

# Public Document Pack



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To: All Members of the Council

17 October 2018

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Flintshire County Council which will be held at 2.00 pm on Tuesday, 23rd October, 2018 in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Mold CH7 6NA to consider the following items

## A G E N D A

### 1 PRESENTATIONS

**Purpose:** Celebrating our successes:

Finalist: MJ Award 2018 - Best Social Housing Initiative - Strategic Housing and Regeneration Programme (SHARP) - Housing and Assets

Finalist: APSE Service Award 2018 - Best Housing, Regeneration or New Build Initiative - Strategic Housing and Regeneration Programme (SHARP) - Housing and Assets

Finalist: APSE Service Award 2018 Best Public/Private Partnership Working Initiative - Creating a place called home: delivering what matters - Social Services

Runner up: North Wales Police - Problem Oriented Partnership (POP) Awards 2018 - Early Help Hub

Winner: Social Care Accolades Awards 2018 - Excellent outcomes for people of all ages by investing in the learning and development of staff - Progress for providers - Social Services

### 2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

**Purpose:** To receive any apologies.

### 3 MINUTES (Pages 5 - 18)

**Purpose:** To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting on 12 September 2018.

**4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**Purpose:** To receive any Declarations and advise Members accordingly.

**5 CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

**Purpose:** To receive the communications as circulated.

**6 PETITIONS**

**Purpose:** To receive any Petitions.

**7 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

**Purpose:** To receive any Public Questions.

**8 QUESTIONS**

**Purpose:** To note the answers to any questions submitted in accordance with County Council Standing Order No. 9.4(A).

**9 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS ON COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**Purpose:** The Minute Book, Edition 2 2018/19, has been circulated to Members. Members are now entitled to ask questions on these minutes, subject to certain limitations, and answers will be provided at the meeting. Members are requested to bring to the meeting their copy of the Minute Book. Any questions must have been received by the Democratic Services Manager prior to the close of business on 17 October 2018.

**10 NOTICE OF MOTION (Pages 19 - 20)**

**Purpose:** To consider any Notices of Motion.

**11 LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES PRESENTATION (Pages 21 - 32)**

**Purpose:** For officials from the Commission to give a presentation on the Flintshire Electoral Review and respond to Members' questions.

**12 PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES REVIEW OUTCOME (Pages 33 - 206)**

Report of Chief Executive -

**Purpose:** To inform Council of the final recommendations of the Boundary Commission for Wales report.

**13 ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2017 /2018 (Pages 207 - 300)**

Report of Chief Executive - Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets


**Purpose:** To adopt the Annual Performance Report 2017/2018.

14 **ECONOMIC AMBITION BOARD AND THE PROPOSITION DOCUMENT**  
(Pages 301 - 372)

Report of Chief Executive - Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets, Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance

**Purpose:** To adopt the Proposition Document as (1) the basis of a longer-term regional strategy for economic growth and (2) the regional bid for the priority programmes and projects from which the content of a Growth Deal will be drawn at the Heads of Terms Agreement stage with Governments.

Yours sincerely



Robert Robins  
Democratic Services Manager

**WEBCASTING NOTICE**

This meeting will be filmed for live broadcast on the Council's website. The whole of the meeting will be filmed, except where there are confidential or exempt items.

Generally the public seating areas are not filmed. However, by entering the Chamber you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and / or training purposes.

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**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**12 SEPTEMBER 2018**

Minutes of the meeting of Flintshire County Council held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Mold on Wednesday, 12 September 2018

**PRESENT: Councillor Paul Cunningham (Chairman)**

Councillors: Mike Allport, Janet Axworthy, Haydn Bateman, Marion Bateman, Chris Bithell, Sian Braun, Helen Brown, Clive Carver, Geoff Collett, Bob Connah, David Cox, Jean Davies, Rob Davies, Ron Davies, Adele Davies-Cooke, Chris Dolphin, Ian Dunbar, Mared Eastwood, Carol Ellis, David Evans, Veronica Gay, Patrick Heesom, Andrew Holgate, Dave Hughes, Kevin Hughes, Ray Hughes, Dennis Hutchinson, Joe Johnson, Paul Johnson, Rita Johnson, Tudor Jones, Colin Legg, Brian Lloyd, Richard Lloyd, Mike Lowe, Dave Mackie, Billy Mullin, Ted Palmer, Mike Peers, Vicky Perfect, Neville Phillips, Ian Roberts, Tony Sharps, Aaron Shotton, Paul Shotton, Ralph Small, Ian Smith, Carolyn Thomas, Martin White, David Wisinger and Arnold Woolley

**APOLOGIES:**

Councillors: Bernie Attridge, Sean Bibby, Derek Butler, Rosetta Dolphin, Andy Dunbobbin, David Healey, Gladys Healey, Christine Jones, Hilary McGuill, Mike Reece, Michelle Perfect, Owen Thomas, Andy Williams and David Williams

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chief Executive; Chief Officer (Governance); Chief Officer (Education & Youth); Corporate Finance Manager; Interim Finance Manager (Technical Accountancy) and Technical Accountant Democratic Services Manager; Democratic Services Officer; and Reverend David Poulton for prayers. (For minute no. 38) Richard Harries and Mike Whiteley of Wales Audit Office.

**29. PRESENTATION**

Connah's Quay Nomads

The Chairman welcomed John and Roma Gray, Ray Brown, and Jay Catton, in recognition of Connah's Quay Nomads third successive qualification for the Europa League and Welsh Cup winners 2018.

The Chief Executive provided background information and referred to the value and appreciation of the work undertaken by Connah's Quay Nomads Club regarding its community outreach and participation work, football development, and its partnership work with the Authority, Football Association Wales, Flintshire schools, and Coleg Cambria. He congratulated Connah's Quay Nomads Club on its success and invited Members to express their thanks to the Club's representatives.

The Chairman commented on his enjoyment of watching Connah's Quay Nomads recently play their first home game and also congratulated the Team on their recent win against Falkirk in the Irn Bru Cup.

Councillor Aaron Shotton commented on the fantastic achievement of Connah's Quay Nomads Club in the Welsh Cup final. He referred to the impressive work that the owners, Board members, and coaching team had undertaken to develop the Club in recent years. Councillor Shotton also referred to the development and success of the Quay 3G which had contributed to the development of Connah's Quay Nomads and other youth teams across the County and to the Youth Academy programme. He congratulated the Club on its success and wished it well for the future.

Councillor Paul Shotton expressed his congratulations to the Club on its success and also congratulated Andy Morrison who was named Manager of the Month by the Welsh Premier League.

Councillor Ian Dunbar paid tribute to the success of Connah's Quay Nomads and said the Club was a tremendous asset to Connah's Quay.

Councillor Martin White reiterated the comments made by Members and said he had been proud to attend the Welsh Cup final with his family to support the Club. He thanked the Club for allowing local supporters to take the Trophy on a tour of local venues in Connah's Quay and Shotton and said this had been well received by the local community. He wished the Club well for the future.

Councillor Dennis Hutchinson referred to his long standing association with Connah's Quay Nomads Club which he greatly valued and expressed his congratulations to the Club on its success.

On behalf of Connah's Quay Nomad's Club, Mr John Grey thanked Members for their words of recognition and support for all involved.

### **30. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meetings held on 19 June 2018 were received.

#### Accuracy

Page 4, item 16, the Chief Officer (Governance) advised that Councillor David Mackie had declared a personal interest on Agenda item 14 - the Approval of Clwyd Pension Fund Statement of Accounts, as a member of the Clwyd Pension Fund, but this had not been recorded in the minutes.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That subject to the above amendment the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

### **31. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Chief Officer advised that a personal interest would be recorded on behalf of the following Members in respect of Agenda Item 12 'North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority:2019-20 Financial Update and Consultation', as members of the Fire Authority:

Councillors: Marion Bateman, Ian Dunbar, Veronica Gay, Paul Shotton, Owen Thomas and David Wisinger.

Councillor Dennis Hutchinson declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 6, Petitions - withdrawal of the Buckley Shopper bus service.

**32. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

A copy of the Chairman's Communications had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Chairman gave particular mention to the Chernobyl Children's visit, the Chernobyl Church Service and the Chernobyl Children's Farewell Party. He expressed his appreciation to the residents of Flintshire and Cheshire who had welcomed and provided accommodation for the children in their own homes during their visit.

**33. PETITIONS**

Councillor Jean Davies submitted a petition for a relief road for heavy quarry traffic from Pentre Halkyn.

Councillors Carol Ellis and Mike Peers submitted petitions from the residents of Buckley to object to the loss of the Buckley Shopper bus service and outlined the impact it would have on the residents of Buckley and the viability of the Town Centre.

**34. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

None were received.

**35. QUESTIONS**

None were received.

**36. NOTICE OF MOTION**

The following Notice of Motion had been received from Councillor Tony Sharps:

The Council calls on the Chief Executive to ensure that the Chief and Senior Officers respond to Councillors' requests with courtesy and good manners without any undue delay.

Speaking in support of his Motion, Councillor Sharps referred to the concerns he had raised at a meeting of the County Council on 18 May 2017, on the response times taken by some departments to the matters and concerns raised by Members and said that the Chief Executive had agreed that a set of standards would be created to address the issues raised. Councillor Sharps conceded that there had been some improvement, however, he identified a number of specific issues which had arisen in his Ward where the services provided by the Authority had been below the standard required by the residents of Flintshire. In conclusion Councillor Sharps emphasised the need for improved consultation and communication with Members concerning service delivery.

Councillor Mike Peers spoke in support of the Motion and said it was difficult to meet the needs and expectations of local residents when the advice or response requested from departments to matters raised by Members was either not forthcoming or not provided within an acceptable timeframe.

Councillor Clive Carver said the issue of response times was an historical problem and agreed with the views expressed by Councillor Sharps that urgent action was required to address the matter. He suggested that the issue be submitted to an Overview & Scrutiny Committee for determination.

Councillor Carol Ellis supported the Motion and outlined her personal experiences of delay in receiving a response to matters she had raised on behalf of her local residents. She spoke of the negative impact and frustration when residents were unable to receive answers to their concerns and questions and alluded to the time wasted when Members had to chase a response to contacts and communications.

Councillor Helen Brown also spoke of the need for timely, accurate responses to the matters raised by Members and said these were frequently on behalf of local residents in urgent need of advice and support.

Councillor Aaron Shotton said he supported the Motion by Councillor Sharps, however, he said there was a need to recognise the good working practices and positive engagement and responses provided by the Authority in many areas of service which outweighed the instances where this had fell short of the standard that the Authority wished to provide. He acknowledged the genuine concerns that some Members had raised on issues that had arisen in their Wards and said that the current protocol needed to be reviewed and updated.

The Chief Executive advised that in his response to the Motion put forward by Councillor Tony Sharps he had set out a number of actions to renew the standards and improve performance around them. The Chief Executive said he had discussed the general concerns raised by Councillor Sharps with Chief Officers collectively and the specific issues raised would be addressed in the service areas concerned. Referring to the Standards, the Chief Executive said there were specific timescales in place and that Members and the general public should receive an acknowledgement to an enquiry within 5 working days and a response within 10 working days for general enquiries. If an enquiry was more complex in nature it may take longer than 10 working days to provide a satisfactory response and the person who was making the enquiry should be informed that the response time would be longer due to the information required.

The Chief Executive advised that if Members had an important or complex complaint they could contact him or a Chief Officer to bring the matter to their attention. He also asked Members to share any concerns they had with either himself, the appropriate Chief Officer, or Senior Manager, regarding repeat problems in gaining contact or response from a particular service area, team, or individual, so that the matter could be followed through. In response to a suggestion from Councillor Clive Carver the Chief Executive said a report would be submitted to a future meeting of the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee to provide an update on work



undertaken on the Standards. The Chief Executive also agreed to reissue a copy of the Standards to Members and the actions to be taken to update them.

Whilst acknowledging the concerns raised by Councillor Tony Sharps the Chief Executive commented that there had been evidence on occasions when Members had shown disrespect and discourtesy towards officers and emphasised the need for both Members and officers to adhere to the standards of behaviour expected. He also commented on the understanding that whilst Members may receive a response it would not necessarily be the resolution sought and said there were complex and lengthy legal matters to be resolved in some cases. In conclusion the Chief Executive said he had been given a commitment by Chief Officers that staff would be held to account where there was evidence of a justifiable complaint and emphasised that it was the responsibility of everyone to uphold the Standards. He reiterated the actions to be taken around the Standards and the need for Members to share information with himself or Chief Officers regarding matters of underperformance so they could be addressed.

The Chief Officer (Governance) clarified that Members were asked to endorse the Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Sharps. The Chairman read out the Notice of Motion and on being put to the vote, the Motion was unanimously supported.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Notice of Motion from Councillor Tony Sharps be supported.

**37. RECOGNITION OF IAN BANCROFT**

The Chairman led the tributes to recognise the contribution made to the Council by Ian Bancroft, Chief Officer (Strategic Programmes), who left the Authority in August 2018 to join Wrexham County Borough Council.

The Chief Executive commented on Ian's personal qualities, his enthusiasm and energy, which he said would be genuinely missed as well as his professional abilities. He reflected on the 4 years that Ian had served with the Authority and commented on the positive impact of his achievements in delivering organisational change and his expertise and skill in seeing projects through from strategy to task and finish. He looked forward to continuing to work with Ian in the future as Chief Executive of Wrexham County Borough Council.

The Chairman referred to the regeneration of the Foreshaw area in Flint and said that Ian's work and enthusiasm to see the project through had been greatly appreciated by the Regeneration Committee of Flint Town Council.

Councillor Aaron Shotton paid tribute to Ian for his vision and work during his service with the Authority which had enabled services to be maintained and local communities to become more resilient under continuing austerity. He referred to Ian's professional experience, his skill, style, and innovative approach, and cited the work he had undertaken on the transfer of Connah's Quay Swimming Pool from the Authority's operation to Cambrian Aquatics, and the transfer of the Authority's leisure and library services to Aura Leisure and Libraries Limited, as examples of the success

Ian had achieved in working with local communities to develop alternative models for providing service delivery. Councillor Shotton said he looked forward to working with Ian and Wrexham County Borough Council in the future on a regional level and on the Growth Deal.

Councillor Paul Shotton spoke as a member of the Organisational Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee and also expressed thanks to Ian for his professional experience and expertise. He referred to Ian's confidence and reassurance to the Committee that providing service delivery through alternative delivery models and community asset transfers was the best way to safeguard services for the future. He wished Ian every success in his new role in Wrexham County Borough Council.

Councillor Mike Peers commented on the help and advice which Ian had readily provided on matters concerning organisational change and community asset transfers. He congratulated Ian on his appointment and wished him well for the future.

Councillor Tudor Jones referred to the successful community asset transfer of Holywell Leisure Centre. He commented on the impact of the process of community asset transfers as a whole which in Holywell had provided a new library, a reinvigorated leisure centre, a fitness and martial centre in the old library building, and a community agreement between the Leisure Centre and Ysgol Trefynnnon for the control of the facility in out of hours. Councillor Jones continued that in conjunction with the Town Council, Holywell had the capacity to continue the provision of all these benefits and had a new force of collaboration and recognition that the process was greater than the individual transfers managed. He said that Flintshire and Holywell had undertaken a major development which was skilfully guided by Ian and his team for over a year. Councillor Jones said that communities would become more resilient as a result of the work which had been done and thanked Ian and his team for their work and the successful legacy which remained. He wished Ian well in his future career.

Councillor Chris Bithell expressed his thanks and appreciation for all Ian's work in Flintshire. He said that despite austerity valuable services had been maintained through the provision of alternative delivery models, community asset transfers, and engagement of voluntary organisations. As a result service delivery to Flintshire communities was ongoing in a new form and the Authority was pleased with what had been achieved. Councillor Bithell paid tribute to the personal skill and qualities of Ian which had achieved success regardless of the challenges or problems to be confronted with groups or individuals. He congratulated Ian on his appointment and said he looked forward to working with Ian through collaboration with Wrexham County Borough Council in the future.

Councillor Ron Davies thanked Ian for the work he had undertaken concerning Theatr Clwyd and in particular around the recruitment process of an Artistic director and an Executive director. He wished Ian every success in the future.

Councillor Carol Ellis said she had found Ian to be helpful and willing to provide advice and support above and beyond expectations.

Councillor Kevin Hughes referred to the community asset transfer of Gwernymynydd Village Centre and thanked Ian for his work on this project. He reiterated the previous comments expressed by Members and commented on the success of the transfer of Connah's Quay Swimming Baths to Cambrian Aquatics.

Councillor Billy Mullin said it had been a privilege to work with Ian and paid tribute to his personal and professional abilities.

