June 2016, where the Commission was asked to restart its programme of reviews, with an expectation that all 22 electoral reviews be completed in time for the new arrangements to be put in place for the 2022 local government elections. The Written Statement can be found at Appendix 6. The rules and procedures the Commission follows can be found in the Commission's *Electoral Reviews: Policy and Practice* [2016] and outlined in Appendix 4. A Glossary of Terms can be found at Appendix 1, providing a short description of some of the common terminology used within this report.
4. Section 35 of the Act lays down the procedural guidelines which are to be followed in carrying out a review. In compliance with Section 35 the Commission wrote to the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council, all the community and town councils in the area, the mandatory consultees and other interested parties on 30 April 2019 to inform them of the Commission's intention to conduct the review and request their preliminary views. This consultation ran from 08 May 2019 to 30 July 2019. The Commission also made copies of its *Electoral Reviews: Policy and Practice* [2016] document available.
5. The Commission published its Draft Proposals Report on 13 February 2020 and requested views on the proposals. This consultation initially ran from 20 February 2020 and was due to end on 13 May 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the consultation was suspended on 24 March 2020. The Consultation then re-opened on 01 September 2020 and closed 20 October 2020 to allow for the full 12-week consultation.
6. The Commission publicised the review on its website and social media channels and asked the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council to publicise the review and provided the Council with a number of public notices to display. These were also provided to the community and town councils in the area. In addition, the Commission made a presentation to both county and town and community councillors to explain the review process and the Commission's policies. The County Borough Council was invited to submit a suggested scheme for new electoral arrangements.

## Chapter 2. THE DRAFT PROPOSALS

1. Prior to the formulation of the draft proposals, the Commission received representations from the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council, one Member of Parliament, eight community and town councils, two councillors, three interest groups and three residents.
2. These representations were taken into consideration and summarised in the Draft Proposals Report published on 13 February 2020. The listed mandatory consultees and other interested parties were informed of a period of consultation on the draft proposals which commenced on 20 February 2020 and was due to end on 13 May 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the consultation was suspended in agreement with the Council on 24 March 2020. The Consultation then re-opened on 01 September 2020 and closed on the 20 October 2020. The Commission asked the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council to display copies of the report alongside public notices in the area. The Commission's draft proposals proposed a change to the arrangement of electoral wards that would have achieved a significant improvement in the level of electoral parity across the County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan.
3. The Commission proposed a council of 53 members, an increase from the current size of 47. This resulted in a proposed county average of 1,809 electors per member.
4. The Commission proposed 23 electoral wards.
5. The largest under-representation (in terms of electoral variance) within the proposals was in Plymouth (23% above the proposed county average). At present the greatest under-representation is in Rhoose (69% above the proposed county average).
6. The largest over-representation (in terms of electoral variance) within the proposals was in St Athan (26% below the proposed county average). At present the greatest over-representation is in Llandough (18% below the proposed county average).
7. The Commission proposed 19 multi-member wards in the county consisting of: ten two-member electoral wards; seven three-member electoral wards; and two four-member electoral wards.
8. The Commission proposed to retain ten electoral wards.
9. The Commission proposed to have one electoral ward (Cornerswell and Llandough) within the county which combined a part of a warded community, along with its neighbouring community.

### Chapter 3. SUMMARY OF FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

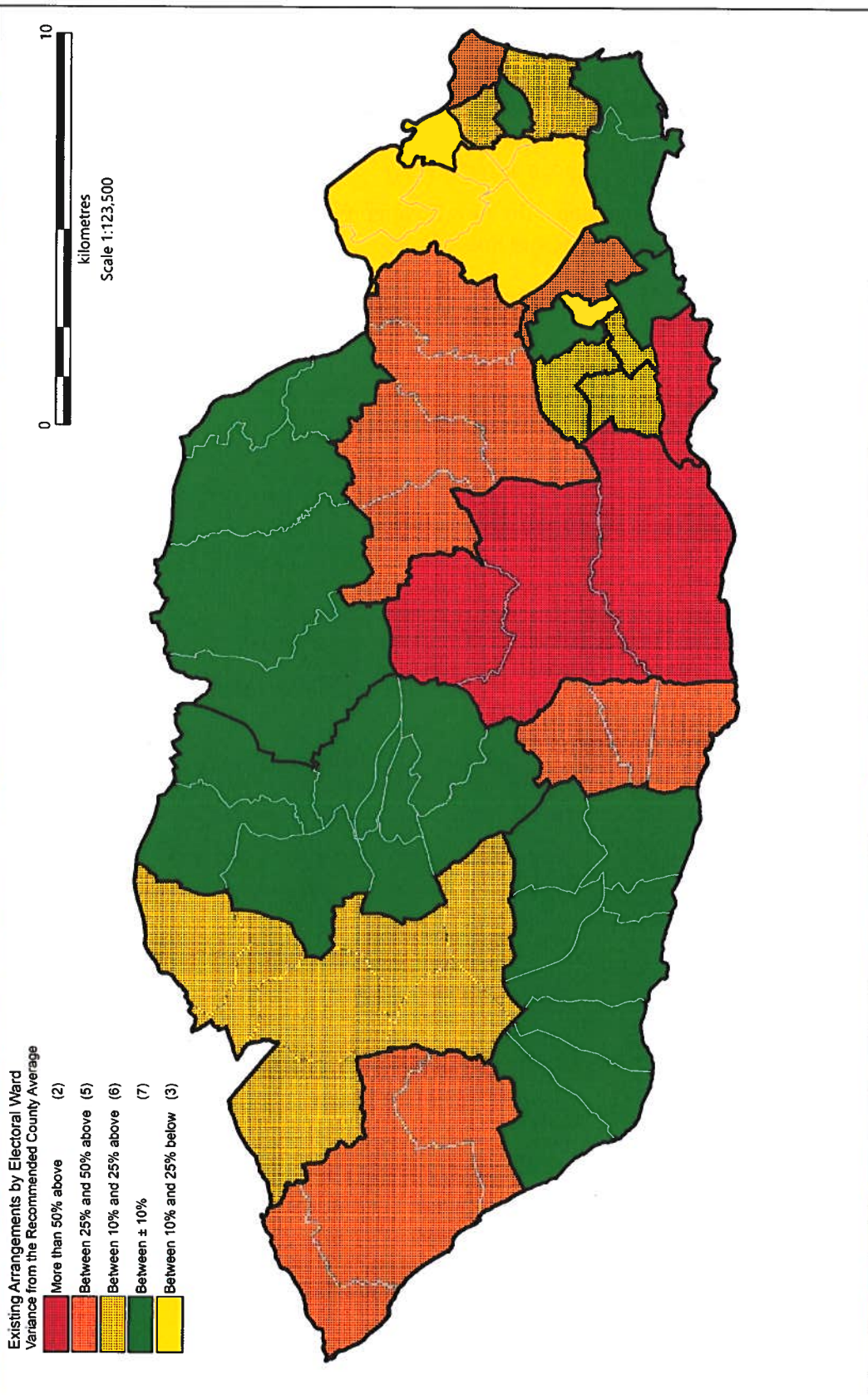
- The Commission received 126 representations from the County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, eight representations from seven town/community councils, four County Borough Councillors, four political Groups, one Member of Parliament, one Member of the Senedd and Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Councillor, one other interested organisation and 105 representations from 119 residents regarding Cornerswell / Llandough and one other local resident.
- The Commission considered all these representations carefully before it formulated its recommendations. A summary of those representations can be found at Appendix 5.
- The Commission recommends a change to the arrangement of electoral wards that will achieve a marked improvement in the level of electoral parity across the County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan.
- The Commission recommends a council of 54 members, an increase from the current size of 47. This results in a recommended county average of 1,775 electors per member.
- The Commission recommends 24 electoral wards.
- The largest under-representation (in terms of electoral variance) within the recommendations is in **Plymouth** (25% above the recommended county average). At present the greatest under-representation is in Rhoose (72% above the recommended county average).
- The largest over-representation (in terms of electoral variance) within the recommendations is in **St Athan** (25% below the recommended county average). At present the greatest over-representation is in Llandough (16% below the recommended county average).
- The Commission is recommending 19 multi-member wards in the county consisting of 11 two-member electoral wards; five three-member electoral wards; and three four-member electoral wards.
- The Commission has recommended to retain thirteen electoral wards.

### Summary Maps

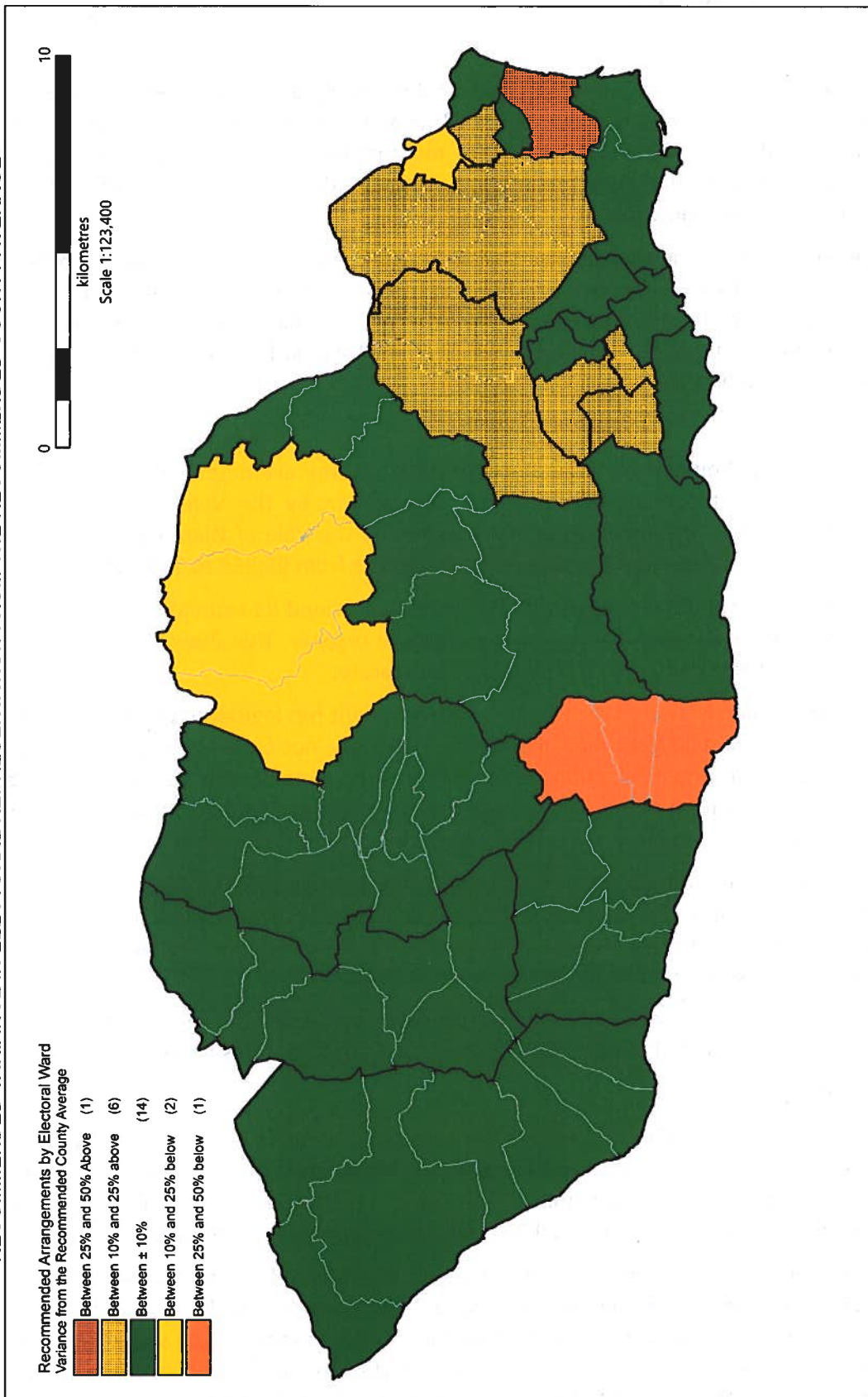
1. On the following pages are thematic maps illustrating the current and recommended arrangements and their variances from the recommended county average. Those areas in green are within  $\pm 10\%$  of the county average; yellow and hatched yellow between  $\pm 10\%$  and  $\pm 25\%$  of the county average; orange and hatched orange between  $\pm 25\%$  and  $\pm 50\%$  of the county average; and, finally, those in red are over  $\pm 50\%$  of the county average.
2. As can be seen from these maps, the new arrangements provide for a marked improvement in electoral parity across the County Borough.



**THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN**  
**EXISTING VARIANCE IN ELECTORAL REPRESENTATION FROM THE RECOMMENDED COUNTY AVERAGE**



**THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN  
RECOMMENDED VARIANCE IN ELECTORAL REPRESENTATION FROM THE RECOMMENDED COUNTY AVERAGE**



## Chapter 4. ASSESSMENT

### Council size

1. The council size for the County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan has been determined by our council size policy and methodology. This policy can be found in our *Electoral Reviews: Policy and Practice* [2016] document. The methodology sets out a council size of 51 for the County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan. At present the size of the council at 47 members is four members below the methodology aim.
2. The Commission reviewed the electoral arrangements for the County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan in light of our methodology and took account of the representations which had been made. For the reasons given below, we consider that in the interests of effective and convenient local government, a council size of 54 would be appropriate to represent the County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan.

### Number of electors

3. The numbers shown as the electorate for 2019 and the estimates for the electorate in the year 2024 are those submitted to the Commission by the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council. The forecast figures supplied by the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council show a forecasted increase in the electorate from 95,865 to 110,768.
4. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) has also provided its estimated number of persons eligible to vote but who are not on the electoral register. This showed an estimated 7,581 more people eligible to vote than the 2019 electorate.
5. The Commission is aware that the Welsh Government has legislated to extend the franchise to include 16 and 17 year olds and foreign nationals, not currently eligible to vote, at the 2022 local government elections. The Commission's Council Size Policy utilises the entire population to determine council size and these two groups were included in the Council Size deliberations.
6. While current 16 and 17 year olds are not in the existing electoral figures provided by the Vale of Glamorgan Council, those individuals will have been included in the forecasted figures provided by the Council. Consideration of these figures has been included in the Commission's deliberations on its recommendations.
7. Foreign nationals are included in the census data provided by the ONS. Consideration of this data has been included as part of the Commission's deliberations on its recommendations.

