

APPENDIX 2

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DEMOCRACY) (WALES) BILL

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Organisation (if applicable):

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The Local Government Boundary Commission

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| Question 1: Is there a need for a Bill to make changes to the constitution and functions of the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales ("the Commission") and to make various provisions relating to local government? | | | |
| Yes | <input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| In order to implement the proposed changes | | | |

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| Question 2: Do you think the Bill will improve the delivery of the statutory roles and functions of the Commission? (paragraph 3.1 of the explanatory memorandum) | | | |
| Yes | <input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| In order to implement some of the recommendations in the Mathias review | | | |

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| Question 3: Do you think the changes being made to the Commission are appropriate? (Part 2 of the Bill) | | | |
| Yes | <input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| It reflects the White Paper which the council largely supported in its response to consultation on it. | | | |

Local Government arrangements

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| Question 4: Do you think the provisions relating to procedures for local government reviews are appropriate? (Chapter 4 and 5) | | | |
| Yes | <input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The provisions are very complex and there is a need for clearer guidance on them. Where a County Council has commenced a community review before the Bill comes into effect, transitional arrangements should enable any such review to be completed on the basis of the 1972 Act provisions. | | | |

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| Question 5: Do you think the arrangements for local government in relation to: | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duties of the Commission Duties of a principal council are appropriate? (Chapter 1) | | | |
| Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The provisions are very complex and there is a need for clearer guidance on them. | | | |

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| Question 6: Do you think the arrangements for local government in relation to: | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Democratic Services Committees (Section 56) Audit Committees (Section 57) Standards Committees Are appropriate? | | | |
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The council does not believe there is a need for Section 57 as it believes political balance has always been required since the 1989 Act. As long as joint standards committees are in addition to the existing arrangements rather than a replacement for them there is no objection to this. | | | |

Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales

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| Question 7: Do you think the provisions relating to the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales are appropriate? (Chapter 5, Sections 58-62) | | | |
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The council broadly agreed with these provisions. It does not however agree with the proposed requirement for councils to publish information relating to all payments made to Members by other public bodies. It should be for each public body to publicise the payments it makes. | | | |

Access to information (Town and Community Councils)

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| Question 8: Do you think the provisions relating to improving access to information (Town and Community Councils) are appropriate? | | | |
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| It should be left to the individual choice of the Town or Community Council | | | |

Chairing of Principal Councils (Chairs and Mayors of Principal Councils)

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| Question 9: Do you think the provisions relating to the Chairing of Principal Councils (Chairs and Mayors of Principal Councils) are appropriate? | | | |
| Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| It gives councils another option if they wish to use it. There will however, have to be drafting changes to the Bill so that the civic chair has the same meaning as is given to the chairman in the Local Government Act 1972. It is also believed that the presiding member's term of office should continue until their successor is appointed so that they can chair the start of the Council meeting following elections. | | | |

General Provisions of the Bill

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| Question 10: What are the potential barriers to implementing the provisions of the Bill (if any) and does the Bill take account of them? | | | |
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The provisions dealing with the various types of review need to be explained more clearly. | | | |

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| Question 11: What are the financial implications of the Bill, if any? In answering this question you may wish to consider Part 2 of the Explanatory Memorandum (the Impact Assessment), which estimates the costs and benefits of implementation of the Bill. | | | |
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| It is not understood how the option of joint standards committees will lead to fewer members of standards committees overall which is referred to as a saving. A council may decide to continue with its own standards committee. Even for those who decide to have a joint committee the number of members on it are not limited. | | | |

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| Question 12: What are your views on powers in the Bill for Welsh Ministers to make subordinate legislation (i.e statutory instruments including regulations and orders) (section 5 of the Explanatory Memorandum)? | | | |
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| An inevitable requirement | | | |

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| Question 13: Are there any other comments you wish to make about specific sections of the Bill? | | | |
| Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
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