Councillors Ted Palmer and Dave Mackie paid further tributes to Ian and said the work he had done had taken the Authority forward and had enabled service delivery to continue with new ideas. Councillor Mackie also thanked Ian for the work he had undertaken regarding Theatr Cymru and said he would welcome the opportunity for the Authority to work with Ian and Wrexham County Borough Council on regional matters in the future.

Following a presentation made by the Chairman on behalf of the Council, Ian thanked Members and Officers for their warm tributes and said he had enjoyed his time in Flintshire and his service with the Authority. He said that as the challenge of austerity was ongoing it was only by local authorities working strongly together as a 'family' group with local communities, Members, and officers, that a way forward could be found to find the right solution for residents and service users to provide and protect public services. He wished Flintshire every success in the future and said he looked forward to working with the Authority again. Ian said it was an honour and a privilege to work in public service and thanked the Authority for his experience during his time in Flintshire.

**38. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2017/18 AND SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION TO STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2017/18**

The Corporate Finance Manager introduced Richard Harries and Mike Whiteley of the Wales Audit Office, Paul Vaughan, Interim Technical Finance Manager and Richard Lloyd-Bithell, Corporate Finance.

The Corporate Finance Manager presented the final version of the Statement of Accounts 2017/18 for approval following consideration by the Audit Committee prior to the meeting of County Council today. He advised that the report included the Annual Governance Statement which had also been previously considered by the Audit Committee at a meeting held on 6 June 2018 and required approval by Council.

The Corporate Finance Manager reported that the annual statutory deadline for the approval of the Statement of Accounts was currently 30 September, however, the regulations under which the Statement of Accounts was prepared were changing with effect from the financial year 2018/19 which meant that the accounts had to be approved by 15 September. The Statement of Accounts for 2017/18 were successfully prepared to this earlier deadline as preparation for 2018/19.

The Corporate Finance Manager referred to the Wales Audit Office (WAO) ISA (International Standards on Auditing) 260 report. He advised that the WAO were required to communicate relevant matters relating to the audit of the financial statements to those charged with governance of the entity (Flintshire County Council

for the Statements of the County Council). He explained that this year the report took the form of a presentation as a means of improving accessibility, and a copy of the presentation was appended to the report. The Corporate Manager continued that during the audit, changes agreed with the WAO were made to the draft Statement of Accounts 2017/18 and the significant changes were shown in appendix 2 of the report. He explained that the changes related to disclosure purposes only and did not impact on the financial position of the Council.

The Corporate Finance Manager advised that the WAO reported that the Statement of Accounts had been prepared to a good standard with comprehensive working papers attached. The ongoing role of the Accounts Governance Group, which oversees the overall production of the Statement of Accounts and had been effective for the last 2 years, was also noted.

The Corporate Finance Manager reported that the Flintshire County Council Letter of Representation to the WAO was appended to the report and confirmed that the information contained in the financial statements was true and accurate and that all information had been disclosed to the auditors.

Mr Richard Harries, Financial Audit Engagement Lead for Flintshire County Council, introduced himself and his colleague Mike Whiteley from the WAO. Mr. Harries gave a brief introduction, and in a departure from usual practice, presented the ISA 260 report by way of a presentation which covered the following main points:

- overall conclusion
- Auditor General's responsibilities
- audit position and issues arising from the audit
- 2018-19 and future years

In concluding his presentation Mr. Harries summarised the main findings and commented that the audit had gone well and there were no significant issues to bring to the attention of the Council. He thanked the Corporate Finance Manager, the Interim Technical Finance Manager, and the Finance Team, for their work on the accounts and the help and support provided during the audit process.

The Chief Executive thanked Mr. Harries for his presentation and the high level of assurance given to Council that it had been a positive year in accounting terms and there had been no further questions raised at the meeting of the Audit Committee which had been held prior to County Council. The Chief Executive referred to the Clwyd Pension Fund Statement of Accounts, for which approval had been delegated to the Clwyd Pension Fund Committee, and advised that these had been formally approved by the Committee at the meeting held on 5 September 2018.

The Chief Executive spoke in positive terms about corporate ownership of the accounts and the good working professional relationship that existed between the Council and its external auditors which bode well for future work. The Chief Executive thanked the WAO team, the Corporate Finance Manager, Interim Finance Manager, and the Finance team for their work on the accounts.

Councillor Helen Brown reported that the Audit Committee had considered the Statement of Accounts 2017/18 at a meeting held prior to the meeting of County Council today. Officers from the WAO had been in attendance and had presented and explained their findings. The Authority's Finance officers had provided an update on the draft accounts which had been considered at the previous meeting of the Audit Committee. The role and importance of the officer Accounts Governance Groups and the change to the accounting policy on accruals of income and expenditure were explained, and reference was made to the amendments to the Councils' accounts since the draft was published. Councillor Brown stated that following consideration of the WAO presentation on the Statement of Accounts the Audit Committee had no issues or questions to raise to Council.

Councillor Brown expressed her thanks to the Corporate Finance Manager and his team, the WAO, and all involved in the successful completion of the work on the Statement of Accounts 2017/18 prior to the annual statutory deadline. Councillor Brown moved the recommendations in the report and this was seconded by Councillor Billy Mullin.

Councillor Mike Peers raised a number of queries on the Statement of Accounts 2017/18. He sought further information around the additional Council Tax Income of £526k and asked if this could be put into the Revenue Account instead of the Reserve Account. He expressed concern around the £2.7m Council Tax debt and suggested that this be reviewed by the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee. Councillor Peers referred to page 65 of the report and said there was no figure quoted for the proceeds from long and short term investments. He referred to the school remuneration bands and asked officers to provide more information on the salary which was paid to one member of staff. On page 69 of the report Councillor Peers referred to the Declarations of Interest Register for Officers and asked if a public register existed, as it did for Members, to show any declarations made by officers. The final question raised by Councillor Peers was on rent arrears which he said had increased to £1.5m and suggested that this be brought to the relevant Overview & Scrutiny Committee for further review. The Chief Executive, Chief Officer (Governance), Corporate Finance Manager and Interim Finance Manager, responded in detail to the questions and concerns which had been raised by Councillor Peers.

The Chairman asked Members to vote on the recommendations in the report and on being put to the vote, the recommendations were carried.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the final version of the Statement of Accounts 2017/18 be approved;
- (b) That the Letter of Representation – Flintshire County Council; be approved;  
and
- (c) That the Supplementary Financial Information to the Statement of Accounts 2017/18 be noted.

**39. NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY: 2019-20 FINANCIAL UPDATE AND CONSULTATION**

The Chairman welcomed Mr Simon Smith, Chief Officer, Helen McArthur, Assistant Chief Officer, and Sian Morris, Assistant Chief Officer, North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority. The Chairman expressed his appreciation for the work undertaken by the North Wales Fire & Rescue Service during the exceptional prolonged hot weather experienced during the Summer this year.

Councillor Tony Sharps took the opportunity to express his personal thanks to the Fire & Rescue Service who had attended a fire at his property and paid tribute to the speed of the response by the crew based at the Queensferry Fire Station and the excellent work they did to control the situation and make safe his property.

Mr. Smith welcomed the opportunity to return to the Council and said it was with regret Meirick Lloyd Davies, Chair of the Authority, and Peter Lewis, Deputy Chair of the Authority, were unable to attend the meeting and offered their apologies and best wishes to Members and the Authority. Mr. Smith introduced Helen McArthur, Assistant Chief Officer (with responsibility for Corporate Resources) and Sian Morris, Assistant Chief Officer, (with responsibility for Corporate Planning and other areas).

Mr. Smith referred to the North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority annual consultation which had been launched 11 September. He said that the consultation concentrated on the resources available to the Fire & Rescue Authority, the budget, and the impact of the ongoing financial restraints which were also on local authorities in North Wales. He said it was important that the Fire & Rescue Authority and local authorities worked together and had a mutual understanding of the ongoing challenges to be addressed. Within this background and context Mr. Smith said it was important that the Fire Authority explained the current position in terms of the Fire & Rescue Authority's budget and its ability to deliver services. Mr. Smith continued that it was intended, following the presentation, to seek informal feedback from the Council on the consultation which would be followed with formal feedback from the County Council by the 2 November 2018 deadline.

Mr. Smith invited Ms Sian Morris to give a presentation on the North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority's Planning for 2019/20. The main points of the presentation were as follows:

- North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority
- what the Authority provides
- current spending
- funding fire and rescue services
- moving into 2019/20

Ms Morris reported on the key duties of the Fire & Rescue Authority which were to make sure there were adequate resources to meet the normal requirements of operating and delivering fire and rescue services, to ensure fire fighters were properly trained and equipped, and that when people called 999 they got a response and resources were mobilised. Ms Morris said that the Authority also had to comply with

legislation and regulations and cited General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), Welsh language standards, Health & Safety legislation, financial regulations, and equality legislation as some examples.

Ms Morris referred to the work of maintaining cover in fire stations and explained that there were 44 fire stations located throughout North Wales. She said that the majority of stations had one fire engine and one fire crew and that in the main fire fighting staff were retained fire fighters. She reported that the fire stations in Deeside, Wrexham, and Rhyl, were staffed around the clock and said there were a further 5 stations which were staffed throughout the day and operated as retained stations overnight. The remaining 36 stations were wholly retained fire stations.

Ms Morris gave an overview of the emergency incidents attended in North Wales. She said that through its fire prevention work the Fire & Rescue Authority had been successful in reducing the number of fires occurring in North Wales. She continued that through policy and procedural changes the Fire Authority had also reduced the number of times that fire crews had been sent to attend to a false alarm. However, Ms Morris explained that the number of non-fire emergencies attended had increased to reflect the greater diversification of the fire service and cited collaborative work with the ambulance service as an example.

Following a short video on the North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority Service Ms Morris concluded her presentation by advising that the Fire & Rescue Authority had recently reviewed its operations and had decided not to consult this year on removal of any of the fire appliances or reduction of fire crews.

Ms Helen MacArthur, Assistant Chief Officer, was invited to give a further presentation on finance and budget implications. Ms MacArthur said she would report on the Fire Authority's expenditure and cost base including some comparisons to other Fire & Rescue Authority's and other North Wales public sector bodies. She said she would also take the opportunity to outline the Fire & Rescue Authority's funding processes, use of reserves, and highlight the challenges for 2019/20. In acknowledging the financial challenges which were also to be addressed by local authorities in North Wales, Ms MacArthur gave an assurance that the Fire & Rescue Authority took its financial responsibilities seriously, managed its expenditure with appropriate due care and diligence, and was as efficient as possible.

Ms MacArthur reported that the Fire & Rescue Authority's expenditure for 2017/18 was £33.3m. She gave a broad breakdown of expenditure and referred to the main areas of employee costs (front line operational work, fire and rescue, prevention, and specialist support), capital financing, and suppliers (ICT and communication costs). Ms MacArthur commented on the significant cost pressures to be addressed by the Fire & Rescue Authority and cited pay awards, an ageing workforce, pension costs, general inflation in the area of capital financing, and ICT, as examples. Ms MacArthur went on to present an historical review of expenditure between 2010/11 and 2018/19 and said expenditure had risen by 8%. She reported on the actions taken to address increased costs and referred to the savings achieved from staff budgets and non-pay budgets, the efficiencies achieved through changes of policy and continued emphasis on reducing demand (prevention), the occasional windfall gains, and the use of reserves.

Ms MacArthur reported on the comparison data presented on the North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority in the context of local authority revenue budgets and public sector budgets and on the benchmarking information provided in comparison with other Fire & Rescue Authorities in Mid and West Wales and South Wales.

Ms MacArthur went on to present analysis on County Council contributions and net expenditure and said that for the last 3 financial years the Fire & Rescue Authority's running costs had exceeded the amounts levied on individual councils. For 2019/20 the Fire Authority had reached the point where its reserves could not be depleted further and the running costs would have to be matched by the contributions received from local authorities. The increase in contributions would be £1.9m across all local authorities for this year (according to current planning assessment) and the direct cost to Flintshire would be £420k. Ms MacArthur commented that it was anticipated that due to the financial restraints on the Council it would not be possible to meet the increase in contribution to the Fire Authority from internal reserves and the cost would need to be met from an increase in council tax. The effect of the increase on an average Band D dwelling would equate to an additional £6.53 in 2019/20.

The Chief Executive thanked Mr Simon Smith, Ms Sian Morris and Ms Helen MacArthur for their collective presentation. Members were invited to raise questions.

Councillor Rita Johnson asked the Fire & Rescue Authority's officers to provide further information on its revised policy around attending calls to rescue large animals. Mr. Simon Smith provided background information and explained that the rescue of large animals was a non statutory duty and due to the financial restraints on the Fire & Rescue Authority it had been decided to cease that service. He commented that there had been no real impact on the North Wales community as a result. In response to a further question from Councillor Clive Carver around animal rescue, Mr Simon Smith explained that the Fire & Rescue Service would attend a call when an animal was involved in a significant road traffic accident and cited the transporting of live cattle and horses, as an example.

Councillor Ian Roberts paid tribute to the work of the North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority and thanked Mr. Smith for the reassurance and support which had been given to the residents of Flint who lived in high rise buildings following the Grenfell Tower disaster in London last year. Mr. Smith thanked Councillor Roberts for his positive feedback and said the Council was also to be commended for its work on the initial construction of the buildings and the on-going monitoring and use of the high-rise buildings in Flint. He emphasised that preventative work was the key to keeping people safe.

Councillor Mike Peers commented on the positive work undertaken by the Phoenix programme for young offenders and asked if this was ongoing and if it had contributed to the reduction in the number of fires caused in North Wales. Councillor Peers also referred to the comparison data which had been provided on Mid and West Wales and South Wales, and asked if it would also be possible to provide comparison data on Chester/Cheshire West and the cost per head per day. Mr. Smith agreed to provide this information to the Chief Executive following the meeting.



Mr. Smith thanked Councillor Peers for his positive comments on the Phoenix programme and said it was well supported by Members of Flintshire County Council and the Fire & Rescue Authority members. He gave a brief outline of the Phoenix programme and explained it was grant funded by the Welsh Government (WG). Mr. Smith commented that the WG had been supportive of the Programme in the past and continued to share the view that it was a good programme with long lasting effect and would wish to see it continue although its future could not be guaranteed.

Councillors Ian Dunbar and Paul Shotton spoke in support of the Phoenix Programme and its success and also the Community Assistance project. Councillor Shotton referred to the work of the Community Assistance team and expressed his disappointment that funding from the WG had been withdrawn for the valuable work undertaken and said the situation should be reviewed.

In his closing comments the Chief Executive reminded Members that the Fire & Rescue Authority made the final decision on the budget set and Flintshire would be required to pay its levy contribution required of local authorities. He referred to the budget workshops to be held next week and the complexity around how the Council would fund the additional £420k contribution which he said may be funded in whole or part by additional Council Tax above the Council's own requirement.

The Chief Executive referred to the North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority's consultation on the draft budget for 2019/20 before it was set in December 2018, and encouraged Members to make individual contributions to the consultation as residents. He said that staff, local residents, and partners would also be encouraged to comment on the consultation to achieve a good overall response in the Flintshire area. The Chief Executive advised that a corporate response would also be made to the consultation.

**RESOLVED:**

That a corporate response to the North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority's consultation on the draft budget be submitted by 2 November 2018.

**40. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE**

There was one member of the press in attendance.

(The meeting started at 2pm and ended at 4.50pm)

.....

**Chairman**

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**Notices of Motion**  
**Flintshire County Council - 23 October 2018**

**(i) Councillor Andy Dunbobbin**

I would like the Council to consider the introduction of a service known as the Rental Exchange which is a national scheme being adopted by an increasing number of social landlords as a way of supporting tenants to be able to improve their credit rating.

It has come to my attention that Council tenants who pay rent on time do not have their payments recognised on their credit reference report. I think there is an inequality here because those who have a mortgaged property and make that payment on time, see it reflected on their credit file.

By participating in the service and working with credit reference agencies, the Council would be able to offer tenants the opportunity to build a positive credit history and also be rewarded for paying their rent on time - I believe it also has major benefits for things like applying for goods and services, including responsible and affordable financial services, online shopping or even helping a tenant who wants to apply for a mortgage as part of a transition into buying their own home.

This is a scheme that would help to support our Council tenants and as a progressive and forward thinking Council, could I ask for this scheme to be considered and implemented?

**(ii) Councillor Kevin Hughes**

On June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2016 the British people voted to leave the European Union through the Brexit Referendum. Of the votes cast 51.89% voted to leave with 48.11% voting to remain. In Flintshire 56.4% voted to leave with 43.6% wishing to remain.

The Westminster Government invoked Article 50 on the Treaty of European Union by the Prime Minister signing a letter on March 28<sup>th</sup> 2017.

That letter was delivered to the European Council President Donald Tusk by the British Ambassador to the European Union the following day.