### Councillor to electorate ratio

8. In respect of the number of electors per councillor in each electoral ward, there is a wide variation from the current county average of 2,040 electors per councillor ranging from 27% below (1,490 electors) to 50% above (3,056 electors). The determination of the council of 54 members results in an average of 1,775 electors being represented by each councillor.
9. In its deliberations the Commission considered the ratio of local government electors to the number of councillors to be elected, with a view to proposing changes to ensure that the number of local government electors shall be, as near as may be, the same in every ward in the principal area. The Commission considered the size and character of the council and a wide range of other factors including local topography, road communications, and local ties.



### **Judgement and Balance**

10. In producing a scheme of electoral arrangements, the Commission must have regard to a number of issues contained in the legislation. The Commission's recommended scheme has placed emphasis on achieving improvements in electoral parity whilst maintaining community ties wherever possible. The Commission has made every effort to ensure that the revised electoral wards, in the Commission's view, are an appropriate combination of existing communities and community wards.
11. In some areas, because of the number of electors in a community or community ward, the Commission has considered the retention or creation of multi-member wards in order to achieve appropriate levels of electoral parity. This issue often arises in urban areas where the number of electors is too high to form a single-member ward. It also may arise in more rural wards where the creation of single-member wards would result in substantial variances in electoral parity. The Commission acknowledges the established practice of multi-member wards within the County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan and this is reflected in the Commission's recommendations.
12. The Commission has looked at each area and is satisfied that it would be difficult to achieve electoral arrangements that keep the existing combination of communities and community wards, without having a detrimental effect on one or more of the other issues that the Commission must consider.

### **Electoral Ward Names**

13. The Commission is naming electoral wards and not the places within the recommended electoral wards. In the creation of these final recommendations, the Commission has considered the names of all the electoral wards proposed in Welsh and English, where appropriate. For these final recommendations the Commission has considered names of either electoral wards or communities that appear in Orders, where they exist; those recommended by the Welsh Language Commissioner; and, in the representations it has received.
14. The Commission consulted with the Welsh Language Commissioner on the suitability of the names in their draft form prior to the publication of these final recommendations, with a particular focus on the Welsh language names. This recognises the Welsh Language Commissioner's responsibility to advise on the standard forms of Welsh place-names and specialist knowledge in the field. It must be clear that these recommendations are not proposals for changes to any place names. At each recommendation an indication is given of the Welsh Language Commissioner's recommended alternative and, where they differ, the specific recommendation and why the Welsh Language Commissioner has proposed an alternative to the Commission's recommended name.

## Chapter 5. THE FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Commission's recommendations are described in detail in this chapter. For each new proposal the report sets out:
  - The name(s) of the existing electoral wards which wholly or in part constitute the recommended ward;
  - A brief description of the existing electoral wards in terms of the number of electors now and projected, and their percentage variance from the recommended county average;
  - Key arguments made during the draft consultation (if any). Although not all representations are mentioned in this section, all representations have been considered and a summary can be found at Appendix 5;
  - The views of the Commission;
  - The composition of the recommended electoral ward and the recommended name;
  - A map of the recommended electoral ward (please see key at page 11).

### Retained Electoral Wards

2. The Commission has considered the electoral arrangements of the existing electoral wards and the ratio of local government electors to the number of councillors to be elected. It is recommended that the existing arrangements should be retained within the following electoral wards. Names displayed in **bold** within the list below denote the electoral wards where the existing geography and electoral ward names have been prescribed within Orders, and which the Commission is recommending to retain.
  - **Buttrills**
  - **Castleland**
  - **Cornerswell**
  - **Court**
  - **Cowbridge**
  - **Dinas Powys**
  - **Dyfan**
  - **Gibbonsdown**
  - **Illtyd**
  - **Llandough**
  - **Plymouth**
  - **Stanwell**
  - **Sully**
3. In its Draft Proposals report the Commission proposed to combine the Cornerswell and Llandough electoral wards to create a three-member electoral ward. In light of the representations received the Commission has recommended that the existing arrangements are retained for the existing Cornerswell and Llandough electoral wards.
4. In its Draft Proposals report the Commission proposed to reduce the number of councillors representing the Dinas Powys electoral ward to create a three-member electoral ward. In light of the representations received the Commission has recommended that the existing arrangements are retained for the existing Dinas Powys electoral ward.

**Recommended Electoral Wards**

5. The Commission considered changes to the remaining electoral wards. Details of the current electoral arrangements can be found at Appendix 2. The Commission's recommended arrangements can be found in Appendix 3.

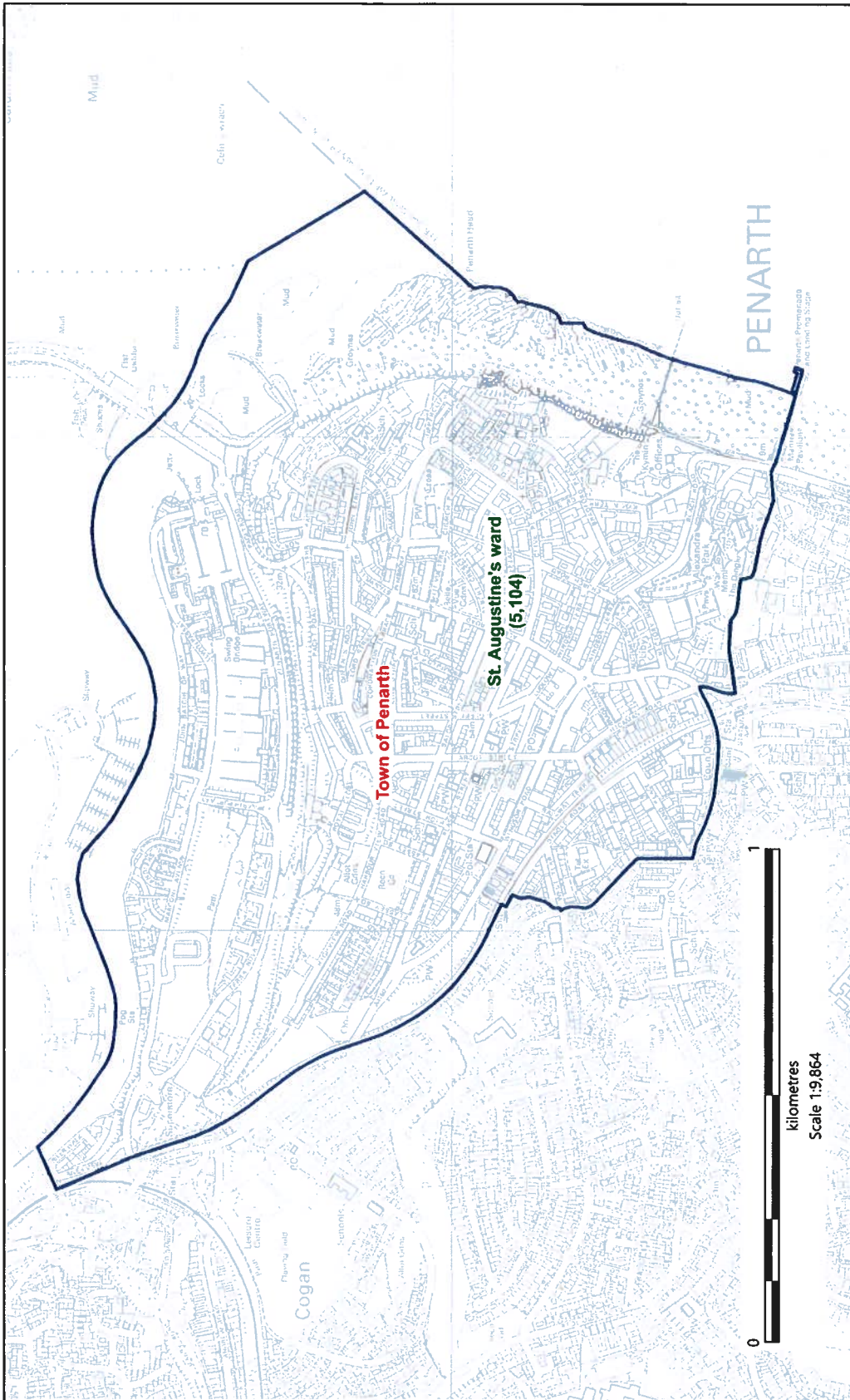
 Recommended Electoral Ward Boundary	 Draft Proposal Boundaries	 Community Boundaries	 Community Ward Boundaries
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## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES

### St. Augustine's

6. The existing St Augustine's electoral ward is comprised of the St Augustine's ward of the Town of Penarth. It has 5,104 electors (6,066 projected) represented by two councillors which is 44% above the recommended county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 5,974 eligible voters.
7. In its draft proposals the Commission proposed to increase the number of councillors representing the existing electoral ward of St Augustine's from two to three.
8. The Commission received three representations in response to the draft proposals regarding this area from the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council, Penarth Town Council and Llantwit Major Community Council.
9. Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council reached no consensus on the draft proposals. The Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Cabinet supported the draft proposals for this electoral ward.
10. Penarth Town Council and Llantwit Major Community Council supported the draft proposals for this electoral ward.
11. The Commission recommends that the St Augustine's ward of the Town of Penarth forms an electoral ward of 5,104 electors which, if represented by three councillors (an increase of one councillor), would result in a level of representation that is 4% below the recommended county average.
12. The Commission proposed the single name of St Augustine's. The Welsh Language Commissioner agreed with the proposed name. The Commission received no representations regarding the name.
13. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the single name of **St Augustine's**. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name. Any comments on the recommended name can be sent to the Minister for Housing and Local Government.
14. The Commission agrees with the proposal made by the Council during the initial consultation period. This recommendation provides for a significant improvement in electoral parity and has the support of the town council and the Vale of Glamorgan Council Cabinet.
15. The Commission considers that this arrangement best addresses the existing inappropriate levels of electoral variance whilst maintaining community ties and would provide for effective and convenient local government.

**St Augustine's**



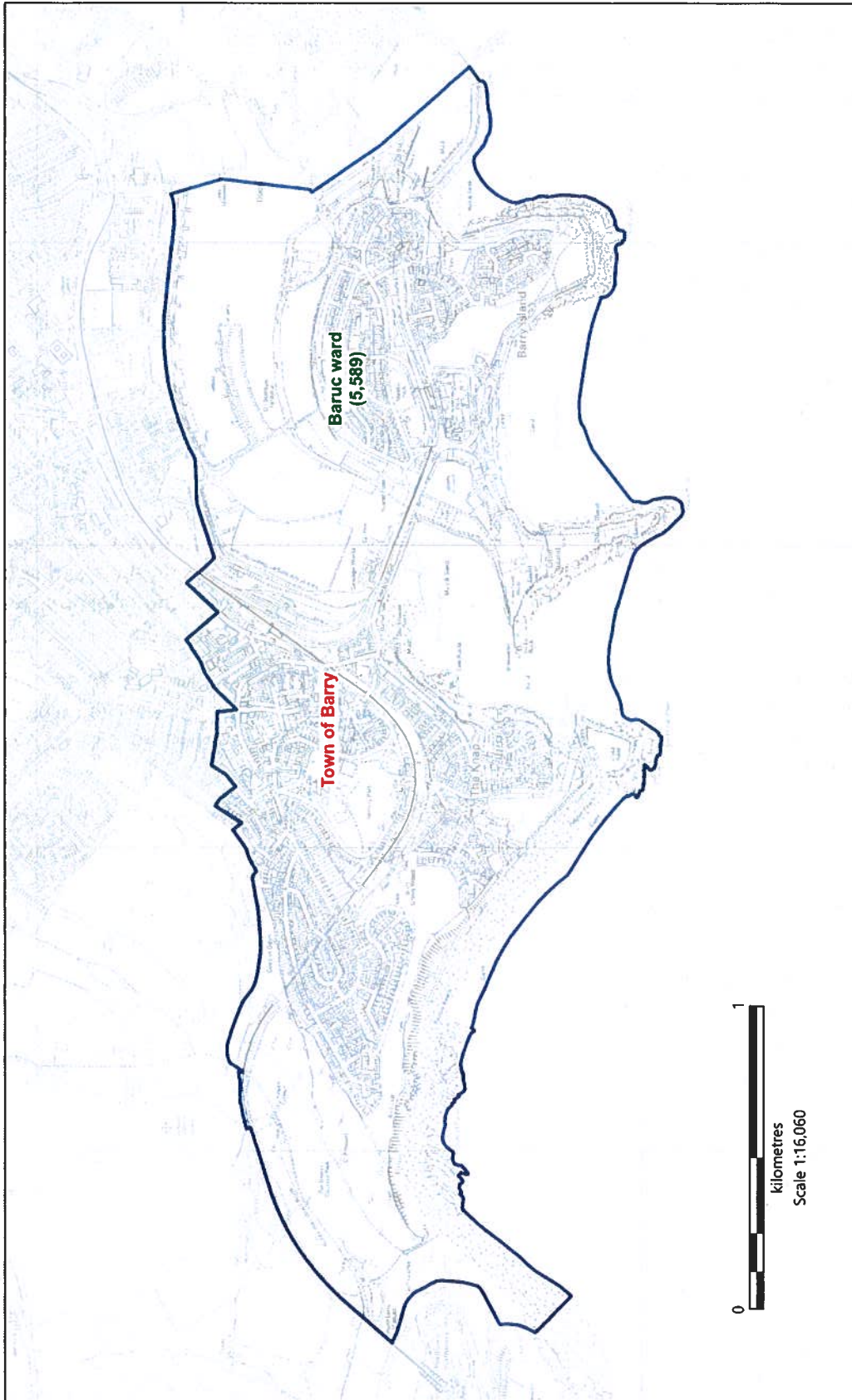


## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES

### Baruc

16. The existing Baruc electoral ward is comprised of the Baruc ward of the Town of Barry. It has 5,589 electors (6,680 projected) represented by two councillors which is 57% above the recommended county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 5,427 eligible voters.
17. In its draft proposals the Commission proposed to increase the number of councillors representing the existing electoral ward of Baruc from two to three.
18. The Commission received four representations in response to the draft proposals regarding this electoral ward from the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council, Alun Cairns MP (Vale of Glamorgan), Llantwit Major Community Council and the Plaid Cymru Vale of Glamorgan Group.
19. Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council reached no consensus on the draft proposals. The Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Cabinet, Alun Cairns MP (Vale of Glamorgan), Llantwit Major Community Council and the Plaid Cymru Vale of Glamorgan Group supported the draft proposals for this electoral ward.
20. The Commission recommends that the Baruc ward of the Town of Barry forms an electoral ward of 5,589 electors (6,680 projected) which, if represented by three councillors (an increase of one councillor), would result in a level of representation that is 5% above the recommended county average.
21. The Commission proposed the single name of Baruc. The Welsh Language Commissioner agreed with the proposed name. The Commission received no representations regarding the name.
22. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the single name of **Baruc**. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name. Any comments on the recommended name can be sent to the Minister for Housing and Local Government.
23. The Commission considered the representation made by the Council during the initial consultation period and agreed that the proposal to increase the number of members would improve electoral parity in the ward. The recommended arrangement is supported by the majority of representations received.
24. The Commission considers that this recommendation would be desirable in the interests of effective and convenient local government.

**Baruc**



## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES

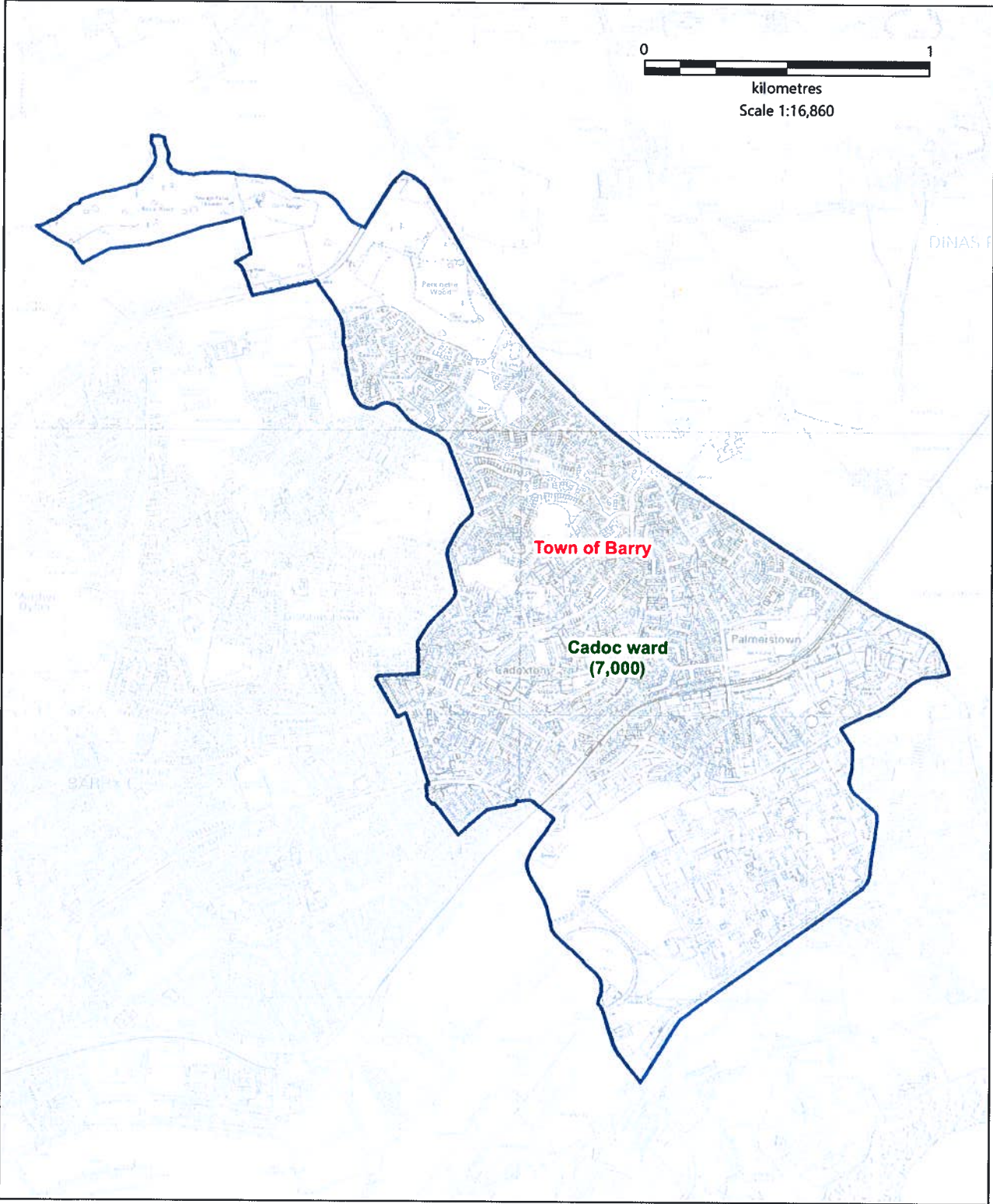
### Cadoc

25. The existing Cadoc electoral ward is comprised of the Cadoc ward of the Town of Barry. It has 7,000 electors (7,825 projected) represented by three councillors which is 31% above the recommended county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 7,909 eligible voters.
26. In its draft proposals the Commission proposed to increase the number of councillors representing the existing electoral ward of Cadoc from three to four.
27. The Commission received four representations in response to the draft proposals regarding this area from the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council, Alun Cairns MP (Vale of Glamorgan), Llantwit Major Community Council, and the Plaid Cymru Vale of Glamorgan Group.
28. Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council reached no consensus on the draft proposals. The Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Cabinet supported the draft proposals for the area.
29. Llantwit Major Community Council and Alun Cairns MP (Vale of Glamorgan) supported the draft proposals for the area.
30. The Plaid Cymru Vale of Glamorgan Group did not support the draft proposal for creating a four-member electoral ward in Cadoc, alternatively they proposed to split the existing Cadoc ward by creating two new two-member electoral wards of Cadoxton and Pencoedtre using existing polling districts.
31. The Commission recommends that the Cadoc ward of the Town of Barry form an electoral ward of 7,000 electors (7,825 projected), which if represented by four councillors (an increase of one) would result in a level of representation that is 1% below the recommended county average.
32. The Commission proposed the Welsh language name of Cadog and the English language name of Cadoc. The Welsh Language Commissioner recommended the single name of Cadog. The Welsh Language Commissioner notes that if the difference between the Welsh form and the 'English' form consists of only one or two letters, the use of a single form is recommended, with preference being given to the Welsh form.
33. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the Welsh language name of **Cadog** and the English language name of **Cadoc**. The Welsh Language Commissioner recommended the single name of Cadog. Any comments on the recommended names can be sent to the Minister for Housing and Local Government.
34. The Commission considered the representation to divide the Cadoc ward into two wards by creating two new electoral wards. However, the Commission considers that the proposed changes would be more appropriate to be considered as part of a community review under Section 31 of the Act, led by the Council.
35. The Commission considered the existing and projected arrangements for the Cadoc ward and it is the view of the Commission that a three-member ward would return a high level of electoral variance. The Commission has therefore made an exception to its policy to not create any new four-member wards. The Commission is of the view that it is appropriate to do so in this instance, as no viable alternative option has been presented.

36. The Commission considers that this recommendation would be desirable in the interests of effective and convenient local government.



### Cadoc



**Llandow/Ewenny, Llantwit Major and St. Bride's Major**

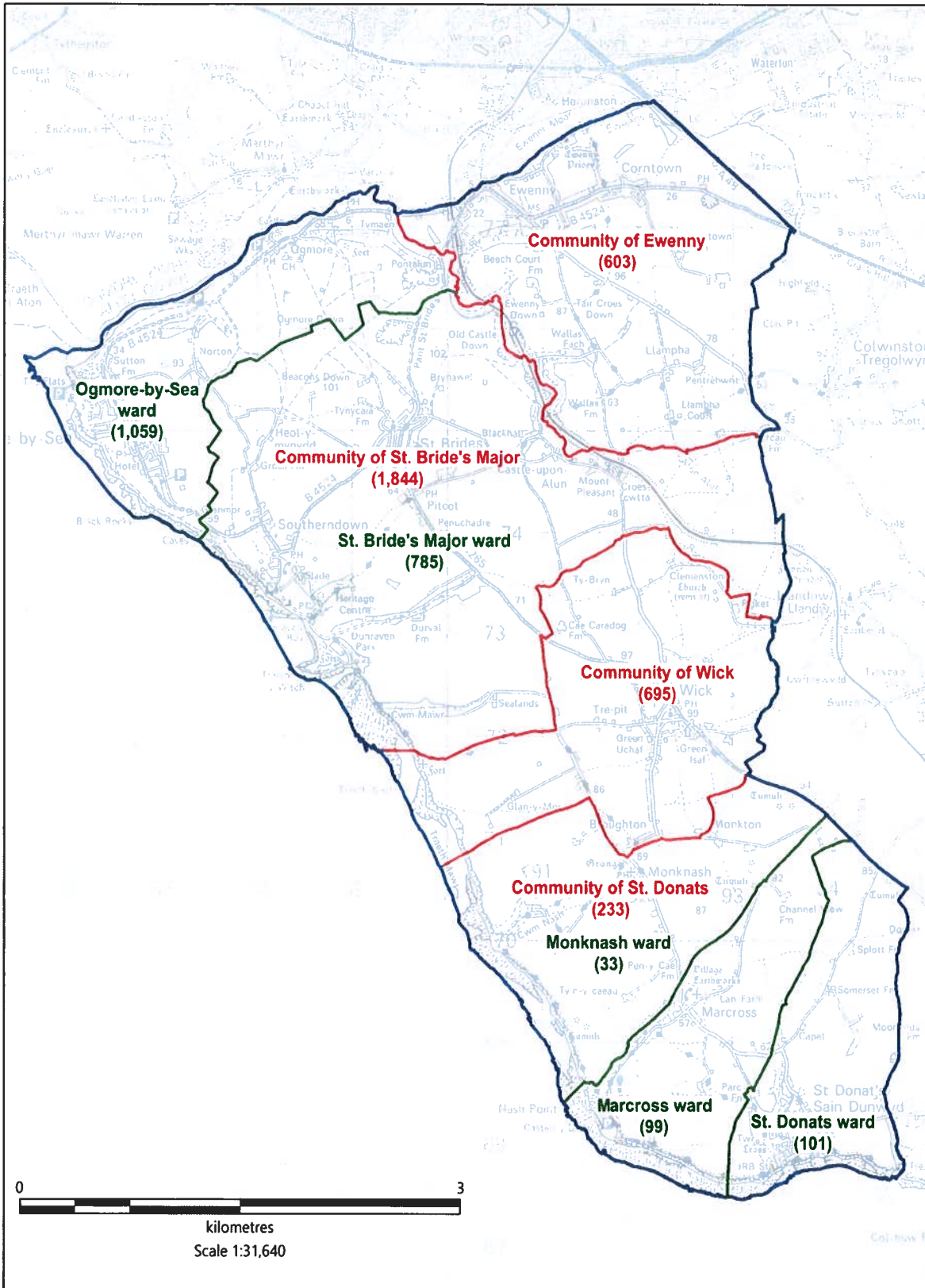
37. The existing Llandow/Ewenny electoral ward is composed of the Communities of Colwinston, Ewenny, Llandow and Llangan. It has 2,252 electors (2,211 projected) represented by one councillor which is 27% above the recommended county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 2,174 eligible voters.
38. The existing Llantwit Major electoral ward is composed of the Town of Llantwit Major and the Communities of Llanmaes and St. Donats. It has 7,665 electors (9,415 projected) represented by four councillors which is 8% above the recommended county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 8,500 eligible voters.
39. The existing St Bride's Major electoral ward is composed of the Communities of St. Bride's Major and Wick. It has 2,539 electors (2,377 projected) represented by one councillor which is 43% above the recommended county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 2,334 eligible voters.
40. In its draft proposals the Commission proposed that the Communities of Ewenny, St Bride's Major, St Donats and Wick combine to form an electoral ward. As a consequence, the Communities of Colwinston, Llandow and Llangan combine to form an electoral ward, and that the Town of Llantwit Major and the Community of Llanmaes combine to form an electoral ward.
41. The Commission received eleven representations in response to the draft proposals regarding this area from the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Llantwit Major Community Council, Colwinston Community Council, Llangan Community Council, Welsh St Donats Community Council, County Borough Councillor Christine Cave (Llandow/Ewenny), Andrew RT Davies MS and County Borough Councillor (Rhoose), Alun Cairns MP (Vale of Glamorgan), the Vale of Glamorgan Plaid Cymru Group, the Vale of Glamorgan Conservative Group and one local resident.
42. Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council reached no consensus on the draft proposals. The Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Cabinet supported the draft proposals for the area.
43. Welsh St Donats Community Council and Llantwit Major Community Council both supported the draft proposals in the area.
44. Colwinston Community Council, Llangan Community Council, County Borough Councillor Christine Cave (Llandow/Ewenny), Andrew RT Davies MS and County Borough Councillor (Rhoose), Alun Cairns MP (Vale of Glamorgan), the Vale of Glamorgan Conservative Group and one local resident opposed the draft proposals and proposed that the existing Llandow/Ewenny and St Bride's Major wards be combined, along with the Community of St Donats, to create a new three-member ward. All the communities within this proposed ward are small villages which share similar characteristics and local ties. This proposed three-member ward would comprise 5,024 electors, with a ratio of 7% below the county average. The proposed name for the ward would be Western Vale.
45. The Vale of Glamorgan Plaid Cymru Group supported the Commission's proposal to retain four-members to represent the Llantwit Major electoral ward, however they proposed that the existing arrangements be retained for the St Bride's Major and Llandow/Ewenny electoral wards.

## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES

46. The Commission recommends that the Communities of Ewenny, St Bride's Major, St Donats and Wick combine to form an electoral ward of 3,375 electors (3,209 projected) which, if represented by two councillors, would result in a level of representation that is 5% below the recommended county average.
47. The Commission proposed the Welsh language name of Saint-y-brid and the English language name of St Bride's Major. The Welsh Language Commissioner recommended the English language name of St Brides Major and the Welsh language name of Saint-y-brid. The Welsh Language Commissioner notes these are the forms recommended in the standard reference book, A Gazetteer of Welsh Place-names (University of Wales Press, 1967). The Commission received no representations regarding the name.
48. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the Welsh language name of **Saint-y-brid** and the English language name of **St Bride's Major**. The Welsh Language Commissioner recommended the English language name of St Brides Major. Any comments on the recommended names can be sent to the Minister for Housing and Local Government.
49. The Commission recommends as a consequence, that the Communities of Colwinston, Llandow and Llangan combine to form an electoral ward of 1,649 electors (1,615 projected) which, if represented by one councillor, would result in a level of representation that is 7% below the recommended county average.
50. The Commission proposed the Welsh language name of Llandŵ and the English language name of Llandow. The Welsh Language Commissioner agreed with the proposed name. The Commission received no representations regarding the name.
51. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the Welsh language name of **Llandŵ** and the English language name of **Llandow**. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended names. Any comments on the recommended names can be sent to the Minister for Housing and Local Government.
52. The Commission recommends that, as a further consequence, the Town of Llantwit Major and the Community of Llanmaes form an electoral ward of 7,432 electors (9,179 projected) which, if represented by four councillors would result in a level of representation that is 5% above the recommended county average.
53. The Commission proposed the Welsh language name of Llanilltud Fawr and the English language name of Llantwit Major. The Welsh Language Commissioner agreed with the proposed name. The Commission received no representations regarding the name.
54. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the Welsh language name of **Llanilltud Fawr** and the English language name of **Llantwit Major**. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended names. Any comments on the recommended names can be sent to the Minister for Housing and Local Government.
55. The Commission considered all the representations received with regard to this area. However, it is the view of the Commission that the proposed Western Vale electoral ward would create a large rural multi-member ward. The recommended arrangement has the support of the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council Cabinet as well as both the Welsh St Donats Community Council and Llantwit Major Town Councils.
56. The Commission considers that this recommendation would be desirable in the interests of effective and convenient local government.

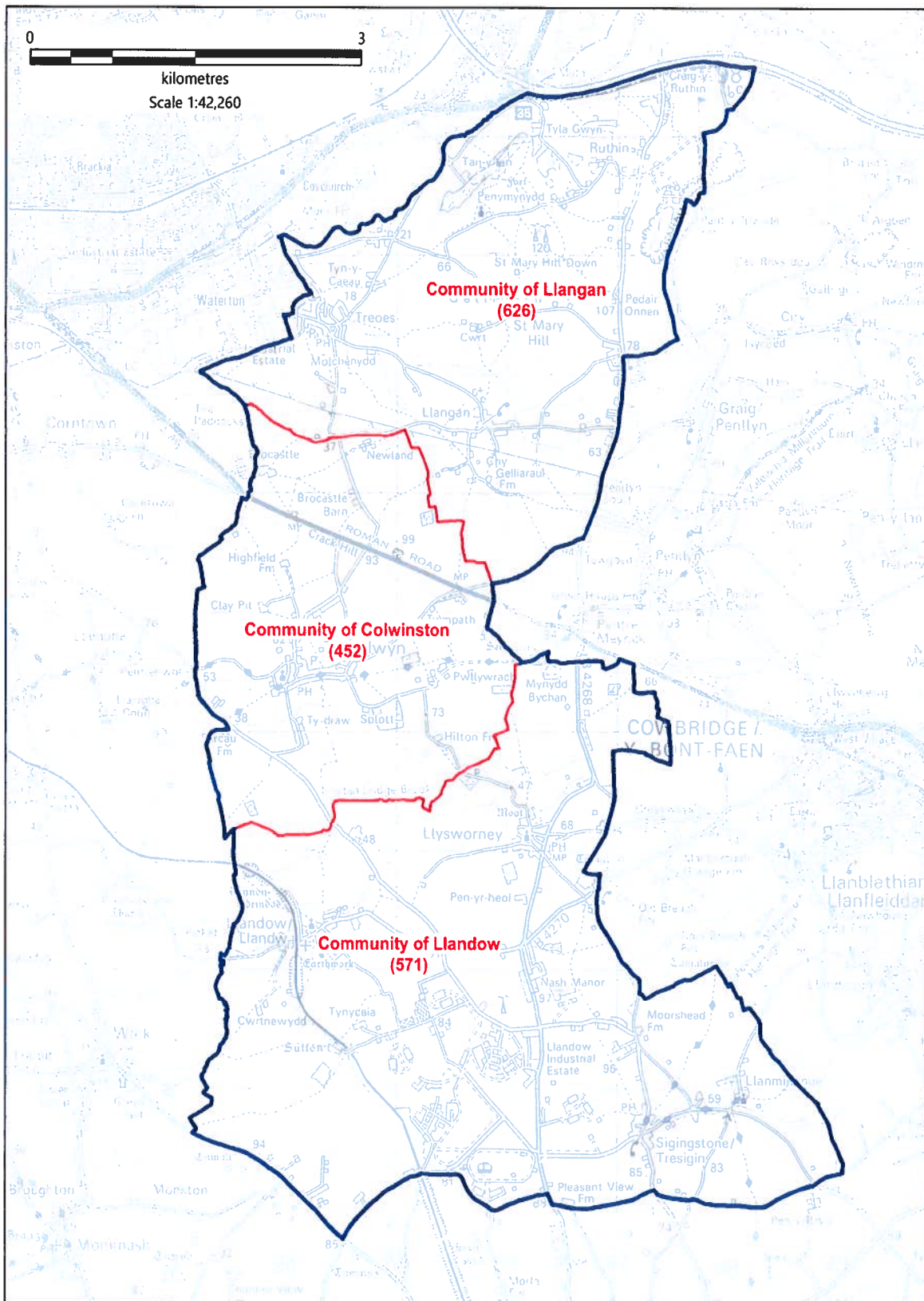


### St Bride's Major

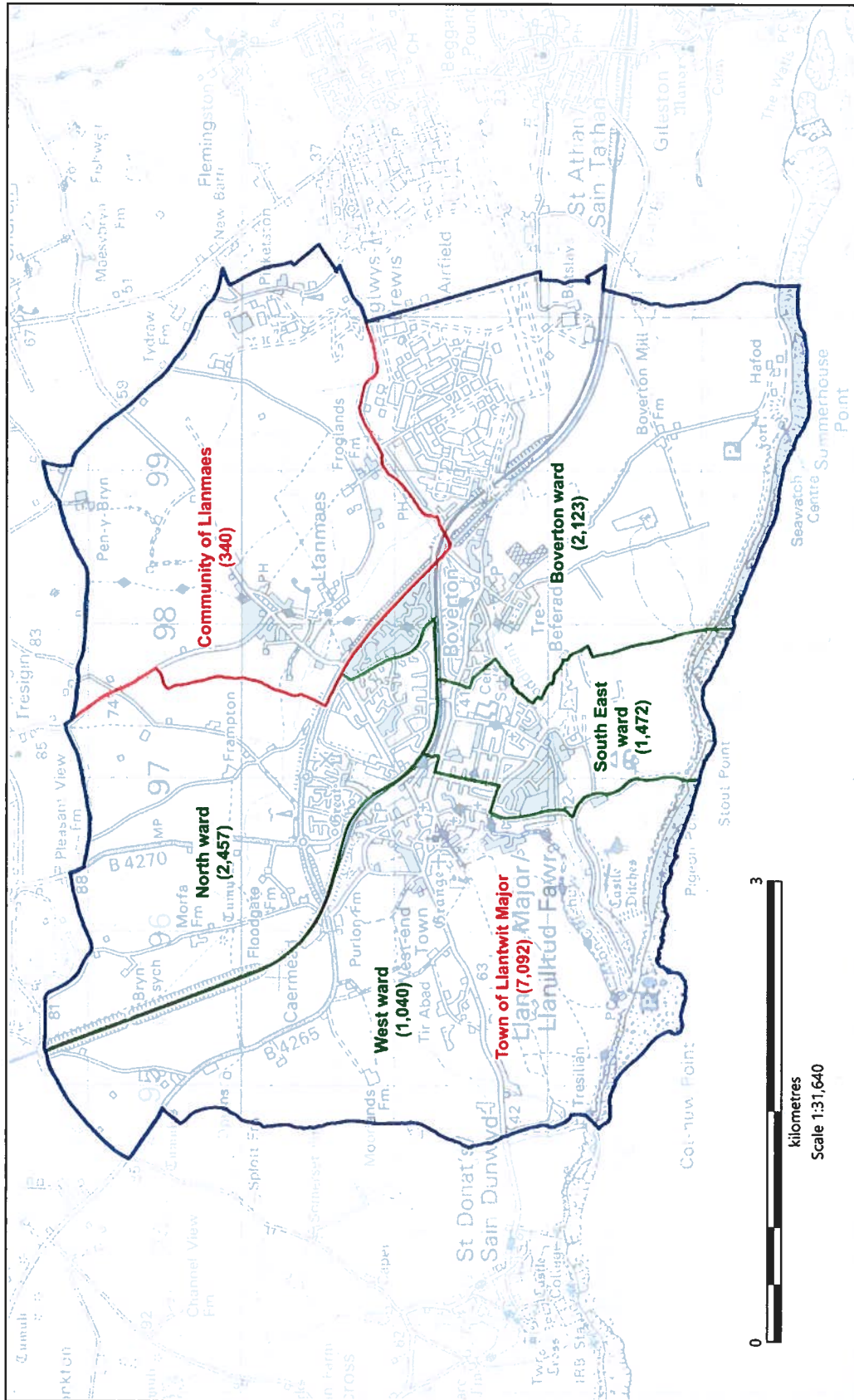




# Llandow



**Llantwit Major**



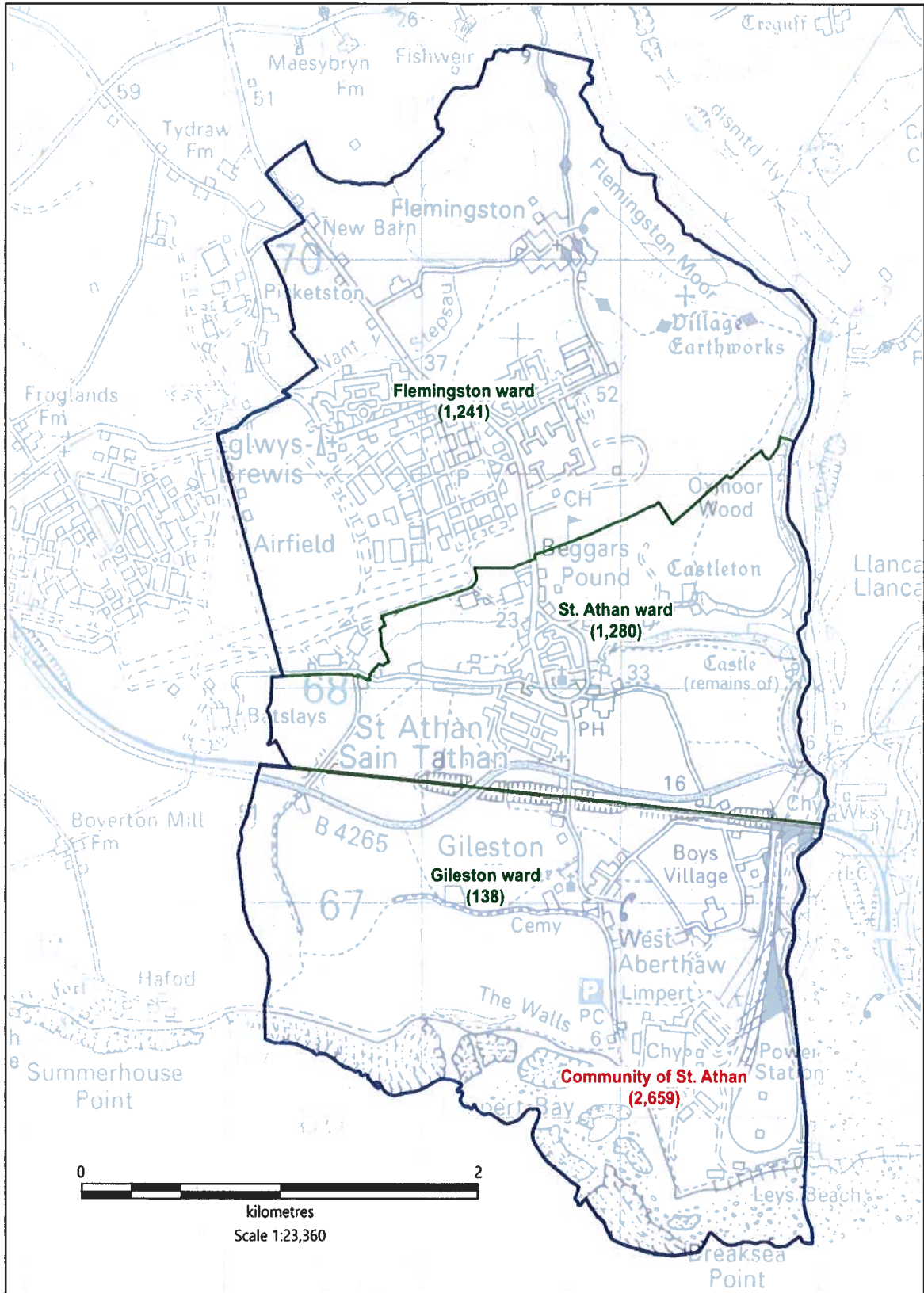
## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES

### St. Athan

57. The existing St Athan electoral ward is comprised of the Community of St. Athan. It has 2,659 electors (4,124 projected) represented by one councillor which is 50% above the recommended county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 3,577 eligible voters.
58. In its draft proposals the Commission proposed to increase the number of councillors representing the existing electoral ward of St Athan from one to two.
59. The Commission received five representations in response to the draft proposals regarding this area from the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council, Welsh St Donats Community Council, Llantwit Major Community Council, Alun Cairns MP (Vale of Glamorgan) and the Vale of Glamorgan Plaid Cymru Group.
60. Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council reached no consensus on the draft proposals. The Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Cabinet supported the draft proposals for the area.
61. Welsh St Donats Community Council, Llantwit Major Community Council and Alun Cairns MP (Vale of Glamorgan) supported the draft proposals for this electoral ward.
62. The Vale of Glamorgan Plaid Cymru Group opposed the draft proposals for this electoral ward and proposed that the existing arrangements be retained.
63. The Commission recommends that the Community of St. Athan forms an electoral ward of 2,659 electors (4,124 projected) which if represented by two councillors (an increase of one) would result in a level of representation that is 25% below the recommended county average.
64. The Commission proposed the Welsh language name of Sain Tathan and the English language name of St Athan. The Welsh Language Commissioner agreed with the proposed name. The Commission received no representations regarding the name.
65. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the Welsh language name of **Sain Athan** and the English language name of **St Athan**. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended names. Any comments on the recommended names can be sent to the Minister for Housing and Local Government.
66. The Commission considered the representation made by the Council during the initial consultation period and agreed that the proposal to increase the number of members would improve electoral parity in the ward. The recommended arrangement is supported by the majority of the representations received and returns an electoral ward with an appropriate level of electoral variance. The Commission considered that retaining the existing arrangements would not be appropriate due to the high level of variance that currently exists in the ward.
67. The Commission considers that this recommendation would be desirable in the interests of effective and convenient local government.