Since then negotiations have been ongoing with no sign of a deal that can be agreed in Parliament or one that is acceptable to the British people.

Meanwhile the CEO of Airbus has warned that the company could leave the UK if it exits the European single market and customs union without a transitional deal. This would have a devastating effect on the countless Flintshire workers who are employed by Airbus and the thousands of smaller companies that supply it with goods, equipment and services.

Further, the Executive Vice President of Toyota, Didier Leroy, is on record as saying that uncertainty over Brexit could jeopardise the company's future investment in the UK which would again have a negative impact on Flintshire workers and the county's on-going prosperity.

Hazel Wright, the senior policy officer of the Farmers' Union of Wales, is advising Welsh farmers, including those that farm in Flintshire that the Basic Payment Scheme under the EU's Common Agricultural Policy will end after Brexit and in 2021 move to a Welsh Government scheme based on environmental factors.

This would mean Flintshire farmers would be treated differently to their competitors in Northern Ireland, Scotland, England and the rest of Europe and leaves many in fear of their livelihoods and that their farms will no longer be financially viable.

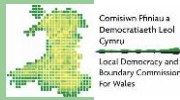
Now we know the true facts and consequences of Brexit and its likely effect on Flintshire's economy, jobs and prosperity coupled with Westminster's inability to negotiate a suitable deal is it not time to give the electorate a second opportunity to have their say on the final Brexit outcome?

To not allow the British people a say on the final negotiated deal, now we know the full consequences, would be grossly unfair and an affront to democracy.

This council therefore calls upon the Westminster Government to allow the public to vote on the final Brexit deal that will see the UK leave the European Union.

And that vote should have three elements:

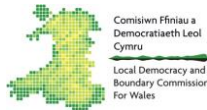
- 1) To accept the final deal negotiated by the Government.
- 2) To leave the European Union, its customs union and the single market without a negotiated deal.
- 3) To remain a full member of the European Union, its customs union and the single market.



## Arolygon Etholiadol – Electoral Review Sir Y Fflint– Flintshire 2018

**Theo Joloza**  
Comisiynydd Arweiniol –  
Lead Commissioner

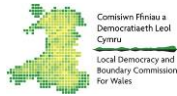
**Matt Redmond**  
Diprwy Prif Weithredwr  
– Deputy Chief Executive



### Pwy ydym ni?

### Who are we?

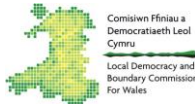
- Rydym yn annibynnol o Lywodraeth Cymru a'r pleidiau gwleidyddol ac yn adrodd yn uniongyrchol i Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Llywodraeth Leol a Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus
- Rydym yn gyfrifol am adolygu trefniadau etholiadol a ffiniau gweinyddol y prif gynghorau
- Os cânt eu derbyn, caiff ein hargymhellion eu rhoi ar waith gan Weinidogion Cymru
- We are independent of the Welsh Government and political parties and report directly to the Cabinet Secretary for Local Government and Public Services
- We are responsible for reviewing principal council electoral arrangements and administrative boundaries
- Our recommendations, if accepted, will be implemented by the Welsh Ministers



## Diben ein cyflwyniad?

## Purpose of our presentation?

- Esbonio proses yr Arolwg
    - Meini prawf statudol a Pholisïau'r Comisiwn
    - Model Maint Cynghorau
    - Sut rydym yn datblygu ein cynigion
    - Ymglymiad drwy ymgynghori
  - Beth fydd angen i'r cyngor ei wneud yn ystod yr arolwg
  - Yr hyn y gallwch ei ddisgwyl gennym ni a sut gallwn eich helpu
- To explain the Review process
    - Statutory criteria and Commission Policies
    - Council Size Model
    - How we develop our proposals
    - Involvement through consultation
  - What the Council will need to do throughout the review
  - What you can expect from us and how we can assist you



## Deddfwriaeth

## Legislation

- Deddf Llywodraeth Leol (Democratiaeth) (Cymru) 2013
  - Sut y cyrhaeddom y fan hon
  - Polisi ac Arfer
- Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013
  - How we got here
  - Policy and Practice



## Cwmpas yr arolwg

## Scope of the review

- Bydd yr Arolwg yn cynnig patrwm y wardiau etholiadol ar gyfer ardal y prif gyngor yn ei chyfanrwydd, ac nid lle mae lefelau o anghydraddoldeb etholiadol yn unig.
- Byddwn yn cynnig:
  - Cyfanswm nifer y cynghorwyr (maint y cyngor)
  - Nifer a ffiniau'r wardiau etholiadol
  - Nifer y cynghorwyr ar gyfer pob ward
  - Enwau'r wardiau etholiadol
- The Review will propose the pattern of electoral wards for the entire council area and not just where there are levels of electoral inequality
- We will propose:
  - Total number of councillors (council size)
  - Number and boundaries of electoral wards
  - The number of councillors for each ward
  - Names of electoral wards



## Meini Prawf Statudol

## Statutory Criteria

- Cydraddoldeb etholiadol
  - Nifer gorau posibl yr etholwyr fesul cynghorydd
  - Rhagolwg pum mlynedd
  - Y rhai sy'n gymwys i bleidleisio (lle bo hynny'n bosibl)
- Hunaniaeth gymunedol
  - Ffiniau sy'n hawdd eu hadnabod
  - Peidio â chwalu cysylltiadau lleol
- Llywodraeth leol effeithiol a chyfleus
  - Wardiau etholiadol dealladwy sydd â buddiannau cyffredin a chysylltiadau cyfathrebu mewnol da
- Electoral equality
  - Optimum number of electors per councillor
  - Five year forecast
  - Those eligible to vote (where possible)
- Community identity
  - Clearly identifiable boundaries
  - Not breaking local ties
- Effective and convenient local government
  - Coherent electoral wards with common interests and good internal communications links



## Polisi Maint Cyngor

## Council Size Policy

- Mae'r Comisiwn wedi datblygu Polisi Maint Cyngorau ar gyfer Cymru gyfan ar y cyd â CLILC, Llywodraeth Cymru a'r Cyngorau
- Yn seiliedig ar boblogaeth a ble mae'r bobl hynny yn byw
- Mae'n rhannu cyngorau'n bedwar categori – mae gan bob categori nifer wahanol o bobl fesul cyngorydd
- Mae cyngorau'n ddarostyngedig i:
  - Uchafswm o 75 ac isafswm o 30
  - Lefel o newid sydd wedi'i chyfyngu i 10% fesul cylch arolygu.
- The Commission has developed, with WLGA, Welsh Government and the Councils, a Council Size Policy for the whole of Wales
- Based on population and where those people live
- Splits councils into four categories – each category with a different number of population per councillor
- All councils subject to:
  - Maximum of 75 and minimum of 30
  - Level of change limited to 10% each review cycle.

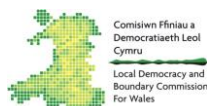


## Diffiniad o Faint Cyngorau

## Council Size Defined

- Mae amcangyfrif diweddaraf y SYG yn rhoi poblogaeth Sir Y Fflint fel **154,074**, gyda dwysedd poblogaeth llai na 4.5 unigolyn fesul hectar a llai na 40% o'r boblogaeth yn byw mewn aneddiadau sydd â llai na 10,000 bobl.
- Mae'r ffactorau hyn yn rhoi Sir Y Fflint yn Categori **3**.
- Mae'r Comisiwn wedi penderfynu y dylai cyngorau yng Nghategori 3 fod â chymhared cyngorwyr i bobl o **1:2,500**.
- Nod cyffredinol ar gyfer Maint y Cyngor yw **62** aelod.
- The latest ONS estimate has the population of Flintshire at **154,074**, a population density of less than 4.5 persons per hectare and under 40% of the population living in settlements smaller than 10,000 people.
- These factors place Flintshire in Category **3**.
- The Commission has determined that Category 3 councils should have a councillor to population ratio of **1:2,500**.
- The overall Council Size Aim is therefore **62** members.



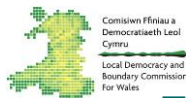


Comisiwn Ffynlau a  
Democratiaeth Leol  
Cymru  
Local Democracy and  
Boundary Commission  
For Wales

## Cymhwysio Maint Cyngorau

## Council Size Applied

- Mae'r Comisiwn wedi gosod cyfyngiadau ar Faint Cyngorau:
  - Lleiafswm o 30 aelod
  - Uchafswm o 75 aelod
  - Newid yn nifer yr aelodau wedi'i chyfyngu i 10%
- Felly'r nod ar gyfer Maint y Cyngor yn yr arolwg hwn yw 63 aelod.
- Ar hyn o bryd, mae gan Sir Y Fflint 119,361 o etholwyr a 70 aelod – un cyngorydd fesul 1,705 o etholwyr, ar gyfartaledd.
- Bydd cymhwyso'r nod o 63 o gyngorwyr yn arwain at gymhareb o un cyngorydd fesul 1,895 o etholwyr.
- The Commission has set constraints on Council Size:
  - A minimum of 30 members
  - A maximum of 75 members
  - Change in members 'capped' at 10%
- The Council Size aim for this review is therefore 63 members.
- Currently, Flintshire has 119,361 electors and a membership of 70 - an average of one councillor to 1,705 electors.
- Applying the council policy aim of 63 councillors will result in a ratio of one councillor to 1,895 electors.



Comisiwn Ffynlau a  
Democratiaeth Leol  
Cymru  
Local Democracy and  
Boundary Commission  
For Wales

## Sylfeini Wardiau Etholiadol

## Electoral Ward Building Blocks

- Defnyddio'r ardaloedd cymunedol a'r wardiau cymunedol presennol fel sylfeini ar gyfer pob ward etholiadol.
- Pŵer i ddiwygio cymunedau / wardiau cymunedol o ganlyniad i newidiadau i wardiau etholiadol.
- Defnyddio'r pŵer hwn yn y cam cynigion drafft yn unig i ganiatáu ymgynghori ar newidiadau i gymuned.
- Utilise the existing community areas and community wards as the building blocks for each electoral ward.
- Power to amend communities / community wards as a consequence of changes to electoral wards.
- Use this power only at draft proposals stage to allow for consultation on changes to a community.



## Un Aelod/ Aml-aelod

## Single/ Multi-Member

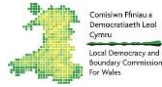
- Mae'r Comisiwn yn credu ei bod yn ddymunol, yn y lle cyntaf, i un aelod gynrychioli pob ward etholiadol.
- Fodd bynnag, byddwn yn ystyried cynrychiolaeth gan hyd at dri aelod mewn achosion sydd wedi'u hategu gan dystiolaeth o gymeriad ward, neu er mwys cydraddoldeb etholiadol.
- Byddem yn ystyried wardiau â mwy na thri aelod dim ond pe byddai o fewn y patrwn presennol a lle ceir dystiolaeth sylweddol o gefnogaeth leol ar gyfer ward.
- The Commission believes that in the first instance it is desirable if a single member represents each electoral ward.
- However, we will consider representation up-to three members in cases supported by evidence to the character of a ward, or in the interests of electoral parity.
- We would consider wards with more than three members only if it is in the existing pattern and there is substantial evidence of local support for a ward.



## Beth fyddwn yn ei ystyried

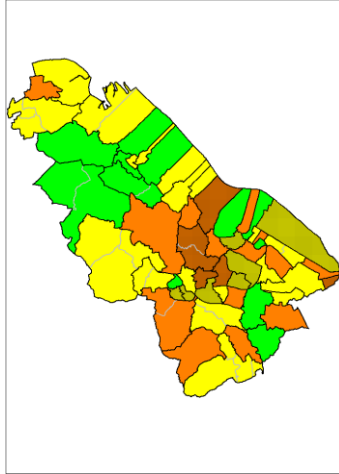
## What we will consider

- Amrywiant – mor agos â phosibl at 1,895 fesul cynghorydd, yn ddelfrydol
- Dadleuon ynghylch cysylltiadau cymunedol sy'n cyfiawnhau lefelau annodweddiadol o gydraddoldeb etholiadol
- Ffiniau naturiol:
  - Topograffeg
  - Bryniau
  - Afonydd
- Ffiniau gwneuthuredig:
  - Prif ffyrdd a thraffyrdd
  - Rheilffyrdd
  - Rhaniadau gwledig/trefol
- Variance – ideally as close as possible to 1,895 per councillor
- Community tie arguments that justify atypical levels of electoral equality
- Natural Boundaries:
  - Topography
  - Hills
  - Rivers
- Man-made boundaries:
  - Major roads and motorways
  - Railways
  - Rural / Urban divides



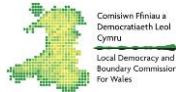
## Areas of Concern

### Meysydd sy'n Peri Pryder



There are 19 wards with a variance of greater than 25%. These range from Saltney Mold Junction (45% below) and Saltney Stonebridge (47% above).

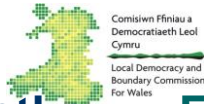
Mae yna 19 ward efo amrywiad dros 25%. Maent yn amrywio o Cyffordd Saltney yr Wyddgrug (45% islaw) i Saltney Stonebridge (47% uwchlaw).



## Yr hyn na fydd yn cael ei ystyried

## What will not be considered

- Ffiniau etholaethau Seneddol neu'r Cynulliad
- Goblygiadau gwleidyddol lleol ein cynigion
- Codau post neu gyfeiriadau
- Trosglwyddo wardiau/ardaloedd o un cyngor i un arall
- Newidiadau i'r ffiniau canlynol:
  - Dalgylchoedd ysgolion
  - Dosbarthiadau etholiadol
- Parliamentary or Assembly constituency boundaries
- Local political implications of our proposals
- Postcodes or addresses
- Transfers of wards/areas from one council to another
- Changes to the boundaries of:
  - School catchment areas
  - Polling districts



## Cynrychiolaethau Effeithiol

## Effective Representations

- Caiff cynrychiolaethau eu barnu yn ôl ansawdd y dystiolaeth sy'n cael ei chyflwyno
- Mae'r cynrychiolaethau cefnogol yr un mor bwysig â'r rhai sy'n gwrthwynebu'r cynigion
- Bydd cynrychiolaethau effeithiol yn:
  - Ystyried gofynion statudol a pholisïau'r Comisiwn
  - Awgrymu cynnig amgen yn ogystal ag amlinellu gwrthwynebiad
  - Ystyried canlyniadau'r cynnig amgen ar draws yr ardal ehangaf posibl
- Representations will be judged on the quality of evidence presented
- Representations which support are as important as those which oppose
- Effective representations will:
  - Take account of statutory requirements and Commission policies
  - Suggest an alternative as well as setting out an objection
  - Consider consequences of the alternative across the widest possible area



## Sut gall y Cyngor helpu?

## Where can the Council help?

- Trwy ddarparu cynllun neu wneud awgrymiadau sydd yn:
  - Cael eu darparu'n ddigon cynnar yn y broses
  - Ystyried y Sir yn ei chyfanrwydd yn gyfartal
  - Ystyried cysylltiadau cymunedol
  - Yn dilyn Rheolau, Deddfwriaeth a Pholisïau'r Comisiwn
- By providing a scheme or making suggestions that:
  - Are provided early enough in the process
  - Considers the whole of the County equally
  - Take note of Community ties
  - Follow the Rules, Legislation and Commission Policies



## Amserlen

## Timetable

### Cam 1 – Dechrau Swydddogol

Cyfnod Ymgynghori Cychwynnol o 12 wythnos – 01 Tachwedd 2018 hyd at 23 January 2019

### Cam 2 – Cynigion Drafft

Y Comisiwn yn datblygu'r Cynigion Drafft ac yn eu cyhoeddi

Cyfnod Ymgynghori o 12 wythnos – Hydref 2019

### Cam 3 – Cynigion Terfynol

Bydd y Comisiwn yn llunio'r Adroddiad Cynigion Terfynol ac yn ei gyflwyno i Lywodraeth Cymru – Haf 2020.

### Cam 4 – Ystyriaeth LIC

Ar ôl 6 wythnos, gall Llywodraeth Cymru wneud Gorchymyn (cyfle i ysgrifennu at Lywodraeth Cymru)

### Cam 5 – Daw'r Wardiau i Rym

Daw'r wardiau newydd i rym ar gyfer etholiad llywodraeth leol Mai 2022

### Stage 1 – Official Start

12 Week Initial Consultation Period – 01 November 2018 to 23 January 2019

### Stage 2 – Draft Proposals

Commission develops and then publishes Draft Proposals

12 Week Consultation Period – Autumn 2019

### Stage 3 – Final Proposals

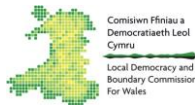
Commission formulates Final Proposals Report and submits to Welsh Government – Summer 2020

### Stage 4 – WG Consideration

After 6 weeks Welsh Government may make an Order (an opportunity to write to Welsh Government)

### Stage 5 – Wards Into Force

New wards come into force for May 2022 local government election



## Barn

## Views

- Rydym yn croesawu eich barn!
- Rydym yn fodlon ateb unrhyw gwestiynau a allai fod gennych.
- Your views are welcomed!
- We are happy to answer any questions you may have.