# St Athan



## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES

### **Peterston-super-Ely, Rhose and Wenvoe**

68. The existing Peterston-super-Ely electoral ward is composed of the Communities of Pendoylan, Peterston-Super-Ely, St. Georges-super-Ely and Welsh St. Donats. It has 1,840 electors (1,803 projected) represented by one councillor which is 4% above the recommended county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 1,784 eligible voters.
69. The Rhose electoral ward is composed of the Communities of Llancarfan and Rhose. It has 6,111 electors (6,436 projected) represented by two councillors which is 72% above the recommended county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 5,637 eligible voters.
70. The existing Wenvoe electoral ward is composed of the Communities of St. Nicholas and Bonvilston and, Wenvoe. It has 2,650 electors (2,940 projected) represented by one councillor which is 49% above the recommended county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 2,362 eligible voters.
71. In its draft proposals the Commission proposed that the Communities of Llancarfan, St. Georges-super-Ely and St. Nicholas and Bonvilston combine to form an electoral ward. As a consequence it proposed that the Communities of Pendoylan, Peterston-Super-Ely and Welsh St. Donats combine to form an electoral ward, and for the Community of Wenvoe to form an electoral ward. The Commission also proposed that the Community of Rhose form an electoral ward.
72. The Commission received six representations in response to the draft proposals regarding this area from the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council, Llantwit Major Community Council, Andrew RT Davies MS and County Borough Councillor (Rhosse), Alun Cairns MP (Vale of Glamorgan), the Vale of Glamorgan Plaid Cymru Group and the Vale of Glamorgan Conservative Group.
73. Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council reached no consensus on the draft proposals. The Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Cabinet supported the draft proposals for the area.
74. Llantwit Major Community Council and the Vale of Glamorgan Plaid Cymru Group supported the draft proposals for this area.
75. Andrew RT Davies MS and County Borough Councillor (Rhosse), Alun Cairns MP (Vale of Glamorgan) and the Vale of Glamorgan Conservative Group opposed the draft proposals in the area. They proposed the creation of a new four-member electoral ward which would be composed of the Communities of Rhose, Llancarfan and Bonvilston & St Nicholas. This proposal would allow the Community of St Georges-super-Ely to remain in the Peterston-super-Ely electoral ward. They argued that this proposed ward would better reflect the local ties in the area.
76. The Commission recommends that the Communities of Llancarfan, St. Georges-super-Ely and St. Nicholas and Bonvilston combine to form an electoral ward with 1,621 electors (1,880 projected) which if represented by one councillor, would result in a level of representation that is 9% below the recommended county average.
77. The Commission proposed the Welsh language name of Sain Nicolas a Thresimwn and the English language name of St Nicholas and Llancarfan. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement but noted that Llancarfan in the English name does not correspond to

Tresimwn in the Welsh name and that the Commission could use Llanccarfan instead of Tresimwn in the Welsh name or use Bonvilston (English form for Tresimwn) instead of Llanccarfan in the English name.

78. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the Welsh language name of **Sain Nicolas a Llanccarfan** and the English language name of **St Nicholas and Llanccarfan**. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended names. Any comments on the recommended names can be sent to the Minister for Housing and Local Government.
79. The Commission recommends as a consequence, that the Communities of Pendoylan, Peterston-Super-Ely and Welsh St. Donats combine to form a new electoral ward with 1,515 electors (1,490 projected) which, if represented by one councillor, would result in a level of representation that is 15% below the recommended county average.
80. The Commission proposed the Welsh language name of Llanbedr-y-fro and the English language name of Peterston-Super-Ely. The Welsh Language Commissioner agreed with the proposed name. The Commission received no representations regarding the name.
81. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the Welsh language name of **Llanbedr-y-fro** and the English language name of **Peterston-Super-Ely**. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended names. Any comments on the recommended names can be sent to the Minister for Housing and Local Government.
82. The Commission recommends as a further consequence, the Community of Wenvoe forms an electoral ward of 1,957 electors (1,930 projected) which, if represented by one councillor, would result in a level of representation that is 10% above the recommended county average.
83. The Commission proposed the Welsh language name of Gwenfô and the English language name of Wenvoe. The Welsh Language Commissioner agreed with the recommended name. The Commission received no representations regarding the name.
84. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the Welsh language name of **Gwenfô** and the English language name of **Wenvoe**. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended names. Any comments on the recommended names can be sent to the Minister for Housing and Local Government.
85. The Commission recommends that the Community of Rhoose forms an electoral ward of 5,508 electors (5,879 projected) which, if represented by three councillors, would result in a level of representation that is 3% above the recommended county average.
86. The Commission proposed the Welsh language name of Y Rhws and the English language name of Rhoose. The Welsh Language Commissioner agreed with the recommended names. The Commission received no representations regarding the name.
87. The Commission has given the recommended electoral ward the Welsh language name of **Y Rhws** and the English language name of **Rhoose**. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended names. Any comments on the recommended names can be sent to the Minister for Housing and Local Government.
88. The Commission considered the representations submitted that proposed to create a new four-member electoral ward composed of the Communities of Rhoose, Llanccarfan and Bonvilston & St Nicholas. However, it is the view of the commission it is not desirable to create a new four-member ward in a semi-rural area. The Commission also notes that the

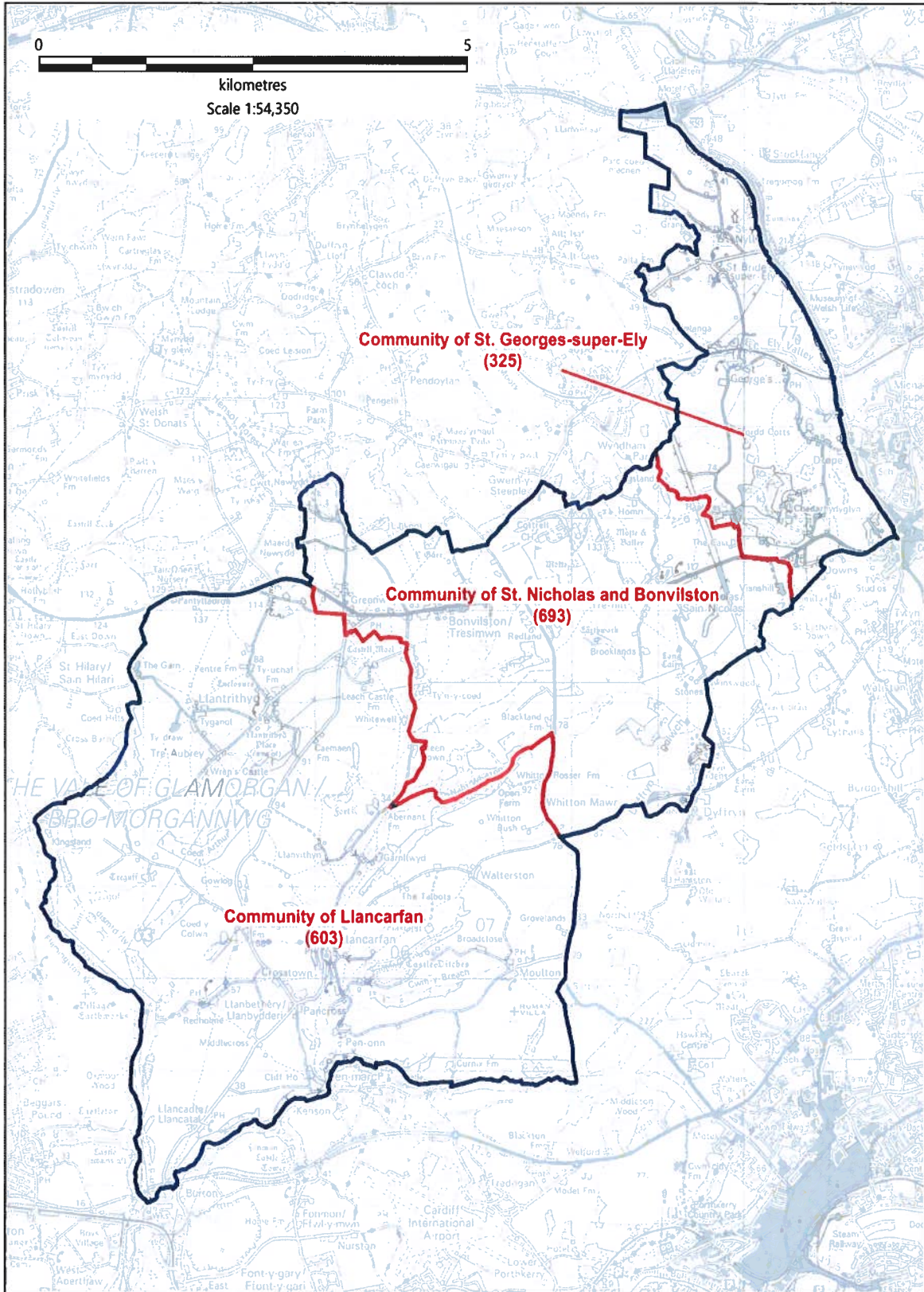
## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES

Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council Cabinet supported the Commission's draft proposals in the area.

89. It is the view of the Commission that these arrangements best address the existing levels of electoral variance within the area.
90. The Commission considers that these recommended wards would be desirable in the interests of effective and convenient local government.



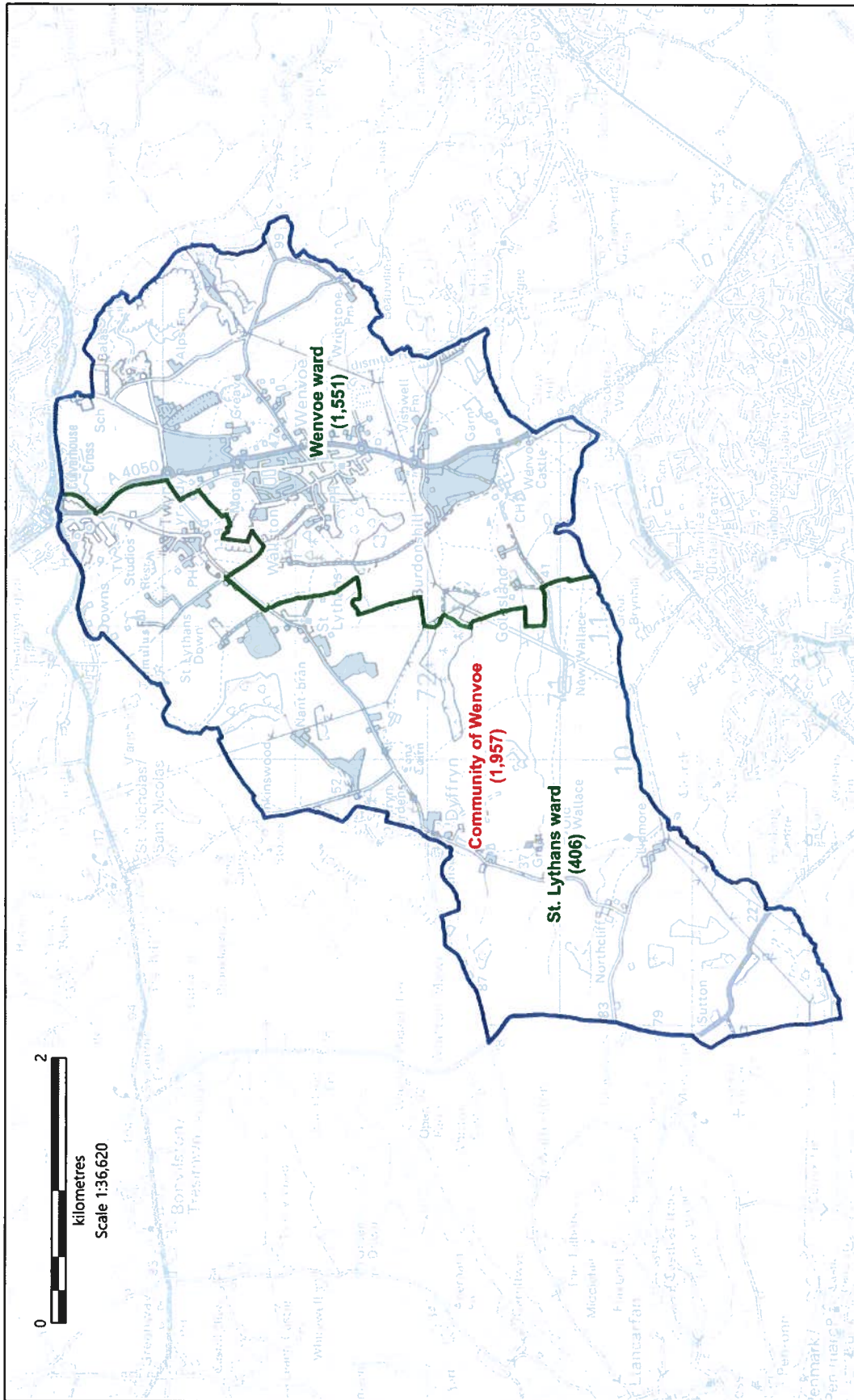
## St Nicholas and Llancaiwan



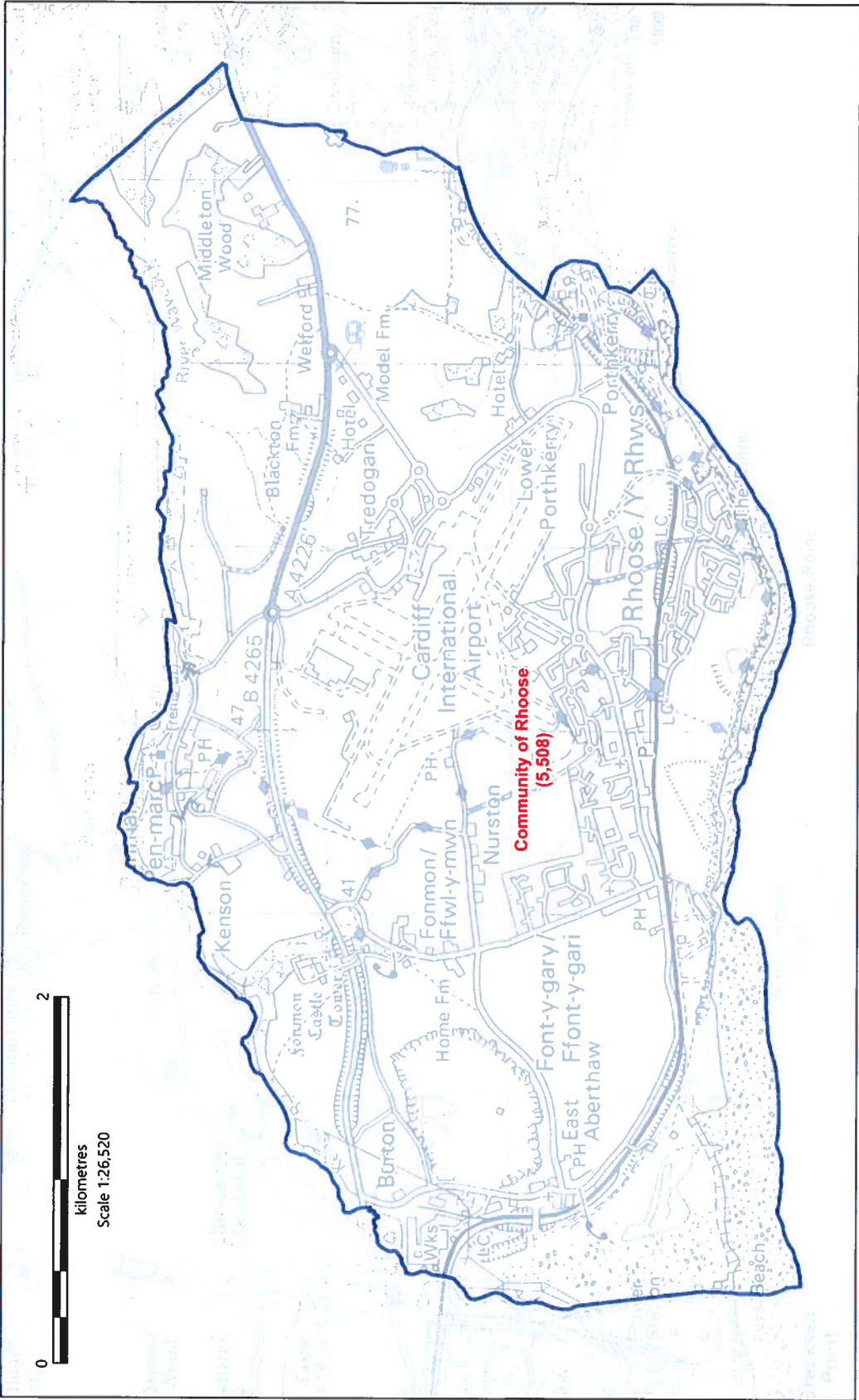




**Wenvoe**



**Rhoose**





## Chapter 6. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDED ARRANGEMENTS

1. The existing electoral arrangements (as shown at Appendix 2) provide for the following levels of electoral representation within the County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan:
  - Electoral variance ranges from 27% below the current county average (Llandough) to 50% above the current county average (Rhoose) of 2,040 electors per councillor.
  - None of the electoral wards had levels of representation more than 50% above or below the current county average of 2,040 electors per councillor.
  - Seven electoral wards have levels of representation between 25% and 50% above or below the current county average of 2,040 electors per councillor.
  - Nine electoral wards have levels of representation between 10% and 25% above or below the current county average of 2,040 electors per councillor.
  - Seven electoral wards have levels of representation less than 10% above or below the current county average of 2,040 electors per councillor.
2. In comparison with the existing electoral arrangements shown above, the recommended electoral arrangements (as shown in Appendix 3) illustrate the following improvements to the electoral representation across the County:
  - Electoral variance ranges from 25% below the recommended county average (St Athan) to 25% above the recommended county average (Plymouth) of 1,775 electors per councillor.
  - None of the electoral wards has levels of representation more than 25% above or below the recommended county average of 1,775 electors per councillor.
  - 10 electoral wards have levels of representation between 10% and 25% above or below the recommended county average of 1,775 electors per councillor.
  - 14 electoral wards have levels of representation less than 10% above or below the recommended county average of 1,775 electors per councillor.
3. As described in Chapter 4 and Appendix 4, in producing a scheme of electoral arrangements the Commission must have regard to a number of issues contained in the legislation. It is not always possible to resolve all of these, sometimes conflicting, issues. In the Commission's recommended scheme the Commission has placed emphasis on achieving improvements in electoral parity whilst maintaining community ties wherever possible.
4. The Commission recognises that the creation of electoral wards which depart from the pattern which now exists would inevitably bring some disruption to existing ties between communities and may straddle community council areas. The Commission has made every effort to ensure that the revised electoral wards do reflect logical combinations of existing communities and community wards.
5. The Commission has looked at each area and is satisfied that it would be difficult to achieve electoral arrangements that keep the existing combination of communities and community wards without having a detrimental effect on one or more of the other issues that it must consider.

## **Chapter 7. RESPONSES TO THIS REPORT**

1. Having completed the review of the County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan and submitted the Commission's recommendations to the Welsh Government on the future electoral arrangements for the principal authority, the Commission has fulfilled its statutory obligations under the Act.
2. It now falls to the Welsh Government, if it thinks fit, to give effect to these recommendations either as submitted, or with modifications. The Welsh Government may also direct us to conduct a further review.
3. Any further representations concerning the matters in this report should be addressed to the Welsh Government. They should be made as soon as possible and, in any event, not later than six weeks from the date the Commission's recommendations are submitted to the Welsh Government. Representations should be addressed to:

Local Government Democracy Team  
Democracy, Diversity and Remuneration Division  
Welsh Government  
Cathays Park  
Cardiff  
CF10 3NQ

Or by email to:

[lgdtmailbox@gov.wales](mailto:lgdtmailbox@gov.wales)

## **Chapter 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

1. The Commission wishes to express its gratitude to the principal council, all the town and community councils and other interested bodies and persons who made representations to us during the course of developing these final recommendations. We, the undersigned, commend this recommendations report.

**Dr. DEBRA WILLIAMS (Chair)**

**CERI STRADLING (Deputy Chair)**

**DAVID POWELL (Member)**

**JULIE MAY (Member)**

**THEODORE JOLOZA (Member)**

**SHEREEN WILLIAMS MBE OStJ (Chief Executive)**

**[February 2021]**

## APPENDIX 1 – GLOSSARY OF TERMS

<b>Commission</b>	The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales.
<b>Community (area)</b>	The unit of local government that lies below the level of the Principal Council.
<b>Community Council</b>	An elected council that provides services to their particular community area. A Community Council may be divided for community electoral purposes into community wards.
<b>Community / Town ward</b>	An area within a Community Council created for community electoral purposes.
<b>Directions</b>	Directions issued by Welsh Ministers under Section 48 of the Act.
<b>Electoral wards</b>	The areas into which Principal Councils are divided for the purpose of electing county councillors, previously referred to as electoral divisions.
<b>Electoral review</b>	A review in which the Commission considers the electoral arrangements for a Principal Council.
<b>Electoral variance</b>	How far the number of electors per councillor in a ward varies from the county average; expressed as a percentage.
<b>Electorate</b>	The number of persons registered to vote in a local government area.
<b>Estimated Population of Eligible Voters</b>	The estimated number of eligible persons (18+) within a local government area who are eligible to vote. These figures have been sourced from the Office of National Statistics' 2015 Ward population estimated for Wales, mid-2015 (experimental statistics).
<b>Interested party</b>	Person or body who has an interest in the outcome of an electoral review such as a community or town council, local MP or AM or political party.
<b>Order</b>	Order made by an implementing body, giving effect to proposals made by the Principal Council or the Commission.
<b>Over-representation</b>	Where there are fewer electors per councillor in a ward compared to the county average.
<b>Principal area</b>	The area governed by a Principal Council: in Wales a county or county borough.

<b>Principal council</b>	The single tier organ of local government, responsible for all or almost all local government functions within its area. A county or county borough council.
<b>Projected electorate</b>	The five-year forecast of the electorate.
<b>Split Community</b>	A Community which is divided between two, or more, Electoral Wards.
<b>The Act</b>	The Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013.
<b>Town Council</b>	A Community Council with the status of a town are known as Town Councils. A Town Council may be divided for community electoral purposes into wards.
<b>Under-representation</b>	Where there are more electors per councillor in a ward compared to the county average.



**VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
EXISTING COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP**

**Appendix 2**

No.	NAME	DESCRIPTION	No. Of COUNCILLORS	ELECTORATE E 2019	2019 RATIO	% variance from County average	ELECTORATE 2024	2024 RATIO	% variance from County average	Population Eligible to Vote
1	Baruc	The Baruc ward of the Town of Barry	2	5,589	2,795	37%	6,680	3,340	42%	5,427
2	Buttrills	The Buttrills ward of the Town of Barry	2	4,256	2,128	4%	5,033	2,517	7%	5,004
3	Cadoc	The Cadoc ward of the Town of Barry	3	7,000	2,333	14%	7,825	2,608	11%	7,909
4	Castleland	The Castleland ward of the Town of Barry	2	3,270	1,635	-20%	4,124	2,062	-13%	4,041
5	Cornerswell	The Cornerswell ward of the Town of Penarth	2	3,965	1,983	-3%	4,409	2,205	-6%	4,279
6	Court	The Court ward of the Town of Barry	2	3,219	1,610	-21%	3,697	1,849	-22%	3,716
7	Cowbridge	The Communities of Llanfair and Penllyn and the Town of Cowbridge with Llanblethian.	3	5,047	1,682	-18%	5,757	1,919	-19%	5,214
8	Dinas Powys	The Communities of Dinas Powys and Michaelston	4	6,086	1,522	-25%	7,356	1,839	-22%	6,563
9	Dyfan	The Dyfan ward of the Town of Barry	2	4,031	2,016	-1%	4,447	2,224	-6%	4,410
10	Gibbonsdown	The Gibbonsdown ward of the Town of Barry	2	3,693	1,847	-9%	4,716	2,358	0%	4,403
11	Llandough	The Community of Llandough	3	6,117	2,039	0%	6,725	2,242	-5%	6,650
12	Llandow/Ewenny	The Communities of Colwinston, Ewenny, Llandow and Llanigan	1	1,490	1,490	-27%	1,681	1,681	-29%	1,513
13	Llantwit Major	The Communities of Llanmaes and St Donats	1	2,252	2,252	10%	2,211	2,211	-6%	2,174
14	Llantwit Major	The Communities of Pendoylan, Peterston-super-Ely, St. Georges-super-Ely and Welsh St. Donats	4	7,665	1,916	-6%	9,415	2,354	0%	8,500
15	Peterston-super-Ely	The Communities of Pendoylan, Peterston-super-Ely, St. Georges-super-Ely and Welsh St. Donats	1	1,840	1,840	-10%	1,803	1,803	-23%	1,784
16	Plymouth	The Plymouth ward of the Town of Penarth	2	4,450	2,225	9%	4,791	2,396	2%	4,616
17	Rhoose	The Communities of Llanctaran and Rhoose	2	6,111	3,056	50%	6,436	3,218	37%	5,637
18	St. Athan	The Community of St. Athan	1	2,659	2,659	30%	4,124	4,124	75%	3,577
19	St. Augustine's	The St. Augustine's ward of the Town of Penarth	2	5,104	2,552	25%	6,066	3,033	29%	5,974
20	St. Bride's Major	The Communities of St. Bride's Major and Wick	1	2,539	2,539	24%	2,377	2,377	1%	2,334
21	Stanwell	The Stanwell ward of the Town of Penarth	2	3,260	1,630	-20%	3,597	1,799	-24%	3,463
22	Sully	The Community of Sully	2	3,572	1,786	-12%	4,558	2,279	-3%	3,896
23	Wenvoe	The Communities of St. Nicholas and Bonvilston and Wenvoe	1	2,650	2,650	30%	2,940	2,940	25%	2,362
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>95,865</b>	<b>2,040</b>		<b>110,768</b>	<b>2,357</b>		<b>103,446</b>

Ratio is the number of electors per councillor  
Electoral figures supplied by The Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council  
Population figures supplied by the Office for National Statistics

	2019	2024
Greater than + or 50% of County Average	0	1
Between + or - 25% and + or - 50% of County Average	7	4
Between + or - 10% and + or - 25% of County Average	9	8
Between 0% and + or - 10% of County Average	7	10

VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
RECOMMENDED COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Appendix 3

No.	NAME	DESCRIPTION	No. OF COUNCILLORS	ELECTORATE 2019	2019 RATIO	% variance from Recommended County average	ELECTORATE 2024	2024 Ratio	% variance from Recommended County average
1	Baruc	The Baruc ward of the Town of Barry	3	5,589	1,863	5%	6,680	2,227	9%
2	Buttrills	The Buttrills ward of the Town of Barry	2	4,256	2,128	20%	5,033	2,517	23%
3	Cadoc	The Cadoc ward of the Town of Barry	4	7,000	1,750	-1%	7,825	1,956	-5%
4	Castleland	The Castleland ward of the Town of Barry	2	3,270	1,635	-8%	4,124	2,062	1%
5	Comerswell	The Comerswell ward of the Town of Penarth	2	3,965	1,983	12%	4,409	2,205	8%
6	Court	The Court ward of the Town of Barry	2	3,219	1,610	-9%	3,697	1,849	-10%
7	Cowbridge	The Town of Cowbridge with Llanblethian and the Community of Penllyn	3	5,047	1,682	-5%	5,757	1,919	-7%
8	Dinas Powys	The Communities of Dinas Powys and Michaelston	4	6,086	1,522	-14%	7,356	1,839	-10%
9	Dyfan	The Dyfan ward of the Town of Barry	2	4,031	2,016	14%	4,447	2,224	8%
10	Gibbonsdown	The Gibbonsdown ward of the Town of Barry	2	3,693	1,847	4%	4,716	2,358	15%
11	Illyd	The Illyd ward of the Town of Barry	3	6,117	2,039	15%	6,725	2,242	9%
12	Llandough	The Community of Llandough	1	1,490	1,490	-16%	1,681	1,681	-18%
13	Llandow	The Communities of Colwinston, Llandow and Liangan	1	1,649	1,649	-7%	1,615	1,615	-21%
14	Llantwit Major	The Town of Llantwit Major and the Community of Llanmaes	4	7,432	1,858	5%	9,179	2,295	12%
15	Peterston Super-Ely	The Communities of Pendoylan, Peterston-super-Ely and Welsh St Donats.	1	1,515	1,515	-15%	1,490	1,490	-27%
16	Plymouth	The Plymouth ward of the Town of Penarth	2	4,450	2,225	25%	4,791	2,396	17%
17	Rhoose	The Community of Rhoose	3	5,508	1,836	3%	5,879	1,960	-4%
18	St Athan	The Community of St Athan	2	2,659	1,330	-25%	4,124	2,062	1%
19	St Bride's Major	The Communities of Ewenny, St Bride's Major, St Donats and Wick	2	3,375	1,688	-5%	3,209	1,605	-22%
20	St Nicholas and Llancaerfan	The Communities of Llancaerfan, St Nicholas and Bonvilston and, St Georges-super-Ely	1	1,621	1,621	-9%	1,880	1,880	-8%
21	St Augustine's	The St Augustine's ward of the Town of Penarth	3	5,104	1,701	-4%	6,066	2,022	-1%
22	Stanwell	The Stanwell ward of the Town of Penarth	2	3,260	1,630	-8%	3,597	1,799	-12%
23	Sully	The Community of Sully	2	3,572	1,786	1%	4,558	2,279	11%
24	Wenvoe	The Community of Wenvoe	1	1,957	1,957	10%	1,930	1,930	-6%
		<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>95,865</b>	<b>1,775</b>		<b>110,768</b>	<b>2,051</b>	