## Manylion Cyswllt    Contact Details

Comisiynydd Arweiniol

Lead Commissioner

**Theo Joloza**

Prif Weithredwr

Chief Executive

**Steve Halsall**

Dirprwy Brif Weithredwr

Deputy Chief Executive

**Matt Redmond**

Swyddog Arolygu

Review Officer

**Tom Jenkins**

e-mail/ e-bost [ldbc.wales@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ldbc.wales@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

☎ 029 2046 4819

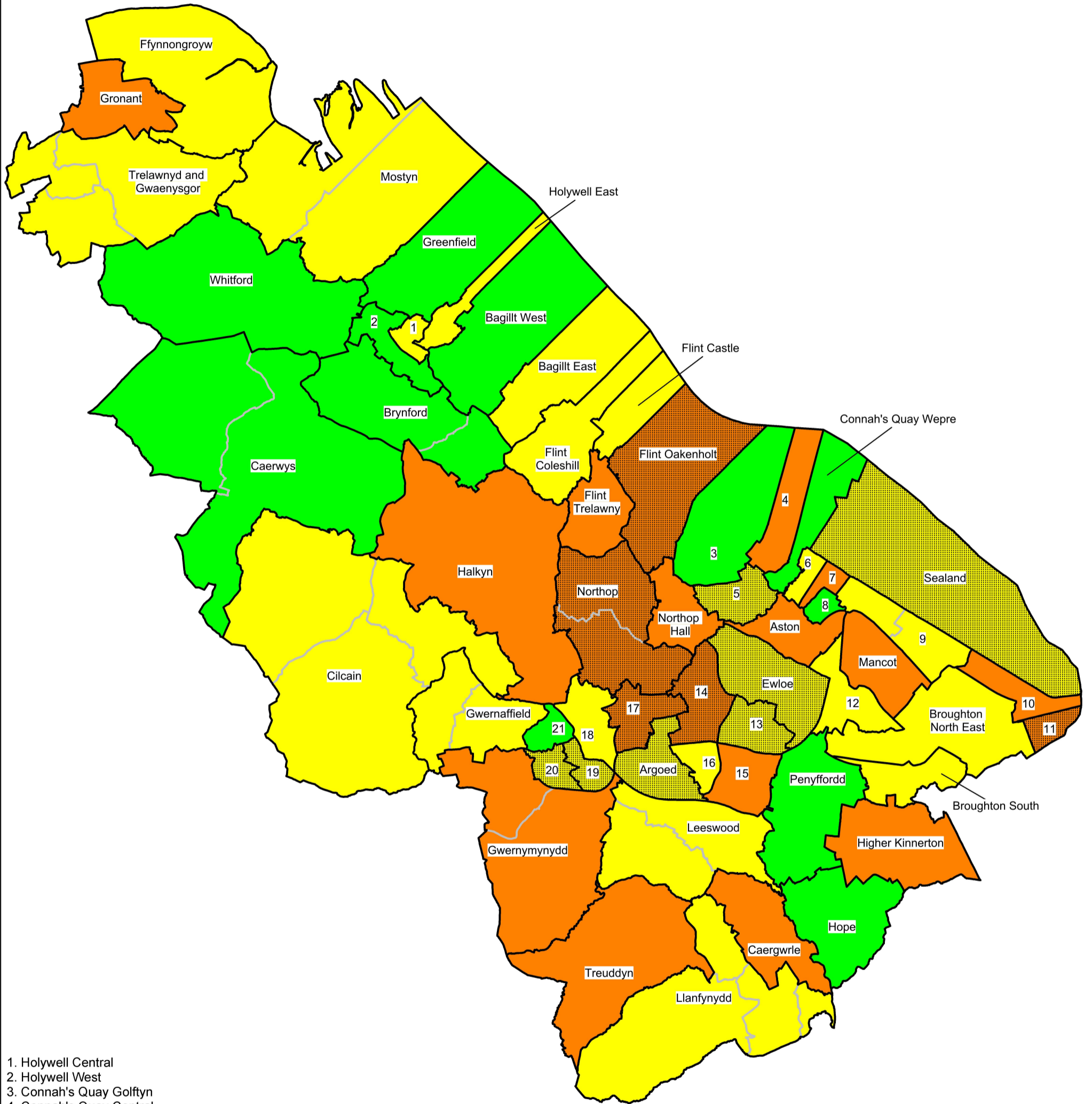
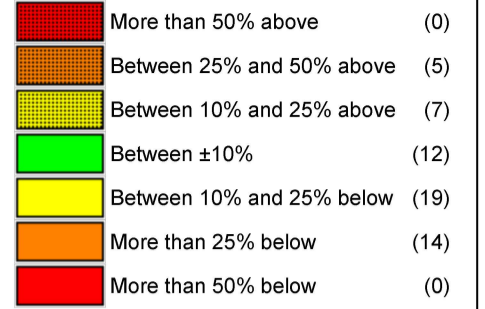
# COUNTY OF FLINTSHIRE

## EXISTING VARIANCE IN ELECTORAL REPRESENTATION FROM THE PROPOSED COUNTY AVERAGE

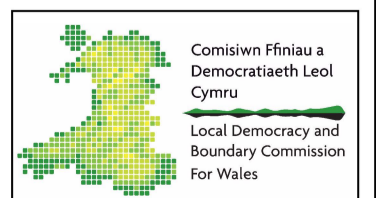


kilometers  
Scale 1:119,300

### Existing Arrangements by Electoral Ward Variance from Proposed County Average



1. Holywell Central
2. Holywell West
3. Connah's Quay Golftyn
4. Connah's Quay Central
5. Connah's Quay South
6. Shotton West
7. Shotton East
8. Shotton Higher
9. Queensferry
10. Saltney Mold Junction
11. Saltney Stonebridge
12. Hawarden
13. Buckley Pentrobin
14. Buckley Mountain
15. Buckley Bistre East
16. Buckley Bistre West
17. New Brighton
18. Mold East
19. Mold Broncoed
20. Mold South
21. Mold West



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## FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday, 23 October 2018
<b>Report Subject</b>	Parliamentary Constituencies Review Outcome
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Executive

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Boundary Commission for Wales submitted its Final Recommendations Report for the 2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales on 5 September 2018. The Report was submitted to the Minister for the Cabinet Office pursuant to Section 3 of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986, (as amended).

The recommendations take careful account of all representations made to the Commission throughout the Review. The Commission has recommended constituencies that in its opinion, best gives effect to the Rules in Schedule 2 to the Act.

It is now for Parliament to decide if it wishes to adopt the Commission's recommendations.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That the report be noted.
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### REPORT DETAILS

<b>1.00</b>	<b>EXPLAINING THE REPORT ON THE 2018 REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSISTUENCIES IN WALES</b>
1.01	On 24 March 2016 the Boundary Commission for Wales (the Commission) announced the 2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales in accordance with the provisions of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 as amended by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies

	Act 2011.
1.02	The Commission published its initial proposals on 13 September 2016. The proposals proceeded on the basis of the new statutory criteria. It was emphasised, however, that the proposals were provisional. The launch of the initial proposals represented the start of a twelve-week consultation during which the public were invited to submit their representations in writing or attend one of five public hearings which were held across Wales and chaired by a team of Assistant Commissioners.
1.03	In February 2017 the Commission published all responses that were received during this initial consultation period. A further statutory four-week period was then available for individuals and organisations to comment on the representations made by others. The Assistant Commissioners reviewed all the representations the Commission received during the first and second consultation period and produced a Report for the Commission.
1.04	<p>The 2018 Parliamentary Boundaries Review Revised Proposals report was formally considered by Flintshire County Council at its meeting on Tuesday 14 November 2017.</p> <p>Following a full discussion, there was concern that the continued use of the current 'Alyn &amp; Deeside' constituency name was inappropriate for an enlarged constituency which would encompass much of the current Delyn constituency.</p> <p>On the 6 December 2017 representations were made to the Commission where the following was proposed –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That there be a formal response seeking a change to the name of the enlarged Alyn &amp; Deeside constituency to East Flintshire, which is a better reflection of geographical identity of the new constituency.</li> </ul>
1.05	The Commission reviewed the representations themselves, and considered the report of the Assistant Commissioners. The Commission published its revised proposals on 17 October 2017 for an eight week period of consultation ending on 11 December 2017.
1.06	The Commission submitted to the Minister for the Cabinet Office on 5 September 2018 a report showing the constituencies that the Commission recommends Wales should be divided into in order to give effect to the Rules set out in Schedule 2 to the Act. These recommendations take careful account of all representations made to the Commission during the first and second consultation periods and the revised proposals consultation. The Commission has recommended constituencies which, in its opinion, best gives effect to the Rules in Schedule 2 to the Act.
1.07	<p><b><u>Final Proposals for the Rhuddlan and Flint County Constituency</u></b></p> <p>The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:</p> <p>The electoral wards within the existing Delyn CC and the County of Flintshire of Bagillt East, Bagillt West, Brynford, Caerwys, Cilcain, Ffynnongroyw, Flint Castle, Flint Coleshill, Flint Oakenholt, Flint Trelawny, Greenfield, Gronant,</p>

	<p>Halkyn Holywell Central, Holywell East, Holywell West, Mostyn, Northop, Northop Hall, Trelawnyd and Gwaenysgor and Whitford; and,</p> <p>The electoral wards within the existing Vale of Clwyd CC and the County of Denbighshire of Dyserth, Prestatyn Central, Prestatyn East, Prestatyn Meliden, Prestatyn North, Prestatyn South West, Rhuddlan, Rhyl East, Rhyl South, Rhyl South East, Rhyl South West and Rhyl West.</p> <p>This constituency would have 75,548 electors which is 1% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.</p> <p>The Commission recommends that the proposed constituency should be named Rhuddlan and Flint. The suggested alternative name is Rhuddlan ac Y Fflint.</p> <p>The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:</p> <p>The existing Delyn CC has a total of 52,388 electors which is 30% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 26% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency</p> <p>The existing Vale of Clwyd CC has a total of 55,839 electors which is 25% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 21% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.</p>
1.08	<p>During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations on the geographical composition of this proposed constituency. The representations provided different views on the proposed constituency. There was concern about combining wards, some of which were coastal and some industrial in nature, within the same constituency. There was also some continued support for a constituency that would retain the existing Vale of Clwyd constituency, and which would include the western electoral wards of Flintshire in order to ensure that the proposed constituency fell within the statutory electorate range.</p> <p>The Commission considered all of the representations. The Commission concluded that the recommended Rhuddlan and Flint constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in this area, would best meet the statutory criteria overall.</p> <p>The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Rhuddlan and Flint. The recommended alternative name is Rhuddlan ac Y Fflint.</p> <p>The Commission initially proposed the name Flint and Rhuddlan, having listed the component parts of the proposed constituency in alphabetical order. The change to Rhuddlan and Flint reflects the Welsh language convention which tends to name places from west to east. The Commission received representations that stated that the correct form in the Welsh language would be Y Fflint and has made a change to reflect this. The Commission received a number of representations that suggested different names for this proposed constituency (including replacing Rhuddlan with other names). However, the Commission is of the view that the inclusion of</p>

	<p>Rhuddlan within the recommended name is appropriate as a large part of the recommended constituency comprises the area of the former district council of Rhuddlan.</p> <p>The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Rhuddlan and Flint (Rhuddlan ac Y Fflint).</p>
1.09	<p><b><u>Final Proposals for the Alyn and Deeside County Constituency</u></b></p> <p>The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:</p> <p>The electoral wards within the existing Alyn and Deeside CC and County of Flintshire of Aston, Broughton North East, Broughton South, Buckley Bistre East, Buckley Bistre West, Buckley Mountain, Buckley Pentrobin, Caergwrie, Ewloe, Connah's Quay Central, Connah's Quay Golftyn, Connah's Quay South, Connah's Quay Wepre, Hawarden, Higher Kinnerton, Hope, Llanfynydd, Mancot, Penyffordd, Queensferry, Saltney Mold Junction, Saltney Stonebridge, Sealand, Shotton East, Shotton Higher, Shotton West and Treuddyn; and,</p> <p>The electoral wards within the existing Delyn CC and County of Flintshire of Argoed, Gwernaffield, Gwernymynydd, Leeswood, Mold Broncoed, Mold East, Mold South, Mold West and New Brighton.</p> <p>This constituency would have 77,032 electors which is 3% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.</p> <p>The Commission recommends that the proposed constituency should be named Alyn and Deeside. The recommended alternative name is Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy.</p> <p>The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:</p> <p>The existing Alyn and Deeside CC has a total of 60,550 electors which is 19% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 15% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.</p> <p>The existing Delyn CC has a total of 52,388 electors which is 30% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 26% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.</p>
1.10	<p>During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received few representations on the geographical composition of this proposed constituency. A representation commented that it was good to see the towns of Buckley and Mold within the same constituency, given the local ties between the two, and fully supported this proposed constituency</p> <p>The Commission considered all of the representations. The Commission concluded that the recommended Alyn and Deeside constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in the area, best meet the statutory</p>

	<p>criteria overall.</p> <p>The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Alyn and Deeside. The recommended alternative name is Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy.</p> <p>The Commission initially proposed the name Alyn and Deeside, with Alyn and Glannau Dyfrdwy as the alternative name. The Commission received representations stating that the correct form in the Welsh language would be Alun and has accordingly made a change to the recommended name to reflect this.</p> <p>The Commission received representation suggesting an alternative name for this proposed constituency. The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Alyn and Deeside (Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy).</p>
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<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	None as a result of this report.

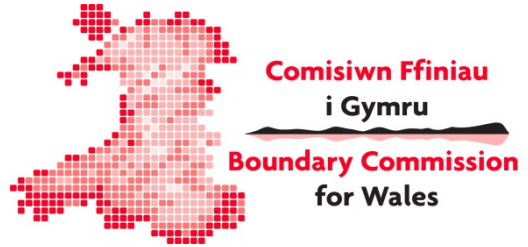
<b>3.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
3.01	None as a result of this report.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
4.01	None as a result of this report.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Appendix One – Report On The 2018 Review Of Parliamentary Constituencies In Wales

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	<p>Guide to the 2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies, Initial Proposals, and Revised Proposals and associated maps.</p> <p><b>Contact Officer:</b> Lynn Phillips, Team Leader – Democratic Services  <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 702329  <b>E-mail:</b> lyn.phillips@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

7.00	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
7.01	<p><b>The Boundary Commission for Wales</b> - is an independent and impartial non-departmental public body which is responsible for conducting periodic reviews of Parliamentary constituency boundaries in Wales and making recommendations to Parliament for changes.</p> <p><b>Assistant Commissioner</b> - Person appointed by the Secretary of State at the request of the Commission to assist the Commission in the discharge of their functions, normally an independent legally qualified person.</p> <p><b>County Constituency - abbreviated to CC</b> - Parliamentary constituency containing a significant rural element.</p> <p><b>Electoral Ward</b> - The areas into which principal council areas are divided for the purpose of electing county councillors; previously referred to as electoral divisions.</p> <p><b>Electorate</b> - The number of registered parliamentary electors in a given area.</p> <p><b>Initial proposals</b> - Initial proposals for public consultation.</p> <p><b>Revised proposals</b> - The initial proposals as revised.</p> <p><b>Final recommendations</b> - The recommendations submitted in a report to the Secretary of State at the end of a review. They may be the initial or the revised proposals in any given area.</p> <p><b>Representations</b> - The views provided by an individual, group or organisation to the Commission on its initial or revised proposals, either for or against them, including counter-proposals and petitions.</p>



Boundary Commission for Wales

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2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies

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# **Report on the 2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales**

**September 2018**







**Comisiwn Ffiniau  
i Gymru**

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**Boundary Commission  
for Wales**

**BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES  
REPORT ON THE 2018 REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES IN WALES**

**SEPTEMBER 2018**

Submitted to the Minister for the Cabinet Office pursuant to Section 3 of the Parliamentary  
Constituencies Act 1986, as amended

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## Foreword

Dear Minister

I write on behalf of the Boundary Commission for Wales to submit its report pursuant to section 3 of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986, as amended. The report shows the Parliamentary constituencies into which the Commission recommends that Wales should be divided in order to give effect to the Rules set out in Schedule 2 to the Act. We also recommend the name by which each constituency should be known and whether each constituency should be a county constituency or a borough constituency.