Ratio is the number of electors per councillor  
Electoral figures supplied by County Borough and the Vale of Glamorgan Council  
Population figures supplied by the Office for National Statistics

	2019	2024	
Greater than + or - 50% of County average	0	0	0%
Between + or - 25% and + or - 50% of County average	0	1	4%
Between + or - 10% and + or - 25% of County average	10	11	46%
Between 0% and + or - 10% of County average	14	12	50%

Greater than + or - 50% of County average  
Between + or - 25% and + or - 50% of County average  
Between + or - 10% and + or - 25% of County average  
Between 0% and + or - 10% of County average

## **RULES AND PROCEDURES**

### **Scope and Object of the Review**

1. Section 29 (1) of the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 (the Act) lays upon the Commission the duty, at least once in every review period of ten years, to review the electoral arrangements for every principal area in Wales for the purpose of considering whether or not to make proposals to the Welsh Government for a change in those electoral arrangements. In conducting a review the Commission must seek to ensure effective and convenient local government (Section 21 (3) of the Act).
2. The former Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government of the Welsh Government has asked the Commission to submit a report in respect of the review of electoral arrangements for the County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan before the 2022 local government elections.

### **Electoral Arrangements**

3. The changes that the Commission may recommend in relation to an electoral review are:
  - (a) such changes to the arrangements for the principal area under review as appear to it appropriate; and
  - (b) in consequence of such changes:
    - (i) Such community boundary changes as it considers appropriate in relation to any community in the principal area;
    - (ii) Such community council changes and changes to the electoral arrangements for such a community as it considers appropriate; and
    - (iii) Such preserved county changes as it considers appropriate.
4. The “electoral arrangements” of a principal area are defined in section 29 (9) of the Act as:
  - i) the number of members for the council for the principal area;
  - ii) the number, type and boundaries of the electoral wards;
  - iii) the number of members to be elected for any electoral ward in the principal area; and
  - iv) the name of any electoral ward.

## Considerations for a review of principal area electoral arrangements

5. Section 30 of the Act requires the Commission, in considering whether to make recommendations for changes to the electoral arrangements for a principal area, to:
  - (a) seek to ensure that the ratio of local government electors to the number of members of the council to be elected is, as nearly as may be, the same in every electoral ward of the principal area;
  - (b) have regard to:
    - (i) the desirability of fixing boundaries for electoral wards which are and will remain easily identifiable;
    - (ii) the desirability of not breaking local ties when fixing boundaries for electoral wards.
  
6. In considering the ratio of local government electors to the number of members account is to be taken of:
  - (a) any discrepancy between the number of local government electors and the number of persons that are eligible to be local government electors (as indicated by relevant official statistics); and
  - (b) any change to the number or distribution of local government electors in the principal area which is likely to take place in the period of five years immediately following the making of any recommendation.

## Local government changes

7. Since the last local government Order in 2002 there has been several changes to local government boundaries in the Vale of Glamorgan:
  - The Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan (Michaelston and Grangetown) Order 2002
  - The Vale of Glamorgan (Communities) Order 2010

## Procedure

8. Chapter 4 of the Act lays down procedural guidelines which are to be followed in carrying out a review. In compliance with this part of the Act, we wrote on 30 April 2019 to the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council, all the Community and Town Councils in the area, the Members of Parliament for the local constituencies, the Assembly Members for the area, and other interested parties to inform them of the Commission's intention to conduct the review and to request their preliminary views. The Commission invited the County Borough Council to submit a suggested scheme or schemes for new electoral arrangements. The Commission also asked the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council to display a number of public notices in their area.

## APPENDIX 4

The Commission also made available copies of our *Electoral Reviews: Policy and Practice* document. In addition the Commission made a presentation to both County and Community councillors explaining the review process.

9. In line with Section 35 of Chapter 4 of the Act, the Commission published its Draft Proposals Report on 13 February 2020, notifying the listed mandatory consultees and other interested parties of a period of consultation on the draft proposals would commence on 20 February 2020 and end on 13 May 2020. However, due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the Commission paused the Consultation on its Draft Proposals on the 24 March 2020. The Consultation was then reopened on the 01 September 2020 and ended on the 20 October 2020. The Commission met with County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan Council Group Leaders and Officials to discuss the draft proposals and the process of developing the Final Recommendations. The Commission invited the County Borough Council and other interested parties to submit comments on the Draft Proposals and how they could be improved. The Commission also asked the County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan Council to display copies of the report alongside public notices in the area.
10. The boundaries of the proposed electoral wards are shown by continuous blue lines on the map placed on deposit with this Report at the Offices of the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council and the Office of the Commission in Cardiff as well as on the Commission's website (<http://ldbc.gov.wales>).

### Policy and Practice

11. The Commission published its *Electoral Reviews: Policy and Practice* document in November 2016. This document details its approach to resolving the challenge of balancing electoral parity and community ties; it sets out the issues to be considered and gives some understanding of the broad approach which the Commission takes towards each of the statutory considerations to be made when addressing a review's particular circumstances. However, because those circumstances are unlikely to provide for the ideal electoral pattern, in most reviews compromises are made in applying the policies in order to strike the right balance between each of the matters we must consider.
12. The document also provides the overall programme timetable, and how this was identified, and the Commission's Council Size Policy. The document can be viewed on the Commission's website or are available on request.

### Crown Copyright

13. The maps included in this report and published on the Commissions website were produced by the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales under licence from Ordnance Survey. These maps are subject to © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction will infringe Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Any newspaper editor wishing to use the maps as part of an article about the draft proposals should first contact the copyright office at Ordnance Survey.

**SUMMARY OF REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED FOR THE  
COMMISSION'S DRAFT CONSULTATION ON THE REVIEW OF  
ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS IN THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF THE  
VALE OF GLAMORGAN**

1. **The Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council** emailed on the **08 October 2020** to state that the Cabinet were in support of the draft proposals report, excluding the proposed Cornerswell and Llandough electoral ward. They also stated that the Council could not reach agreement on the draft proposals report. They submitted minutes of their council meeting and provided a link to a cabinet report on the draft proposals report.
2. **Llantwit Major Town Council** emailed on **14 September 2020** stating that all councillors agreed that the Town Council has no objections to the proposals put forward in the review.
3. **Welsh St Donats Community Council** emailed on the **5 March 2020** to support the Commission's proposal to combine St George and St Brides with the Community of St Nicholas.
4. **Penarth Town Council** emailed on **16 March 2020** objecting to the draft proposals for the Llandough and Cornerswell wards. They stated the existing arrangements for the electoral wards of Llandough and Cornerswell should be retained. They supported the proposals for the St. Augustine's ward.
5. **Llandough Community Council** emailed on **02 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They attached a letter detailing their concerns and stated that Llandough and Cornerswell are two distinctly separate communities.
6. **Colwinston Community Council** emailed on **01 October 2020** regarding the communities of Colwinston, Ewenny, Llandow, Llangan, St. Bride's Major, St Donats and Wick. They proposed that the existing electoral wards of Llandow/Ewenny and St Bride's Major be combined, along with the Community of St. Donats, to create a new three-member electoral ward. These communities are small villages and share similar characteristics and long-standing local ties. They are widely regarded locally to be part of an area known as the "Western Vale".
7. **Llangan Community Council** emailed on **13 October 2020** regarding the communities of Colwinston, Ewenny, Llandow, Llangan, St. Bride's Major, St Donats and Wick. They proposed that the existing electoral wards of Llandow/Ewenny and St Bride's Major be combined, along with the Community of St. Donats, to create a new three-member electoral ward. These communities are small villages and share similar characteristics and long-standing local ties. They are widely regarded locally to be part of an area known as the "Western Vale".
8. **Penarth Town Council** emailed on the **16 October 2020** to restate their comments that the current electoral arrangements in the Town of Penarth and the Community of Llandough should not be changed and that they supported the proposals for the St. Augustine's ward.
9. **Dinas Powys Community Council** emailed on **19 October 2020** opposing the proposals to reduce the number of members in Dinas Powys. They referred to an increase in population due to future developments as the reason why the electoral ward should retain four councillors.
10. **County Borough Councillor Christine Cave (Llandow/Ewenny)** emailed on **01 October 2020** regarding the communities of Colwinston, Ewenny, Llandow, Llangan, St. Bride's Major, St Donats and Wick. They proposed that the existing electoral wards of Llandow/Ewenny and St Bride's Major be combined, along with the Community of St. Donats, to create a new three-member electoral ward.



These communities are small villages and share similar characteristics and long-standing local ties. They are widely regarded locally to be part of an area known as the “Western Vale”.

11. **County Borough Councillor Vince Driscoll (Dinas Powys)** emailed on **19 October 2020** opposing the proposals to reduce the number of members in Dinas Powys. He stated that future developments will increase the population of Dinas Powys and therefore, the electoral ward should retain four councillors. He attached CAPITA maps along with their representation.
12. **County Borough Councillor George Carrol (Llandough)** emailed on **19 October 2020** opposing the proposals to combine the Llandough and Cornerswell wards. He stated that their first preference would be for Llandough to retain its existing arrangements. Alternatively, he could support the option to combine Llandough with the nearby communities of Michaelston and Leckwith as there are stronger local ties and more natural boundaries with these villages.
13. **County Borough Councillor Stephen Griffiths (Dinas Powys)** emailed on **20 October 2020** opposing the proposal to reduce the number of members in Dinas Powys from four to three. He stated that retaining the existing number of members is the best way to mitigate any unforeseen trends in population increases.
14. **Member of the Senedd Andrew RT Davies (South Wales Central) and County Borough Councillor (Rhoose)** emailed on **09 October 2020** offering the following comments to the Draft Proposals Report:  
Rhoose & St Nicholas – The creation of a new four-member ward, named Rhoose & St Nicholas. This would compose the communities of Rhoose, Llancafarn and Bonvilston & St Nicholas.  
Llandow – The existing Llandow, St Bride’s Major and St Donat’s wards merge to create a new three-member ward.  
Dinas Powys – The existing Dinas Powys electoral ward should remain a four-member ward.  
Cornerswell and Llandough - The existing Cornerswell and Llandough electoral wards should retain their existing arrangements.
15. **Member of Parliament Alun Cairns (Vale of Glamorgan)** emailed on the **20 October 2020** providing the following comments on the draft proposals report;

The MP supports the proposed boundaries relating to the following electoral wards and notes that although he supports the electoral arrangements in Barry for this review, the arrangements should be relooked at in a future community review.

- Cowbridge
- Llantwit Major
- Wenvoe
- St Athan
- Baruc
- Cadoc
- Buttrills
- Castleland
- Court
- Gibbonsdown
- Dyfan
- Illtyd

The MP has concerns in relation to the Commission's proposals for the following wards (naming only those in the Vale of Glamorgan's Parliamentary Boundary), which they believe contradict the existing community ties and are not in the interests of effective local government:

Dinas Powys – Dinas Powys ward retains its four councillors.

Rhoose, St Nicholas and Llancafán and Peterston-Super Ely - The creation of a new four-member ward, named Rhoose & St Nicholas. This would compose the communities of Rhoose, Llancafán and Bonvilston & St Nicholas.

Llandow and St Bride's Major - The existing Llandow/Ewenny and St Bride's Major wards be combined, along with the community of St Donats, to create a new three-member ward. Given the local ties that have been highlighted, they propose that this new ward be named *Western Vale*.

**16. The Vale of Glamorgan Council Plaid Cymru Group** representation was included within the Vale of Glamorgan County Borough Council was received on **08 October 2020**. They stated that they wished to retain the existing arrangements for Dinas Powys.

**17. The Vale of Glamorgan Council Conservative Group** emailed on **12 October 2020** outlining their views on the draft proposals report. They submitted the following comments:

- The Commission should retain the existing arrangements for the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards.
- The Commission should retain the existing arrangements for the Dinas Powys electoral ward.
- The creation of a four-member ward comprising the communities of Rhoose, Llancafán, St Nicholas and Bonvilston.
- That the existing Llandow/Ewenny and St Bride's Major wards be combined, along with the Community of St Donats, to create a new three-member ward, known as the Western Vale.

**18. Dinas Powys Plaid Cymru** emailed on **19 October 2020** opposing the proposals to reduce the number of councillors in Dinas Powys from four to three members. They stated their preference for the existing arrangements to be retained. They also proposed an alternative option which would merge the communities of Michaelston and Llandough which would address the under representation in Dinas Powys.

**19. Plaid Cymru Vale of Glamorgan Group** emailed on **20 October** providing the following comments on the draft proposals report;

Dinas Powys – Should retain four-members, however if the Commission believes a three-member ward more appropriate, the more rural community wards of Michaelston and Leckwith could be combined with Llandough to form an electoral ward.

Barry – They do not support the proposals for a four-member ward in Cadoc. They recommend the Commission consider separating the existing ward into a Cadoxton (Welsh name: Tregatwg) ward, using the existing polling districts HA0, HBO and HD0, and Pencoedtre ward (Welsh name: Pencoedtre), using the existing polling districts of HC0, HC1 and HD1. They do support an increase in representation for the Baruc ward in line with population growth.