On 13 September 2016, the Commission published its initial proposals for Parliamentary constituencies in Wales. There began a process of consultation on those proposals. The Commission received many hundreds of written representations on the initial proposals. Public hearings were held throughout Wales to enable members of the public to express their views on the initial proposals and to suggest how they could be amended and improved. The Commission considered all of those representations. The Commission published revised proposals proposing changes, often significant changes, to 18 of the 29 constituencies proposed for Wales and changes to the names of nine of the constituencies. A further period of consultation was undertaken when members of the public were able to make representations on the revised proposals. The Commission has considered all the representations received. This report sets out the Commission's recommendations for constituencies in Wales. The recommendations are the result of extensive analysis and consultation. The Commission is satisfied that the recommended constituencies are those which best give effect to the Rules in Schedule 2 to the Act.

Yours sincerely,  
Sir Clive Lewis  
Deputy Chair  
Boundary Commission for Wales

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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 On 24 March 2016 the Boundary Commission for Wales (“the Commission”) announced the 2018 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales in accordance with the provisions of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (“the Act”) as amended by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011.
- 1.2 The Commission published its initial proposals on 13 September 2016. The proposals proceeded on the basis of the new statutory criteria. It was emphasised, however, that the proposals were provisional. The launch of the initial proposals represented the start of a 12 week consultation during which the public were invited to submit their representations in writing and/or attend one of five public hearings which were held across Wales and chaired by Assistant Commissioners. The Commission attached great importance to the opportunity to make representations to the Commission in English or Welsh, whether in support of, or objecting to the proposals.
- 1.3 In February 2017 the Commission published all responses that were received during the initial 12 week consultation period. A further four week period was then available for individuals and organisations to comment on the representations made by others. The Assistant Commissioners reviewed all the representations the Commission received during the first and second consultation period and produced a Report for the Commission.
- 1.4 The Commission reviewed the representations themselves, and considered the report of the Assistant Commissioners. The Commission published its revised proposals on 17 October 2017 for an eight week period of consultation ending on 11 December 2017. The revised proposals took careful account of all representations made to the Commission during the first and second consultation periods and the Assistant Commissioners’ report, in considering how best to give effect to the Rules in Schedule 2 to the Act. The Commission again attached great importance to the opportunity to make representations to the Commission, whether in support of, or objecting to the proposals.
- 1.5 The Commission is now submitting to the Minister for the Cabinet Office this report showing the constituencies that the Commission recommends Wales should be divided into in order to give effect to the Rules set out in Schedule 2 to the Act. These recommendations take careful account of all representations made to the Commission during the first and second consultation periods and the revised proposals consultation. The Commission has recommended constituencies which, in its opinion, best gives effect to the Rules in Schedule 2 to the Act.

## 2. Criteria for Reviewing Parliamentary Constituencies

### Application of the provisions of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 (as amended)

2.1 The Commission has applied the provisions of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986, as amended (principally by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011).

2.2 The key criteria in the review of Parliamentary constituencies are:

- **Reduction in the number of constituencies:** The reduction in the number of UK constituencies from 650 to 600, together with the introduction of the UK electoral quota, will mean that the number of constituencies in Wales will be reduced from 40 to 29.
- **Statutory electorate range:** The Act, as amended, sets out in Schedule 2 a number of Rules which are relevant to the detailed development of proposals for individual constituencies. Rule 2 provides that – apart from four specified exceptions (none of which are in Wales) – every constituency must have an electorate (as at the ‘review date’ as defined in the Act) that is no less than 95% and no more than 105% of the ‘UK electoral quota’ (“UKEQ”). The UKEQ for the 2018 Review is, to the nearest whole number 74,769<sup>1</sup>. Accordingly, every constituency in Wales must have an electorate as at the review date that is no smaller than 71,031 and no larger than 78,507 (the statutory electorate range).
- **Other statutory factors:** Rule 5 in Schedule 2 (“Rule 5”) provides for a number of other factors that the Commission may take into account in determining their recommendations for constituencies in the 2018 Review, specifically:
  1. Special geographical considerations, including, in particular, the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency;
  2. local government boundaries as defined in the Act as they existed on 7 May 2015;
  3. boundaries of existing constituencies; and,
  4. any local ties that would be broken by changes in constituencies.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> According to Rule 2(3) in Schedule 2 to the 2011 Act, the UK electoral quota is: 44,562,440 (the UK electorate as at the review date) divided by 596.

<sup>2</sup> A further factor – ‘the inconveniences attendant on such changes’ – is expressly excluded for the 2018 Review, but may be considered for subsequent reviews.

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### Interplay of the considerations

- 2.3 The policy of the Commission has been to take into account, as far as possible, all the factors listed in Rule 5 subject to ensuring that each recommended constituency falls within the statutory electorate range under Rule 2. The scale of the reduction of constituencies in Wales from 40 to 29 sometimes made it particularly difficult to reflect the factors in Rule 5. The Commission has sought to recommend constituencies that, overall, best reflect the statutory criteria.
- 2.4 The Act does not require the Commission to seek to achieve constituency electorates that are 'as close as possible to' the UKEQ. The Commission did not consider it appropriate to superimpose on the statutory scheme a policy objective of trying to minimise divergence from the UKEQ. The Commission considered that such an objective would have undermined the ability of the Commission to properly to take into account the factors listed in Rule 5 of Schedule 2 to the Act. Therefore, by way of illustration, the Commission may recommend a constituency that has, say, a 4% variance from the UKEQ, but which respects local government boundaries or existing constituencies, or which avoids breaking local ties, in preference to an alternative that would result in a constituency with only a 1% variance, but which would run counter to, or be less compliant with, the factors referred to in Rule 5.
- 2.5 As far as possible, the Commission has sought to recommend constituencies:
- From electoral wards that are adjacent to each other;
  - from whole communities; and,
  - that do not contain 'detached parts', i.e. where the only physical connection between one part of the recommended constituency and the remainder would require travel through a different recommended constituency.

### Factors the Commission did not consider

#### Impact on future election results

- 2.6 The Commission is an independent and impartial body. It emphasises very strongly that existing voting patterns and the prospective fortunes of political parties did not enter its considerations.

#### New local government boundaries

- 2.7 The local government boundaries that the Commission may have regard to are identified by the Act as the boundaries as they exist on the most recent ordinary council-election day before the review date, that is the boundaries which existed on 7 May 2015. Consequently, the Commission has not taken into account any new boundaries created after that date.

#### Electoral data and changes to electorates after the review date

- 2.8 The existing constituencies in Wales are based on electoral data from 2001. In recommending constituencies, the Commission is required under the Act to work on the basis of the numbers of electors on the electoral registers at the 'review date', as defined in the Act.



### Naming and designating constituencies

2.9 In making its recommendations, the Commission is also required by the Act to specify a name and designation for each proposed constituency.

#### Naming

2.10 The Commission's policy on the naming of constituencies is that, when constituencies remain largely unchanged, the existing constituency name should usually be retained. In such cases constituency names are likely to be altered only where there is good reason for change.

2.11 For a new constituency, the name should normally reflect that of the principal council or principal councils wholly or mainly contained in the constituency. However, if there is another suitable name which is likely to command greater local support, the Commission has recommended that other name.

2.12 The Commission considers that it is appropriate for each constituency in Wales to have names in English and Welsh. The Commission has therefore recommended alternative names in Welsh for those constituencies with names in English, and vice versa. In this way the Commission has sought to treat both languages equally. In this report therefore, alternative names will be provided in Welsh where the constituency name is in English and in English where the constituency name is in Welsh. Where a constituency name is the same in both languages, for example Llanelli, no alternative has been recommended.

2.13 The Commission adopts compass point names when there is not a more suitable name. In English, the compass point reference used will generally form a prefix in cases where a constituency name refers to the principal area or former district council but a suffix where the rest of the name refers to a population centre. Examples of existing constituencies that demonstrate this principle are '*Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire*' and '*Swansea West*'. In Welsh, the compass point reference used will form a prefix as is the convention in the Welsh language.

2.14 The Commission received representations from the Welsh Language Commissioner with regard to the naming of constituencies. The Commissioner suggested finding Welsh names that would be suitable for use in both Welsh and English in order to avoid the need for dual forms. The Commission has not accepted the suggestion of the Welsh Language Commissioner. The names of the recommended constituencies reflect, generally, existing constituencies or local authority areas. In the opinion of the Commission, those constituency names are likely to command greater support and be more readily identified with by those who live in them than constituencies given newly created names.

2.15 In their report the Assistant Commissioners recommended in some cases dropping the use of conjunctions as in the names Ynys Môn Bangor and Rhondda Llantrisant. The Commission considered this to be inappropriate as the name ought to reflect clearly the two separate areas within the proposed constituency. To adopt the approach of the Assistant Commissioners would also result in inconsistency in naming as some constituency names would include a conjunction and others would not. The Commission considered that the preferable approach

## BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES

where a proposed constituency included two recognisable areas was to include both names linked by a conjunction.

- 2.16 The Assistant Commissioners also drew attention to a Welsh language convention of naming geographic place names from north to south and from west to east. The Commission has accepted this advice.
- 2.17 The Commission has a duty to recommend the name by which a constituency should be known in the report that it submits to the Secretary of State or Minister for the Cabinet Office. Section 3(5A) of the Act provides for the Secretary of State (whose functions are exercisable concurrently with the Minister for the Cabinet Office) to lay before Parliament a draft Order in Council for giving effect to the recommendations of the Commission. Furthermore, Section 25(2) of the Welsh Language Act 1993 provides that where an Act of Parliament gives power, exercisable by a statutory instrument, to confer a name on any body, office, or place, the power shall include the power to confer alternative names in English and Welsh. The Commission considers therefore that if it recommends that constituencies have alternative names, the Secretary of State or Minister for the Cabinet Office would be empowered to give effect to those recommendations when laying a draft Order in Council before Parliament.

### Designation

- 2.18 The Act also requires that each constituency is designated as either a 'county constituency' or a 'borough constituency'. The Commission considers that, as a general principle, where constituencies contain more than a small rural element they should normally be designated as county constituencies. In other cases they should be designated as borough constituencies. The designation is suffixed to the constituency name and is usually abbreviated: **BC** for borough constituency and **CC** for county constituency.
- 2.19 The existing constituency names and designations have been created by Order in Parliament in one language only. References to these existing constituencies are made on that basis. However, all references in this report, and the Welsh language version, contain the appropriate designation in the appropriate language.

### 3. Developing the Recommendations for Constituencies

#### Number of electors

- 3.1 There are presently 40 constituencies in Wales. The number of electors in the constituencies ranges from 37,739 (Arfon CC) to 72,392 (Cardiff South and Penarth BC) and the average electorate of the existing 40 constituencies in Wales is 54,546. In accordance with the amendments to the Act, the number of constituencies in Wales would be reduced from 40 to 29 and the statutory electorate range for each constituency would be between 71,031 and 78,507. Therefore, the recommended constituencies differ significantly from existing constituencies.
- 3.2 One of the effects of reducing the overall number of constituencies allocated to Wales and the requirements of the statutory electorate range is that it has been considered necessary to recommend changes to the one existing constituency in Wales (Cardiff South and Penarth BC) that currently has an electorate within the statutory electorate range in order to be able to recommend constituencies that, overall, best reflect the statutory criteria.

#### Constituency size

- 3.3 The size (in terms of area) of existing constituencies ranges from 17km<sup>2</sup> (Cardiff Central BC) to 3,014km<sup>2</sup> (Brecon and Radnorshire CC). The maximum size of a constituency permitted under the new legislation is 13,000km<sup>2</sup>. A constituency of that size would cover approximately 61% of Wales. Given the relatively small number of electors in rural parts of Wales it is inevitable that, under the new arrangements, some of the recommended constituencies are very large in terms of area. None of the recommended constituencies in Wales, however, are close to the maximum size but, as a consequence of the UKEQ, some recommended constituencies in Wales are inevitably larger than the existing constituencies.

#### Pattern of electorate

- 3.4 The Commission received many representations asking for special consideration for the island of Anglesey to remain as an island constituency. The Act, however, provides for four specific constituencies (two in England and two in Scotland) which do not have to meet the requirement that the electorate of a constituency must fall within the electorate range specified in Rule 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act. The Act does not provide for an exception for the island of Anglesey (or any other constituency in Wales) and it is not possible for the Commission to recommend a separate constituency for the island of Anglesey as that recommended constituency would not have an electorate which fell within the statutory electorate range. Furthermore, given the number of electors in some of the south Wales valleys, some recommended constituencies encompass more than one valley. Similarly, in some areas, different electoral wards within one local authority area have had to be included in more than one recommended constituency.

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### Initial proposals

- 3.5 In accordance with the provisions of the Act, the Commission first developed a set of initial proposals for proposed constituencies. The Commission had the task of devising proposals for 29 proposed constituencies in place of the existing 40 constituencies. In doing so, it had to give effect to the requirement that the electorate of each proposed constituency had to fall within the statutory electorate range. As a result the Commission's ability to take account of the factors listed in Rule 5 to Schedule 2 to the Act has, at times, been limited. Similarly, in considering the merits of alternative schemes produced in response to the initial proposals, suggested changes or solutions have, in some instances, been found not to be viable because they cannot be accommodated within the requirements as to size of electorate or because of their consequential effects on other proposed constituencies. The Commission has, however, at every stage of its deliberations, sought to identify and recommend constituencies which best reflect the statutory criteria overall.
- 3.6 The Commission's initial proposals, published in September 2016, set out 29 proposed constituencies. The Commission received extensive, constructive, and useful representations from individuals and organisations in relation to the initial proposals including a number of representations which applied to the whole of, or substantial areas of, Wales. In all 798 written representations were received - either by letter, e-mail, petitions, or contributions through the Consultation Portal - and 74 individuals spoke at public hearings. The Commission is very grateful for the representations it has received.

### Assistant Commissioners' Report

- 3.7 Schedule 1 to the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 allowed the Secretary of State, at the request of the Commission, to appoint one or more Assistant Commissioners to assist the Commission in the discharge of their functions. Three Assistant Commissioners were appointed for the 2018 Review in Wales. The role of the Assistant Commissioners was to chair the public hearings and provide an independent and impartial report to the Commission based on the representations received at the hearings and in writing. The Lead Assistant Commissioner resigned following the public hearings and one of the remaining Assistant Commissioners was appointed as the Lead Assistant Commissioner.
- 3.8 The two Assistant Commissioners reviewed all the representations that the Commission received and produced a report for the Commission. The report summarised what the Assistant Commissioners considered to be the salient points raised by the representations and made recommendations to the Commission on revisions that could be made to the initial proposals. The Assistant Commissioners' Report can be found on the Commission's website.

### Revised Proposals

- 3.9 Section 5(5) of the Act envisaged that the Commission may revise its initial proposals in the light of representations received. In developing revised proposals the Commission considered the representations made during the consultation and the recommendations made by the Assistant Commissioners.

## 2018 REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT

- 3.10 The Commission's revised proposals, published in October 2017, presented a revised set of proposed Parliamentary constituencies in Wales with geographical changes, in some cases substantial, to 18 of its initially proposed constituencies. The scale of the changes is indicative of the close regard that the Commission has had to the representations made to the original proposals. There were 172 written representations made in response to the revised proposals. Some raised new issues. Some re-argued points made in response to the original proposals. Some expressed approval, in whole or in part, of the revised proposals. There were 23 representations about the names of the proposed constituencies.
- 3.11 Given the need to ensure that the electorate of each recommended constituency meets the requirements of Rule 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act, it has not been possible to meet all of the further concerns which have been expressed. Furthermore, in respect of the geographically larger recommended constituencies, the Commission also acknowledges the concerns which have been expressed about the pressures of travel on elected members and their constituents. Twenty three of the representations concerned the proposed names or alternative names for the recommended constituencies. The Commission has made changes to three of the names to reflect these representations. It did not receive compelling evidence in respect of the other proposed name changes that the suggested names were a better reflection of the recommended constituencies than those the Commission proposed.

### Recommendations

- 3.12 Following the extensive consultation processes that the Commission has undertaken it is now obliged to submit a report to the Minister for the Cabinet Office showing its recommendations for the constituencies in Wales, the names by which the recommended constituencies should be known, and whether each recommended constituency should be a county or a borough constituency. The recommended constituencies are described in detail below and illustrated in outline maps in section 5. In this report the proposed constituencies are presented in the same order as that used in the initial/revised proposals, starting with '**Ynys Môn a Bangor**', and ending with '**Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro**'. This order is purely for presentational purposes.