Western Vale – The existing Llandow-Ewenny and St Bride's Major wards based on 2024 projected figures, should each have one member and the Llantwit Major electoral ward should retain its existing arrangements and maintain four-members.

Central Vale – They support the draft proposals in relation to Rhoose.

20. **Llandough Allotments Association Committee** emailed on **01 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough's Community Council will be weakened and Llandough will lose its identity if the proposals go ahead. They attached a letter from the Llandough (Corbett Road) Allotments Association
21. **A local resident** emailed on the **2 March 2020** opposing the merger of the Cornerswell ward of the Community of Penarth and the Community of Llandough. They stated that the creation of the electoral ward could adversely affect services within the Community of Llandough.
22. **A local resident** emailed on the **06 July 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough is a distinct community and that the existing Llandough ward complies with the Commission's preference for single member wards.
23. **A joint representation from two residents** emailed on **02 September 2020** opposed the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They object to losing their identity and local representation.
24. **A local resident** emailed on **02 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough is a settled and unique community.
25. **A joint representation from two residents** emailed on **03 September 2020** opposed the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards on the basis that the existing Llandough ward has acceptable electoral variances.
26. **A local resident** emailed on **03 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
27. **A local resident** emailed on **03 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the Llandough councillor and considered the transport links between Llandough and Penarth to be poor.
28. **A local resident** emailed on **03 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
29. **A joint representation from two residents** emailed on **03 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
30. **A local resident** emailed on **04 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
31. **A local resident** emailed on **04 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated the proposals do not reflect local ties.
32. **A local resident** emailed on **04 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
33. **A joint representation from two residents** emailed on **04 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.

34. A local resident emailed on 04 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
35. A local resident emailed on 04 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
36. A local resident emailed on 05 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
37. A joint representation from two residents emailed on 06 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
38. A joint representation from two residents emailed on 06 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
39. A local resident emailed on 06 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
40. A local resident emailed on 06 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and the Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that if the proposals go ahead, it will likely lead to Llandough being neglected, in place of the bigger, more populated Penarth and the village of Llandough and its residents would suffer.
41. A local resident emailed on 07 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards.
42. A local resident emailed on 07 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards.
43. A local resident emailed on 07 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
44. A local resident emailed on 07 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They expressed support for the local Llandough councillor and stated that Llandough should not be used as a political football.
45. A local resident emailed on 07 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They expressed support for the local Llandough councillor and stated that Llandough is its own distinct community.
46. A local resident emailed on 07 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
47. A local resident emailed on 07 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
48. A local resident emailed on 08 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
49. A local resident emailed on 08 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
50. A local resident emailed on 08 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards.

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51. A local resident emailed on **08 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards.
52. A local resident emailed on **08 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated Llandough is its own distinct community.
53. A local resident emailed on **08 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards.
54. A local resident emailed on **08 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated Llandough is its own distinct community.
55. A local resident emailed on **09 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
56. A local resident emailed on **10 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They expressed concern of a potential impact on integrated health and social care for “this Hospital community.”
57. A local resident emailed on **14 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
58. A local resident emailed on **14 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
59. A local resident emailed on **15 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
60. A local resident emailed on **15 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
61. A local resident emailed on **16 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated the proposed boundaries are not easily identifiable and do not reflect local community ties.
62. A local resident emailed on **16 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated the proposed boundaries are not easily identifiable and do not reflect local community ties.
63. A local resident emailed on **16 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They expressed support for the local Llandough councillor and stated the proposed change does not reflect local community ties.
64. A local resident emailed on **17 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated, “if something isn’t broken, don’t try to fix it”.
65. A local resident emailed on **17 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They expressed support for the local Llandough councillor and the Town Council.
66. A local resident emailed on **17 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough has no similarities with Cornerswell.
67. A local resident emailed on **18 September 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough could lose its identity if the proposed change goes ahead.



68. A local resident emailed on 19 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They expressed support for the local councillor and stated that Llandough and Penarth are distinct communities and do not share many characteristics or facilities.
69. A local resident emailed on 19 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that the proposed boundaries do not reflect local ties, are not easily identifiable, and the variance for the existing Llandough and Cornerswell wards are within acceptable ranges.
70. A local resident emailed on 21 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated their support for the local Llandough councillor.
71. A local resident emailed on 21 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards.
72. A local resident emailed on 23 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough would lose its identity if the proposed changes go ahead.
73. A local resident emailed on 24 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that the proposed boundaries are not easily identifiable.
74. A local resident emailed on 25 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough would lose its identity if the proposed change goes ahead.
75. A local resident emailed on 27 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough is a unique village and expressed support for the local councillor.
76. A local resident emailed on 28 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough is a unique village and has different characteristics to Cornerswell.
77. A local resident emailed on 30 September 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough is its own distinct community and has poor transport links to Cornerswell.
78. A local resident emailed on 01 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that the transport links between Llandough and Penarth are poor.
79. A local resident emailed on 01 October 2020 regarding the communities of Colwinston, Ewenny, Llandow, Llangan, St. Bride's Major, St Donats and Wick. They proposed that the existing electoral wards of Llandow/Ewenny and St Bride's Major be combined, along with the Community of St. Donats, to create a new three-member electoral ward. These communities are small villages and share similar characteristics and long-standing local ties. They are widely regarded locally to be part of an area known as the "Western Vale".
80. A local resident emailed on 03 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards.. They stated that the proposed boundaries do not reflect local ties, are not easily identifiable, and the existing Llandough and Cornerswell wards have acceptable variances.
81. A local resident emailed on 04 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Cornerswell and Llandough are distinct communities.



They proposed that the community wards of Leckwith and Michaelston, which share more ties with Llandough than Cornerswell does, could be moved into the Llandough ward to bring the number of electors closer to the county average.

82. A local resident emailed on 04 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough is a unique village and that transport links between Llandough and Penarth are poor. They also expressed support for the local councillor.
83. A local resident emailed on 04 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough has no local ties to Penarth.
84. A joint representation from two local residents emailed on 04 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough is its own distinct community.
85. A local resident emailed on 04 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that the proposal to combine these wards would be a backwards step.
86. A local resident emailed on 04 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough is a clear identifiable community both geographically and in its character. They also expressed the view that the proposal to combine the wards would weaken the community's voice.
87. A local resident emailed on 04 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They raised concerns that Llandough ward issues would be overshadowed in favour of Cornerswell issues and the voice of Llandough residents would not be heard.
88. A local resident emailed on 05 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough would be overlooked if the proposals went ahead and expressed support for the local councillor.
89. A local resident emailed on 06 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Cornerswell and Llandough are distinct communities. They proposed an alternative option by combining the community wards of Leckwith and Michaelston with Llandough which would better reflect local ties.
90. A local resident emailed on 06 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Cornerswell and Llandough are distinct communities. They proposed an alternative option by combining the community wards of Leckwith and Michaelston with Llandough which would better reflect local ties.
91. A local resident emailed on 06 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that transport links between Llandough and Cornerswell are poor and Llandough could lose its identity if the proposals go ahead.
92. A local resident emailed on 06 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough is its own distinct community and expressed support for the local councillor.
93. A local resident emailed on 07 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough interests would be overlooked if the proposals go ahead.

94. A local resident emailed on 08 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough is a distinct community in its own right and stated a more natural merger would be with Leckwith. They also expressed support for the local councillor.
95. A local resident emailed on 08 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough interests would be overlooked with the centre of attention being focussed on Penarth.
96. A local resident emailed on 08 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough is a small village and shares more links with the neighbouring villages of Leckwith and Michaelston than it does with Penarth.
97. A joint representation from two residents emailed on 08 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that the bigger the area becomes the more problems and issues arise to be dealt with in two very different wards.
98. A joint representation from two residents emailed on 09 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough could lose its voice if the proposals go ahead. They also expressed support the local councillor.
99. A local resident emailed on 09 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough as a community has existed for many years and can think of no valid reason to change that.
100. A local resident emailed on 12 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Cornerswell and Llandough are different communities and said one size does not fit all.
101. A local resident emailed on 12 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated issues within Llandough would be ignored if the proposals went ahead. They also expressed support for the local councillor.
102. A joint representation from two local residents emailed on 13 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that transport links between Llandough and Cornerswell are poor and the boundaries are not in the interest of local residents. They also stated that there are other wards within the Vale that are maintaining their individuality.
103. A local resident emailed on 14 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that the transport infrastructure in place between Cornerswell and Llandough is poor and the existing boundaries are easily identifiable the proposed boundaries are not.
104. A joint representation from two local residents emailed on 15 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough and Penarth are distinct communities which do not share many characteristics or similarities.
105. A joint representation from two local residents emailed on 15 October 2020 opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough's existing boundaries are easily identifiable and Llandough's voice would be lost if the proposals go ahead. They also stated their support for the local councillor.

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- 106. A local resident** emailed on **16 October 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough is a distinct community and want Llandough to remain a single member ward to enable residents to have a dedicated voice looking after their interests.
- 107. A local resident** emailed on **18 October 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough is a distinct community with its own characteristics and the existing community council works with and tirelessly for residents.
- 108. A local resident** emailed on **18 October 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that the new Llandough and Cornerswell ward would be too big, they also stated support for the local councillor.
- 109. A local resident** emailed on **18 October 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards.
- 110. A local resident** emailed on **18 October 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They believe Llandough would be more isolated if the proposals go ahead.
- 111. A local resident** emailed on **18 October 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated the proposals are not in the interests of effective local government and the Community of Llandough would suffer as a result.
- 112. A local resident** emailed on **18 October 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated both Llandough and Cornerswell are unique with their own sets of problems.
- 113. A local resident** emailed on **18 October 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated the proposals were not in the interest of convenient and local government.
- 114. A local resident** emailed on **18 October 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated the proposals are not in the interests of Llandough.
- 115. A local resident** emailed on **18 October 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated they fear Llandough would lose its voice under the proposals, they also stated support for the local councillor.
- 116. A local resident** emailed on **19 October 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated the proposals are not in the best interests of the residents and highlight the existing county average of the Llandough and Cornerswell wards are within an acceptable range.
- 117. A local resident** emailed on **19 October 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated the proposals would not provide effective local government for Llandough.
- 118. A joint representation from two local residents** emailed on **19 October 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated the proposals are not in the interests of convenient and local government and the existing county average for Llandough is within an acceptable range. They also stated support for the local councillor.

- 119. A local resident** emailed on **19 October 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated Cornerswell is a larger area in Penarth and would in all probability overwhelm the needs of Llandough. They also stated support for the local councillor.
- 120. A local resident** emailed on **19 October 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated they have strong concerns Llandough's voice would be lost if the proposals go ahead.
- 121. A local resident** emailed on **19 October 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough has its own interests and characteristics and the existing county average is within an acceptable range.
- 122. A local resident** emailed on **19 October 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough has no local ties with Cornerswell.
- 123. A local resident** emailed on **20 October 2020** opposing the proposals to reduce the number of councillors in Dinas Powys from four to three. They stated their preference for the existing arrangements to be retained. They however stated a second option which would merge the communities of Michaelston and Llandough which would address the proposed under representation in Dinas Powys.
- 124. A local resident** emailed on **20 October 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough is an entirely separate community.
- 125. A local resident** emailed on **20 October 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that the proposals are not in the interest of convenient and local government and stated that Llandough share more links with the villages of Leckwith and Michaelston.
- 126. A joint representation from three local residents** emailed on **20 October 2020** opposing the combination of the Llandough and Cornerswell electoral wards. They stated that Llandough and Cornerswell are distinct communities with poor transport links between them.



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

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**WRITTEN STATEMENT  
BY  
THE WELSH GOVERNMENT**

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**TITLE** LOCAL ELECTIONS AND ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS

**DATE** Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> JUNE 2016

**BY** MARK DRAKEFORD, CABINET SECRETARY FOR FINANCE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Local Authority Elections (Wales) Order 2014 provided for local elections in Wales to be delayed for a year, from May 2016 to May 2017. This allowed the elections to be separated from the Assembly elections.

At the present time, the Local Government Act 1972 provides that ordinary elections to local government in Wales take place on the first Thursday of May every four years. Therefore, the next local government elections would normally take place in May 2021. Since the implementation of the provisions of the Wales Act 2014, elections to the National Assembly take place on a five-yearly cycle. The policy of the Welsh Government is that elections at local level should also be placed on a five year cycle. It is intended that councillors elected next May will therefore hold office until May 2022.

The Wales Bill, currently before Parliament, includes provisions which would enable the Assembly to legislate to determine the term of office for local government. As the Bill is currently in draft form and should these provisions, for any reason, not come into force, the Welsh Government could use the same powers under the Local Government Act 2000 as we did in 2014 to delay the elections by a year. This statement therefore provides clarity to local government as to the length of office of those to be elected next year.



In the light of this, I have considered the decision made last year in relation to the electoral arrangements of some principal councils. It was determined that reviews conducted by the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales in relation to nine principal areas would not be implemented, given the intention that councils elected in 2017 would only serve a short term prior to mergers.

However, even though the elections in May next year will now result in a full term, due to their proximity, the arrangements which would be required and the disruption for potential candidates, I do not intend to implement any changes to current electoral arrangements in advance of the 2017 elections resultant from those reviews. The councils concerned are Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Conwy, Denbighshire, Gwynedd, Monmouthshire, Pembrokeshire, Powys and Torfaen.

The decision that councils will be elected for a full term also means that the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission (the Commission) will return to its normal ten-year cycle of reviews of electoral arrangements. I expect the Commission to publish a new, prioritised programme as soon as possible which takes into account the age of the current arrangements in some areas and the amount of change since the last review was undertaken. I will ask the Commission, in planning their work, to start by revisiting the nine outstanding reviews, with a view to presenting fresh reports on these at the very start of their programme.

It is my intention that reviews of electoral arrangements in principal councils will be conducted against a set of common criteria to be agreed through the Commission. I also expect electoral reviews to have been completed for all 22 authorities within the next local government term.

These arrangements provide clarity for those considering standing for election in 2017 and also set out a long term planning horizon for local authorities and their public service partners. However, I want to be clear that discussions on the reform agenda are on-going with local authorities and other stakeholders. I will be proposing a way forward on local government reform in the Autumn.