## 4. Summary of Recommendations

- The UKEQ is 74,769 with a tolerance of between 95% and 105% of this figure (71,031 and 78,507 respectively). The recommended constituencies are all within the statutory electorate range with 12 constituencies below the electoral quota and 17 above the electoral quota.
- 15 existing constituencies would be wholly contained within a new constituency (the existing constituencies are Alyn and Deeside, Blaenau Gwent, Brecon and Radnorshire, Bridgend, Cardiff West, Ceredigion, Cynon Valley, Dwyfor Meirionnydd, Llanelli, Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney, Neath, Rhondda, Torfaen, Wrexham, and Ynys Môn).
- The area of six principal councils would be wholly contained within a recommended constituency (the principal councils are Blaenau Gwent, Ceredigion, the Isle of Anglesey, Merthyr Tydfil, Monmouthshire and Torfaen).
- There would be six constituencies over 1,000 km<sup>2</sup> (the recommended constituencies of Brecon, Radnor and Montgomery, Caerfyrddin, Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro, De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn, Gwynedd, and Mid and South Pembrokeshire). Two of these recommended constituencies would be between 2,000 and 3,000 km<sup>2</sup> (Caerfyrddin, and Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro) and two are over 3,000 km<sup>2</sup> (Brecon, Radnor and Montgomery and Gwynedd). There are no constituencies over 4,000 km<sup>2</sup>.
- Of the 881 electoral wards in Wales, 880 would be wholly contained within a recommended constituency. It has been considered appropriate to split one electoral ward in order to give effect to Rules 2 and 5. The electoral ward of Ponciau would be split into its constituent communities.

## 5. The Recommendations in Detail

5.1 The Commission's recommendations are described in detail below. For each recommended constituency the report sets out:

- The composition of the constituency that the Commission is recommending in terms of the electoral wards it would contain, whether it should be a county constituency or a borough constituency, and its variance from the electoral quota;
- the name of the constituency recommended by the Commission, including the recommended alternative if applicable;
- each existing constituency directly affected by the proposal, including the number of electors in each constituency, the percentage variance from the UKEQ and the minimum of the statutory electorate range;
- a brief summary of the principal arguments made during the public consultations in support of, or in objection to, the initial proposals. Although not all representations are mentioned specifically in this report, the Commission has considered all representations made when determining its recommendations;
- a brief summary of the Commission's response to the principal representations; and,
- a map of the recommended constituency for illustrative purposes only.

### Explanation of detailed maps and key

5.2 The following four pages set out an overall picture of the existing arrangements, the Commission's initial proposals, the revised proposals and the Commission's recommendations. These show the existing constituencies in Wales in Red, the Initial Proposals in Yellow, the Revised Proposals in Blue and the Recommended Constituencies in Green. On the individual maps of recommended constituencies, red lines show an existing constituency, yellow lines show the constituency as initially proposed and green lines show the recommended constituencies. The individual constituency maps refer to the recommended name for the constituency. The Commission has also provided a recommended alternative name and these names can be found in the description of the recommended constituency.

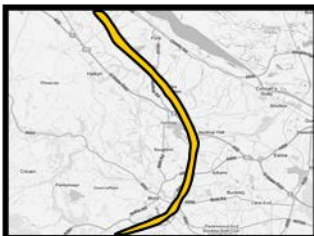
BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES



Final Recommendations Constituency Boundary



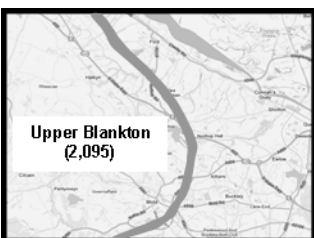
Revised Proposals Constituency Boundary



Initial Proposals Constituency Boundary



Existing Arrangements Constituency Boundary



Upper  
2,095

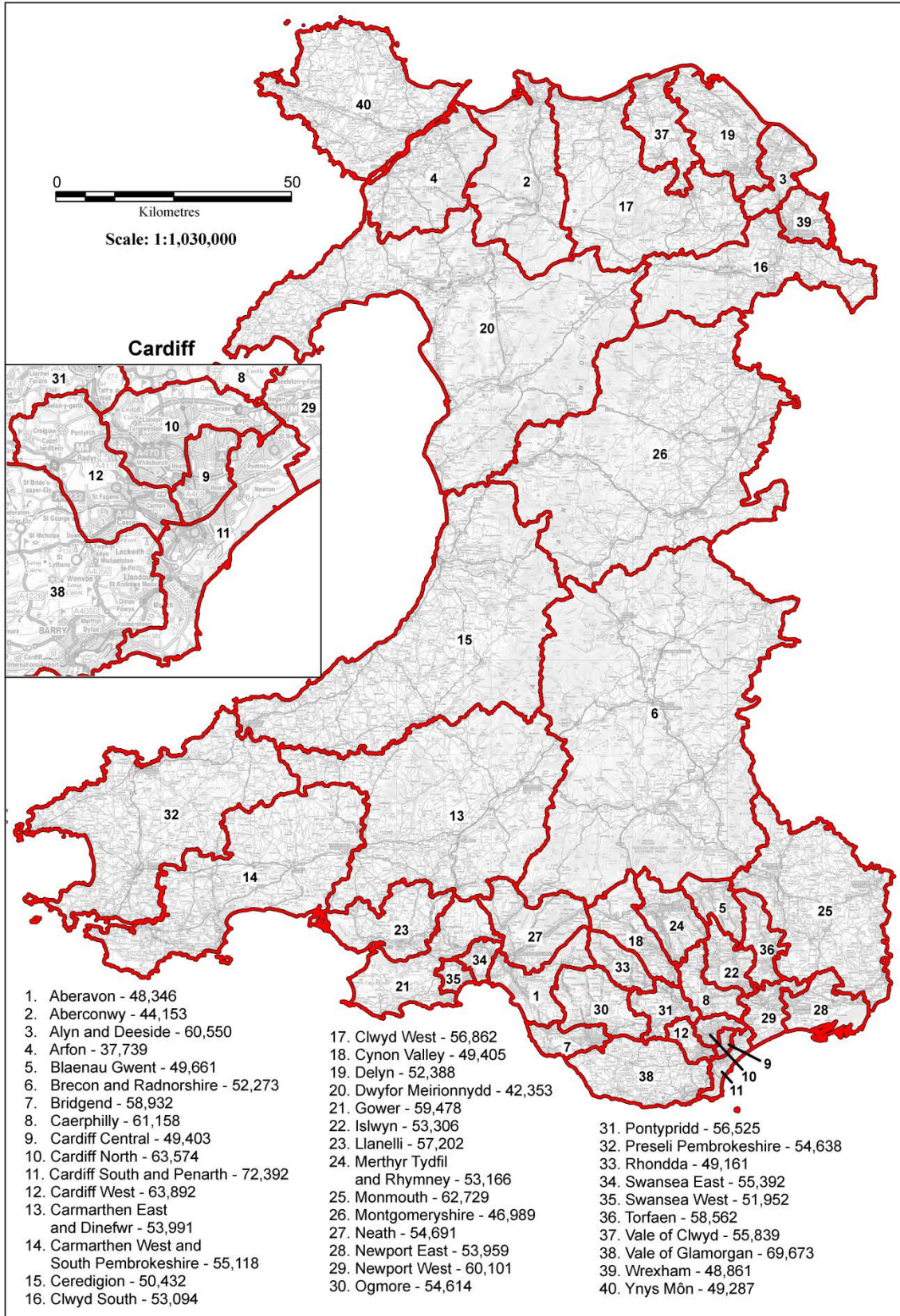
Existing Electoral Wards Title



Existing Electoral Wards Boundary

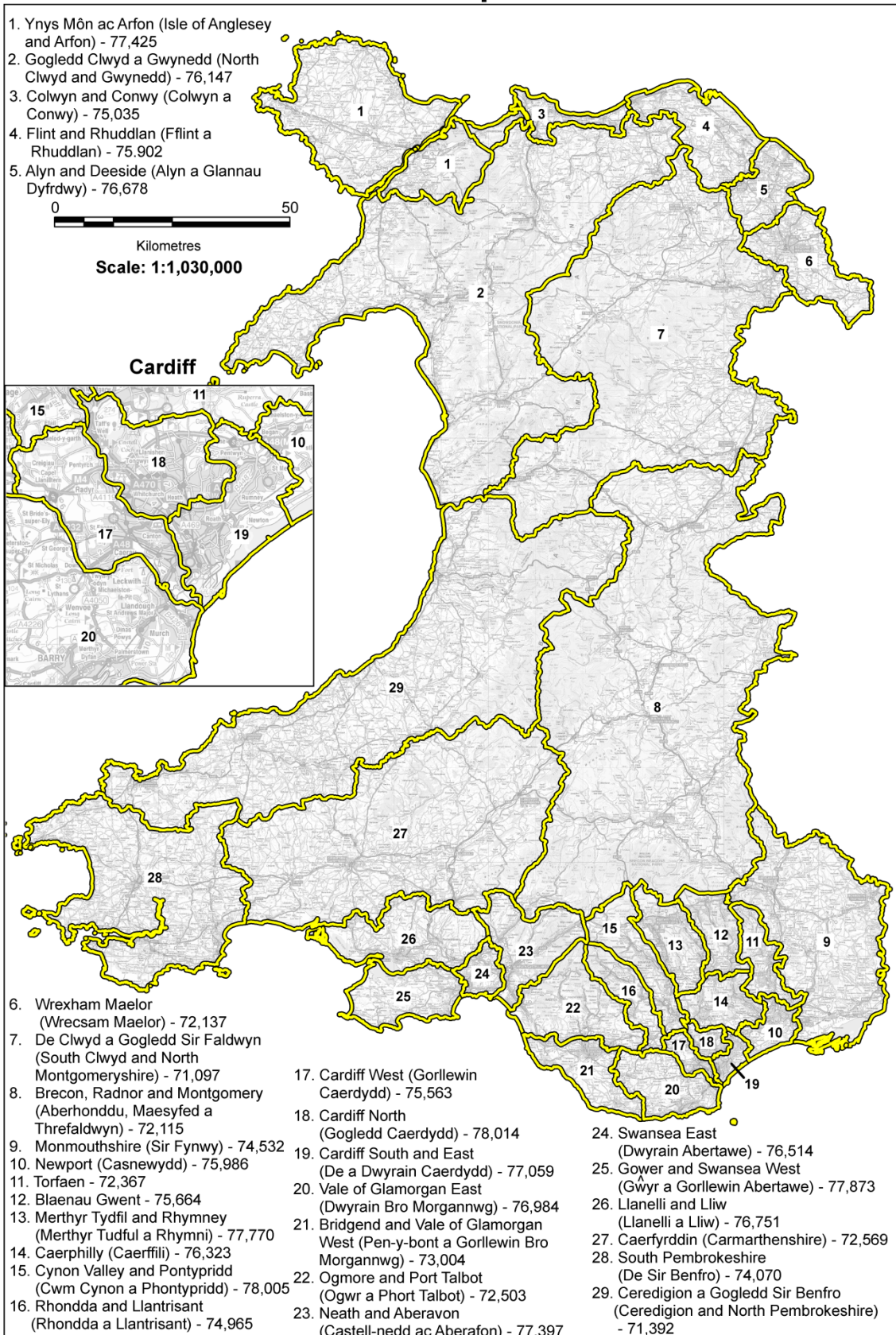


## Existing Constituencies



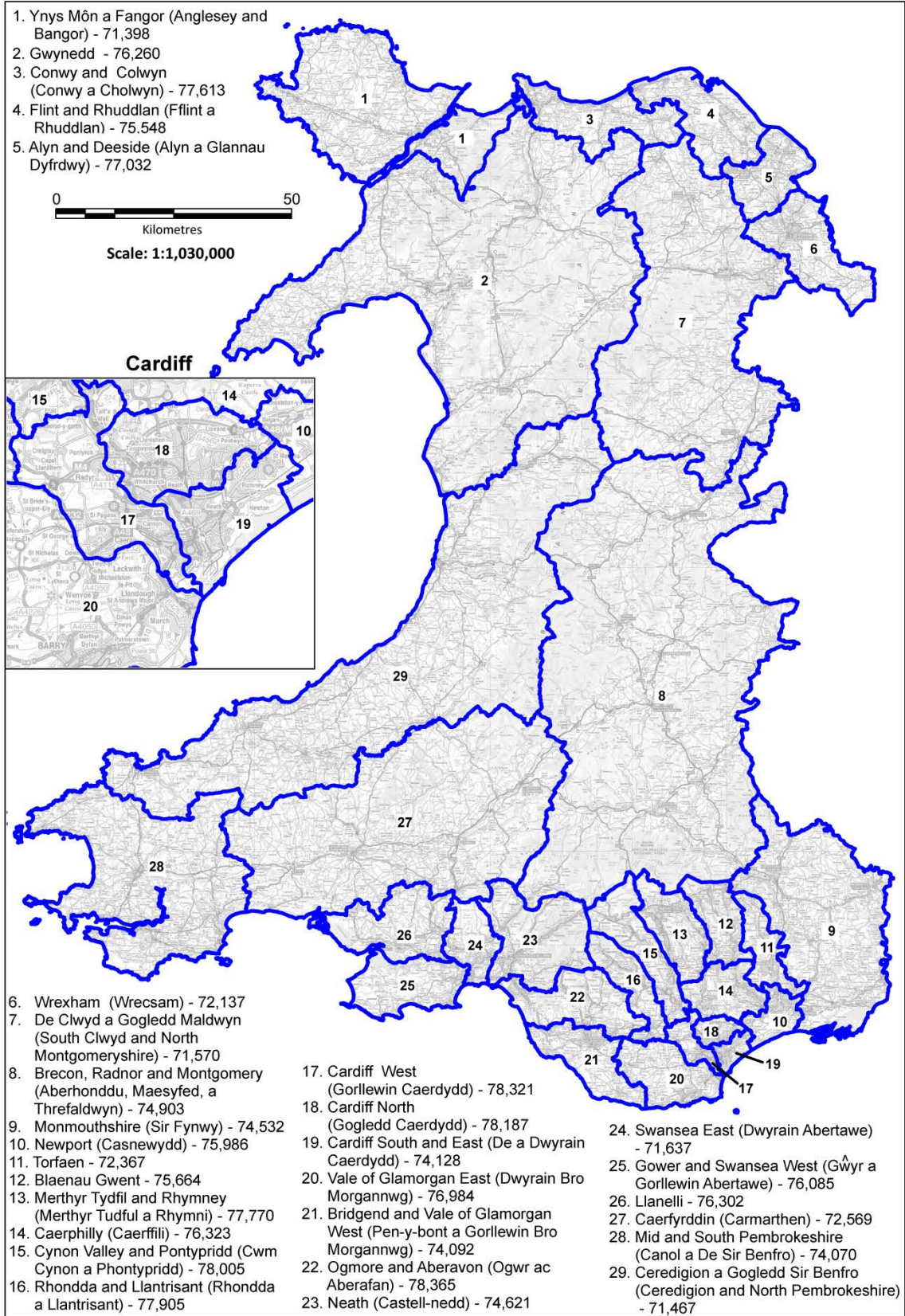
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# Initial Proposals

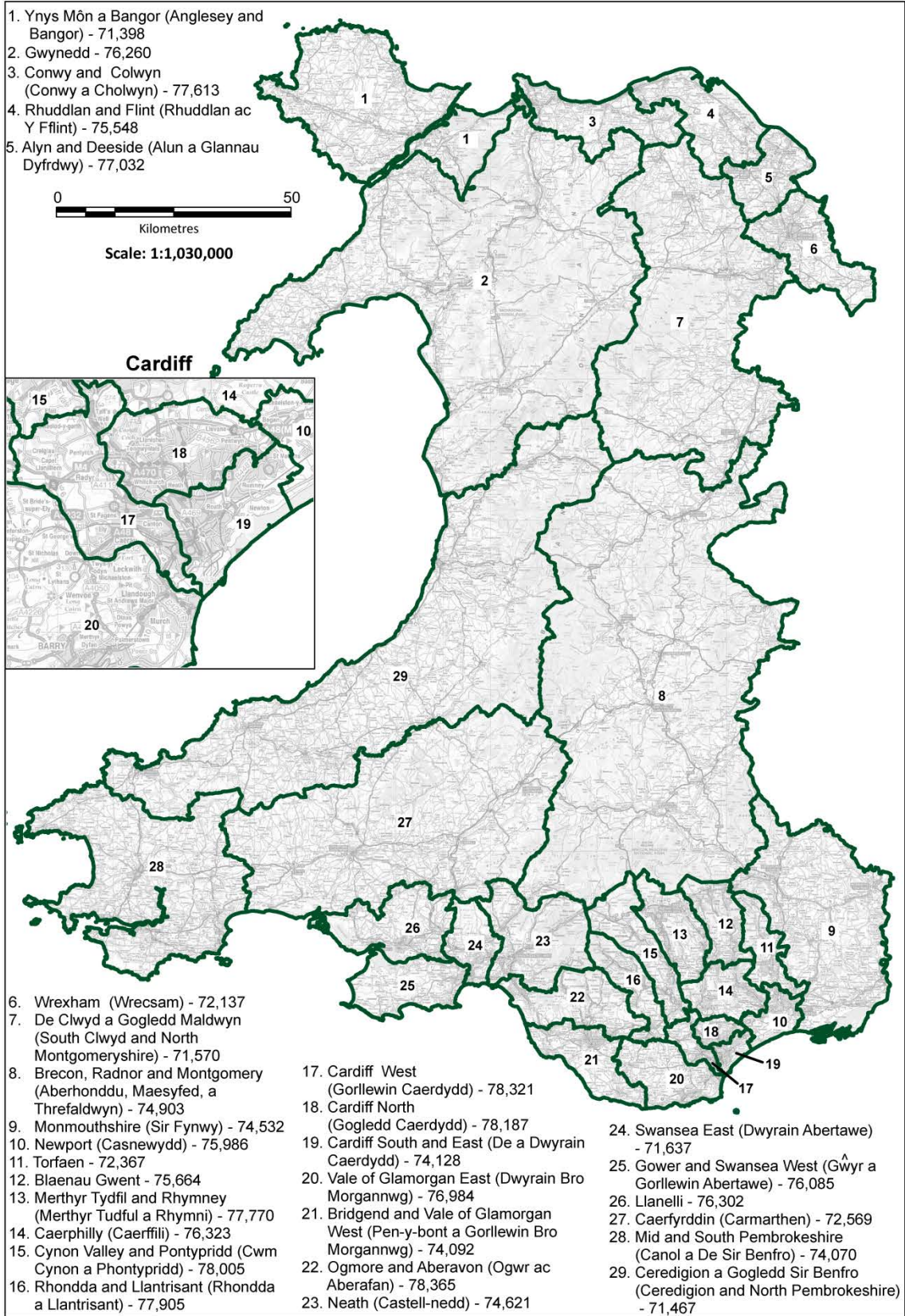


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## Revised Proposals



## Recommendations



# 1. Ynys Môn a Bangor (Anglesey and Bangor)

## Recommendation

- 1.1 **The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:**
- 1.1 a. **The electoral wards within the existing Aberconwy CC and County of Conwy of Bryn (1,349), Capelulo (1,179), Pandy (1,433) and Pant-yr-Afon/Penmaenan (2,119);**
  - 1.1 b. **the electoral wards within the existing Arfon CC and County of Gwynedd of Arllechwedd (971), Deiniol (496), Dewi (1,098), Garth (420), Gerlan (1,559), Glyder (1,139), Hendre (835), Hiracl (881), Marchog (1,446), Menai (Bangor) (839), Ogwen (1,556), Pentir (1,636), Tregarth & Mynydd Llandygai (1,531) and Y Felinheli (1,624); and,**
  - 1.1 c. **the electoral wards within the existing Ynys Môn CC and County of Isle of Anglesey of Aethwy (4,906), Bro Aberffraw (2,882), Bro Rhosyr (3,626), Caergybi (6,146), Canolbarth Môn (4,874), Llifon (3,963), Lligwy (4,621), Seiriol (4,407), Talybolion (4,430), Twrcelyn (5,229) and Ynys Gybi (4,203).**
- 1.2 **This constituency would have 71,398 electors which is 4.5% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**
- 1.3 **The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Ynys Môn a Bangor. The recommended alternative is Anglesey and Bangor.**
- 1.4 **The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:**
- 1.4 a. **The existing Aberconwy CC has a total of 44,153 electors which is 41% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 38% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
  - 1.4 b. **The existing Arfon CC has a total of 37,739 electors which is 49.5% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 47% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
  - 1.4 c. **The existing Ynys Môn CC has a total of 49,287 electors which is 34% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 31% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**

## Background

- 1.5 **In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:**
- 1.5 a. **The electoral wards within the existing Arfon CC and County of Gwynedd of Arllechwedd (971), Bethel (1,020), Cadnant (1,438), Cwm-y-Glo (710), Deiniol (496),**

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Deiniolen (1,263), Dewi (1,098), Garth (420), Gerlan (1,559), Glyder (1,139), Hendre (835), Hiracl (881), Llanrug (1,289), Marchog (1,446), Menai (Bangor) (839), Menai (Caernarfon) (1,671), Ogwen (1,556), Peblig (Caernarfon) (1,344), Penisarwaun (1,293), Pentir (1,636), Seiont (2,079), Tregarth & Mynydd Llandygai (1,531) and Y Felinheli (1,624); and,

- 1.5 b. the whole of the existing Ynys Môn CC.
- 1.6 This proposed constituency would have 77,425 electors which is 3.6% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Ynys Môn ac Arfon. The suggested alternative name was Isle of Anglesey and Arfon.
- 1.7 The Commission received a number of representations which suggested that the island of Anglesey should be dealt with as a 'special case' and therefore be exempt from the criterion in the legislation which requires that the electorate for a constituency falls within the statutory electorate range, as is the case for the Isle of Wight in England and the two constituencies of Orkney and Shetland, and Na h-Eileanan an Iar in Scotland. The Commission cannot deviate from Rule 2 in Schedule 2 to the Act. It is not, therefore, possible to create a 'special case' or 'exception' for the island of Anglesey by preserving the existing Ynys Môn constituency.
- 1.8 A number of representations indicated that electors in Ynys Môn look first to Bangor and then eastwards, rather than towards Caernarfon, for their social and cultural ties. The representations indicated that a number of wards in the existing Arfon constituency, including Caernarfon and its immediate area, are more closely linked to the rest of Gwynedd and should be included in a constituency which includes wards from Gwynedd rather than, as initially proposed, included in a constituency with Ynys Môn. These wards were Bethel, Cadnant, Cwm-y-Glo, Deiniolen, Llanrug, Menai (Caernarfon), Peblig (Caernarfon), Penisarwaun and Seiont. The Assistant Commissioners concluded that *"We consider therefore that the above named wards together with the Caernarfon wards including Cwm-y-glo and Cadnant should not be with Ynys Môn in a constituency but should be added to the Gogledd Clwyd a Gwynedd constituency"* and, therefore, *"To meet the statutory electorate range and because of local ties it would then be appropriate to add the wards to the east of Bangor ... initially proposed to form part of Colwyn and Conwy"* to this proposed constituency.
- 1.9 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners' report, the Commission accepted the recommendations of the Assistant Commissioners and proposed to include the electoral wards of Bethel, Cadnant, Cwm-y-Glo, Deiniolen, Llanrug, Menai (Caernarfon), Peblig (Caernarfon), Penisarwaun and Seiont to the west of Bangor in the proposed Gwynedd constituency rather than in this proposed constituency. The Commission received representations that these electoral wards have local ties with Gwynedd and therefore are better included within the proposed Gwynedd constituency to avoid breaking those ties. In order for this proposed constituency to meet the statutory electorate range, additional wards would then need to be added. The Commission accepted the Assistant Commissioners' recommendation that the most appropriate electoral wards for inclusion within this proposed constituency were those of Bryn,

Capelulo, Pandy, and Pant-yr-afon/Penmaenan. It was considered inappropriate to include the electoral ward of Conwy in this revised constituency. The Commission considered the ward of Y Felinheli and there are indications amongst the representations that the ward has local ties with both Caernarfon and Bangor. The Commission concluded that, whilst the ward has ties with Caernarfon as well as Bangor, this ward should be included within this proposed constituency. That would ensure that this proposed constituency fell within the statutory electorate range. In the opinion of the Commission these changes allow for the creation of constituencies across mid and north Wales which, overall, better reflect the statutory criteria.

- 1.10 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:
  - 1.10 a. The electoral wards within the existing Aberconwy CC and County of Conwy of Bryn (1,349), Capelulo (1,179), Pandy (1,433), and Pant-yr-Afon/Penmaenan (2,119);
  - 1.10 b. the electoral wards within the existing Arfon CC and County of Gwynedd of Arllechwedd (971), Deiniol (496), Dewi (1,098), Garth (420), Gerlan (1,559), Glyder (1,139), Hendre (835), Hiracl (881), Marchog (1,446), Menai (Bangor) (839), Ogwen (1,556), Pentir (1,636), Tregarth & Mynydd Llandygai (1,531) and Y Felinheli (1,624); and,
  - 1.10 c. the whole of the existing Ynys Môn CC.
- 1.11 This constituency would have 71,398 electors which is 4.5% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 1.12 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations on the geographical composition of this proposed constituency. The representations provided different views on the proposed constituency with a small body of representations suggesting that the Commission should consider including the electoral wards of Bryn, Capelulo, Pandy, and Pant-yr-afon/Penmaenan within a proposed constituency including wards from Conwy rather than the island of Anglesey. The Commission also received representations reiterating the point that the island of Anglesey should be a protected constituency and should remain a separate constituency. The Commission also received representations in support of the revised proposal including from the Assembly Member for Aberconwy.
- 1.13 The Commission considered all of the representations. The Commission is unable to retain the existing Ynys Môn constituency as a single constituency due to the requirement in Rule 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act; the existing constituency has an electorate of 49,287 therefore it is too small to be retained as a single constituency as it falls below the statutory electorate range. The Commission considered again the electoral wards of Bryn, Capelulo, Pandy and Pant-yr-afon/Penmaenan and concluded that these wards were appropriately included within this proposed constituency for the reasons set out in paragraph 1.9 of section 5 above. The Commission is satisfied that the recommended Ynys Môn a Bangor constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in this area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

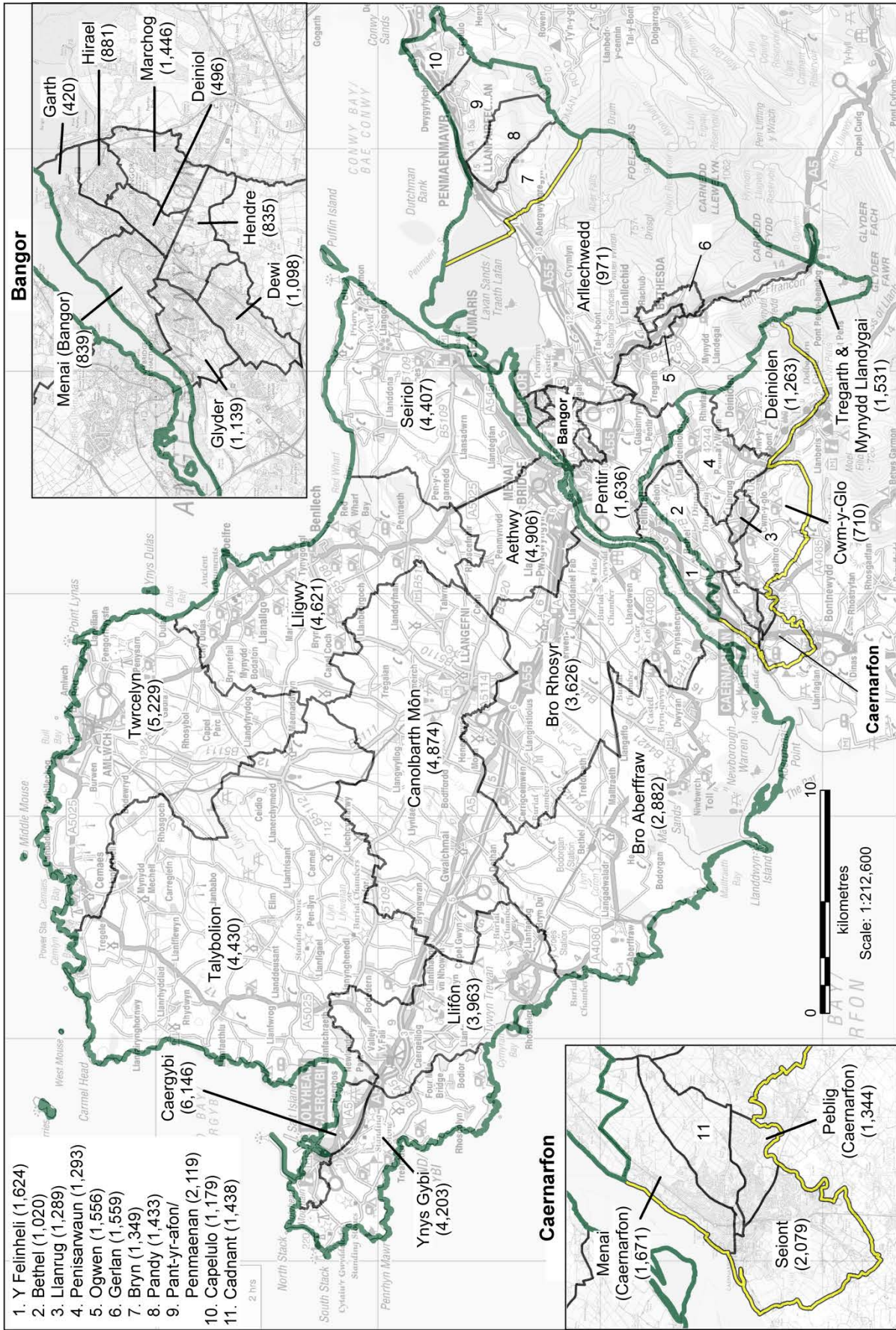
## BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES

### Name

- 1.14 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Ynys Môn a Bangor. The recommended alternative name is Anglesey and Bangor.
- 1.15 The Commission initially proposed the name Ynys Môn ac Arfon. Due to the removal of the town of Caernarfon and other wards forming part of the existing Arfon constituency and the inclusion within the proposed constituency of the electoral wards to the east of Bangor (Bryn, Capelulo, Pandy, and Pant-yr-afon/Penmaenan), the Commission considered that the name Ynys Môn ac Arfon was no longer appropriate and the name of the proposed constituency should include a reference both to Ynys Môn and Bangor.
- 1.16 The Assistant Commissioners recommended changing the name to 'Ynys Môn Bangor' dropping the conjunction. The Commission did not agree with this recommendation. Paragraph 2.15 in section 2 sets out the Commission's views regarding naming conventions and conjunctions.
- 1.17 During the revised proposal consultation period the Commission received representations with regard to the Welsh name for this proposed constituency. The representations stated that the correct Welsh name for the constituency did not require Bangor to be mutated to Fangor. The Commission also received a representation suggesting that there was no need to use Anglesey in the English form of the name as the current constituency uses the Welsh form of Ynys Môn.
- 1.18 The Commission are of the view that the name Ynys Môn a Bangor best reflects the geographic area that this recommended constituency would represent, and would be more likely to result in electors having a greater affinity with it. The Commission considers it appropriate that the alternative name be Anglesey and Bangor.



Ynys Môn a Bangor (Anglesey and Bangor)



## 2. Gwynedd

### Recommendation

- 2.1 The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:
- 2.1 a. The electoral wards within the existing Aberconwy CC and County of Conwy of Betws-y-Coed (932), Caerhun (1,609), Crwst (1,583), Eglwysbach (1,195), Gower (887), Trefriw (1,022) and Uwch Conwy (1,230);
  - 2.1 b. the electoral wards within the existing Arfon CC and County of Gwynedd of Bethel (1,020), Bontnewydd (824), Cadnant (1,438), Cwm-y-Glo (710), Deiniolen (1,263), Groeslon (1,246), Llanberis (1,445), Llanllyfni (892), Llanrug (1,289), Llanwnda (1,428), Menai (Caernarfon) (1,671), Peblig (Caernarfon) (1,344), Penisarwaun (1,293), Penygroes (1,289), Seiont (2,079), Talysarn (1,276) and Waunfawr (1,201);
  - 2.1 c. the electoral wards within the existing Clwyd West CC and County of Conwy of Llangernyw (1,147), Llansannan (1,470) and Uwchaed (1,124); and,
  - 2.1 d. the electoral wards within the existing Dwyfor Meirionnydd CC and County of Gwynedd of Aberdaron (712), Aberdovey (851), Abererch (971), Abermaw (1,468), Abersoch (510), Bala (1,290), Botwnnog (698), Bowydd & Rhiw (1,211), Brithdir & Llanfachreth/Glanllwyd/Llanelltyd (1,080), Bryn-crug/Llanfihangel (732), Clynnog (698), Corris/Mawddwy (917), Criccieth (1,263), Diffwys & Maenofferen (744), Dolbenmaen (888), Dolgellau North (862), Dolgellau South (992) Dyffryn Ardudwy (1,128), Efail-newydd/Buan (988), Harlech (1,419), Llanaelhaearn (1,121), Llanbedr (783), Llanbedrog (733), Llandderfel (1,090), Llanengan (802), Llangelynin (1,505), Llanuwchllyn (673), Llanystumdwy (1,452), Morfa Nefyn (880), Nefyn (952), Penrhyndeudraeth (1,718), Porthmadog East (1,076), Porthmadog West (1,193), Porthmadog-Tremadog (918), Pwllheli North (1,407), Pwllheli South (1,218), Teigl (1,321), Trawsfynydd (1,070), Tudweiliog (661) and Tywyn (2,358).
- 2.2 This constituency would have 76,260 electors which is 2% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 2.3 The Commission recommends that the name of the proposed constituency should be Gwynedd.
- 2.4 The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:
- 2.4 a. The existing Aberconwy CC has a total of 44,153 electors which is 41% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 38% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.

- 2.4 b. The existing Arfon CC has a total of 37,739 electors which is 49.5% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 47% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.
- 2.4 c. The existing Clwyd West CC has a total of 56,862 electors which is 24% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 20% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.
- 2.4 d. The existing Dwyfor Meirionnydd CC has a total of 42,353 electors which is 43% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 40% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.
- 2.4 e. The existing Vale of Clwyd CC has a total of 55,839 electors which is 25% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 21% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.

### Background

- 2.5 In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:
  - 2.5 a. The electoral wards within the existing Aberconwy CC and County of Conwy of Betws-y-Coed (932), Caerhun (1,609), Crwst (1,583), Eglwysbach (1,195), Gower (887), Trefriw (1,022) and Uwch Conwy (1,230);
  - 2.5 b. the electoral wards within the existing Arfon CC and County of Gwynedd of Bontnewydd (824), Groeslon (1,246), Llanberis (1,445), Llanllyfni (892), Llanwnda (1,428), Penygroes (1,289), Talysarn (1,276) and Waunfawr (1,201);
  - 2.5 c. the electoral wards within the existing Clwyd West CC and County of Conwy of Betws yn Rhos (1,626), Llangernyw (1,147) and Llansannan (1,470);
  - 2.5 d. the electoral wards within the existing Dwyfor Meirionnydd CC and County of Gwynedd of Aberdaron (712), Aberdovey (851), Abererch (971), Abermaw (1,468), Abersoch (510), Botwnnog (698), Bowydd and Rhiw (1,211), Brithdir and Llanfachreth/Glanllwyd/Llanelltyd (1,080), Bryn-crug/Llanfihangel (732), Clynnog (698), Corris/Mawddwy (917), Criccieth (1,263), Diffwys and Maenofferen (744), Dolbenmaen (888), Dolgellau North (862), Dolgellau South (992), Dyffryn Ardudwy (1,128) Efail-newydd/Buan (988), Harlech (1,419), Llanaelhaearn (1,121), Llanbedr (783), Llanbedrog (733), Llanengan (802), Llangelynin (1,505), Llanystumdwy (1,452), Morfa Nefyn (880), Nefyn (952), Penrhyndeudraeth (1,718), Porthmadog East (1,076), Porthmadog West (1,193), Porthmadog-Tremadog (918), Pwllheli North (1,407), Pwllheli South (1,218), Teigl (1,321), Trawsfynydd (1,070), Tudweiliog (661) and Tywyn (2,358); and,
  - 2.5 e. the electoral wards within the existing Vale of Clwyd CC and the County of Denbighshire of Bodelwyddan (1,583), Denbigh Central (1,567),

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Denbigh Lower (3,575), Denbigh Upper/Henllan (2,371), St. Asaph East (1,375), St. Asaph West (1,265), Trefnant (1,496) and Tremeirchion (1,313).

- 2.6 This constituency would have 76,147 electors which is 1.8% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for this proposed constituency was Gogledd Clwyd a Gwynedd. The suggested alternative name was North Clwyd and Gwynedd.
- 2.7 The Commission received a number of representations which suggested that the town of Caernarfon and surrounding electoral wards have ties with the area of Gwynedd rather than the island of Anglesey. The Commission also received representations that the wards currently within the local government area of Denbighshire would be more appropriately included within a different constituency and that the electoral wards of Bala, Llandderfel and Llanuwchllyn (which the initial proposals had included within a proposed De Clwyd a Gogledd a Sir Faldwyn constituency) had strong links with Gwynedd and that these wards consider themselves to be a part of Gwynedd. It was also suggested that the electoral ward of Uwchaled should be included within a Gwynedd constituency as it has ties, in particular Welsh language links, with areas of Gwynedd.
- 2.8 The Assistant Commissioners concluded that, *“there were many representations which pointed out that the Vale of Clwyd wards including Denbigh and St. Asaph have no social, cultural or economic ties with the wider Gwynedd area that includes the Llyn Peninsula and Aberdovey”*. They also stated that, *“There was very strong support for including Uwchaled, Llandderfel, Bala, and Llanuwchllyn in a Gwynedd constituency rather than in the proposed De Clwyd a Gogledd Sir Faldwyn constituency because of the strong Welsh language, social and economic ties between that area and Gwynedd.”*
- 2.9 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners’ report, the Commission accepted the recommendations of the Assistant Commissioners and proposed including electoral wards to the west of Bangor, that is Bethel, Cadnant, Cwm-y-Glo, Deiniolen, Llanrug, Menai (Caernarfon), Peblig (Caernarfon), Penisarwaun and Seiont, within a constituency based largely on electoral wards within the area of Gwynedd. The Commission received representations supporting the inclusion of these electoral wards in this recommended constituency as they have local ties with Gwynedd which would be broken if they were included within a different constituency. The Commission also accepted the recommendation of the Assistant Commissioners that the electoral wards of Bala, Llandderfel, Llanuwchllyn, and Uwchaled should be included within this proposed constituency as this would avoid breaking the ties that exist between these wards and areas of Gwynedd.
- 2.10 The Commission also accepted the recommendation of the Assistant Commissioners that electoral wards from Denbighshire should not be included within a constituency comprised largely of wards from Gwynedd as they lack local community ties with the wider Gwynedd area.
- 2.11 However, the Commission did not accept the recommendation of the Assistant Commissioners that the revised proposed constituency should extend no further east than

the electoral ward of Llangernyw. That recommendation would involve including a single electoral ward from the local authority area for Conwy, namely Llansannan, within another proposed constituency.

- 2.12 The Commission, therefore, included the Llansannan ward within the revised proposed constituency and this enabled the Commission to include wards from one fewer principal council area within the proposed De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn constituency which is discussed further at paragraph 7.10 of section 5.
- 2.13 The Commission considered a number of alternatives for this area. However, the Commission was of the view that a proposed constituency, revised as indicated, would better reflect the statutory criteria overall than any of the alternatives suggested to it.
- 2.14 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:
- 2.14 a. The electoral wards within the existing Aberconwy CC and County of Conwy of Betws-y-Coed (932), Caerhun (1,609), Crwst (1,583), Eglwysbach (1,195), Gower (887), Trefriw (1,022) and Uwch Conwy (1,230);
  - 2.14 b. the electoral wards within the existing Arfon CC and County of Gwynedd of Bethel (1,020), Bontnewydd (824), Cadnant (1,438), Cwm-y-Glo (710), Deiniolen (1,263), Groeslon (1,246), Llanberis (1,445), Llanllyfni (892), Llanrug (1,289), Llanwnda (1,428), Menai (Caernarfon) (1,671), Peblig (Caernarfon) (1,344), Penisarwaun (1,293), Penygroes (1,289), Seiont (2,079), Talysarn (1,276) and Waunfawr (1,201);
  - 2.14 c. the electoral wards within the existing Clwyd West CC and County of Conwy of Llangernyw (1,147), Llansannan (1,470) and Uwchaled (1,124); and,
  - 2.14 d. the whole of the existing Dwyfor Meirionnydd CC.
- 2.15 This proposed constituency would have 76,260 electors which is 2% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 2.16 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations on the geographical composition of this proposed constituency. A representation, whilst not supporting the reduction in representation across Wales, states that the revised Gwynedd constituency which now encompasses the electoral wards of Bala, Llandderfel, Llanuwchllyn and Uwchaled provides for a much more cohesive constituency. The Commission also received representations that supported the removal of the Denbighshire electoral wards of Bodelwyddan, Denbigh Central, Denbigh Lower, Denbigh Upper/Henllan, St. Asaph East, St. Asaph West, Trefnant and Tremeirchion from this constituency as proposed in the revised constituency.
- 2.17 The Commission considered all of the representations. The Commission is of the view that the revised proposal addressed the main areas of contention arising out of the initial proposals. The Commission is satisfied that the recommended Gwynedd constituency, and

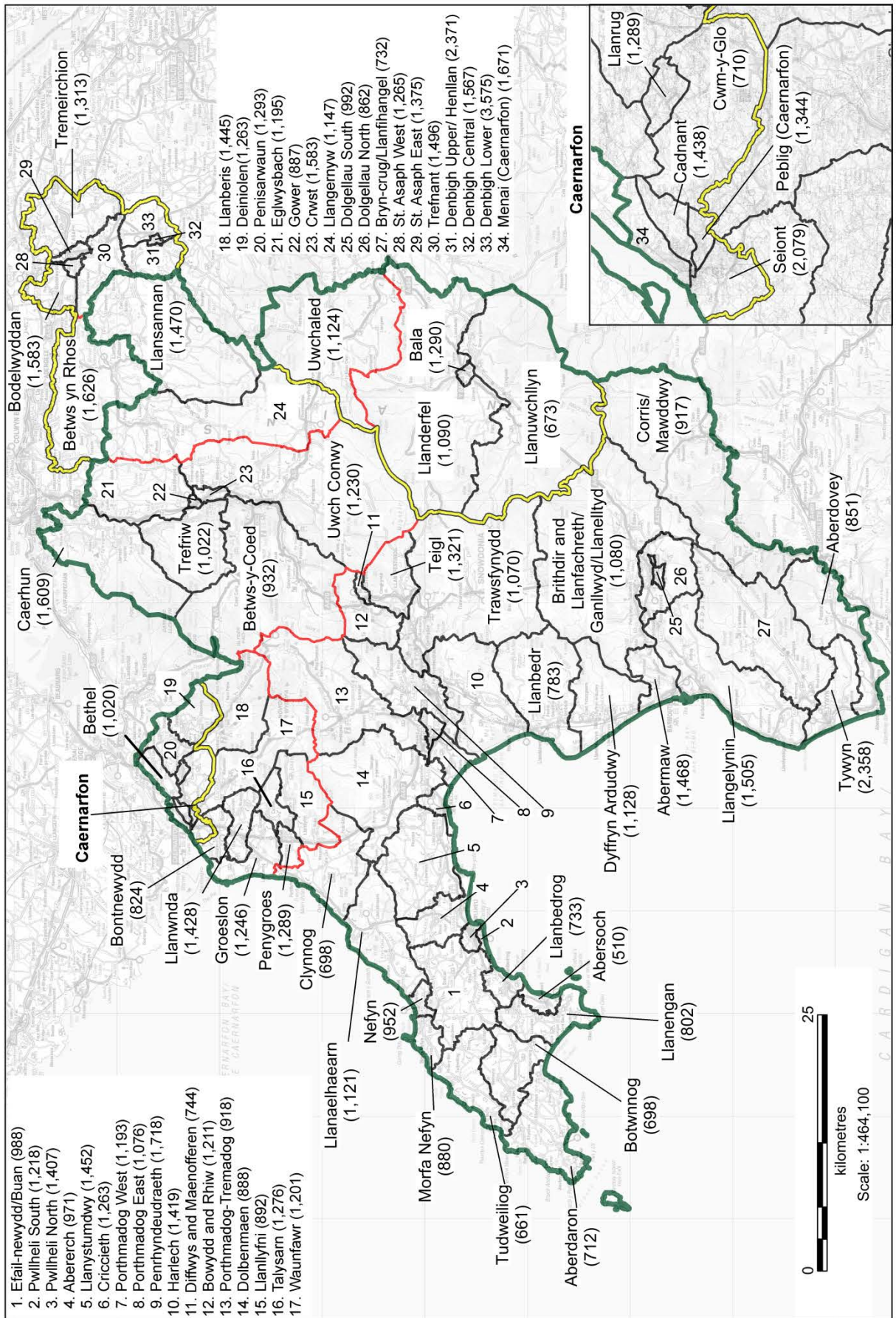
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also the other recommended constituencies in this area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

- 2.18 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Gwynedd. Gwynedd is recognisable in both languages and therefore no alternative name is recommended.
- 2.19 The Commission initially proposed the name Gogledd Clwyd a Gwynedd. As the Denbighshire wards to the north east are not included within the recommended constituency, and given the inclusion of the wards surrounding Bala to the south east, the Commission took the view that the name of Gogledd Clwyd a Gwynedd was no longer appropriate.
- 2.20 The Commission has considered all the representations and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Gwynedd.

Gwynedd



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### **3. Conwy and Colwyn (Conwy a Cholwyn)**

#### **Recommendation**

- 3.1 The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:**
- 3.1 a. The electoral wards within the existing Aberconwy CC and County of Conwy of Conwy (3,227), Craig-y-Don (2,801), Deganwy (3,235), Gogarth (2,829), Llansanffraid (1,807), Marl (3,500), Mostyn (2,751), Penrhyn (3,784), Pensarn (2,075) and Tudno (3,606);**
  - 3.1 b. the electoral wards within the existing Clwyd West CC and County of Conwy of Abergele Pensarn (1,905), Betws yn Rhos (1,626), Colwyn (3,288), Eirias (2,749), Gele (3,784), Glyn (2,935), Kinmel Bay (4,506), Llanddulas (1,323), Llandrillo yn Rhos (6,032), Llysfaen (1,862), Mochdre (1,458), Pentre Mawr (2,747), Rhiw (4,909) and Towyn (1,842); and,**
  - 3.1 c. the electoral wards within the existing Vale of Clwyd CC and the County of Denbighshire of Bodelwyddan (1,583), St. Asaph East (1,375), St. Asaph West (1,265), Trefnant (1,496) and Tremeirchion (1,313).**
- 3.2 This constituency would have 77,613 electors which is 3.8% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**
- 3.3 The Commission recommends the name for the proposed constituency should be Conwy and Colwyn. The recommended alternative name is Conwy a Cholwyn.**
- 3.4 The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:**
- 3.4 a. The existing Aberconwy CC has a total of 44,153 electors which is 41% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 38% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
  - 3.4 b. The existing Clwyd West CC has a total of 56,862 electors which is 24% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 20% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
  - 3.4 c. The existing Vale of Clwyd CC has a total of 55,839 electors which is 25% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 21% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**

#### **Background**

- 3.5 In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:**
- 3.5 a. The electoral wards within the existing Aberconwy CC and County of Conwy electoral wards of Bryn (1,349), Capelulo (1,179), Conwy (3,227), Craig-y-Don (2,801), Deganwy (3,235), Gogarth (2,829), Llansanffraid (1,807), Marl (3,500),**



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Mostyn (2,751), Pandy (1,433), Pant-yr-Afon/Penmaenan (2,119), Penrhyn (3,784), Pensarn (2,075) and Tudno (3,606); and,

- 3.5 b. the electoral wards within the existing Clwyd West CC and County of Conwy electoral wards of Abergele Pensarn (1,905), Colwyn (3,288), Eirias (2,749), Gele (3,784), Glyn (2,935), Kinmel Bay (4,506), Llanddulas (1,323), Llandrillo yn Rhos (6,032), Llysfaen (1,862), Mochdre (1,458), Pentre Mawr (2,747), Rhiw (4,909) and Towyn (1,842).
- 3.6 This constituency would have 75,035 electors which is 0.4% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Colwyn and Conwy. The suggested alternative name was Colwyn a Conwy.
- 3.7 The Commission received evidence from the former Member of Parliament for the existing Vale of Clwyd constituency which provided an alternative configuration for constituencies in the north east of Wales. This representation received support and would enable the retention of the existing constituency of the Vale of Clwyd. However, there was little support for the proposed constituencies in Flintshire, Wrexham, Gwynedd, Conwy and Powys that would need to be created as a consequence of accepting this alternative arrangement.
- 3.8 The Assistant Commissioners concluded that the electoral wards of Bryn, Pandy, Pant-yr-Afon/Penmaenan and Capelulo should not be included within this constituency as previously discussed at paragraph 1.9 of section 5. The Assistant Commissioners also concluded that the Gwynedd constituency should reach no further east than the electoral ward of Llangernyw. They concluded that the most appropriate wards to be included within this proposed constituency were the electoral ward of Betws yn Rhos and the electoral wards of Bodelwyddan, St. Asaph East, St. Asaph West, Trefnant and Tremeirchion within the area of the principal council of Denbighshire. *“To recognise the close links between the rural area of Betws-Yn-Rhos and the coast and the town of Colwyn Bay we recommend that this ward should be included in the new constituency. Similarly, we have recommended that the wards of Bodelwyddan, St. Asaph east and west, Tremeirchion and Trefnant should be excluded from the proposed Gwynedd constituency with which they have no local ties but they do have strong ties with the coastal area in this proposed constituency and so we recommend that they be included in the proposed Colwyn and Conwy constituency.”* The Commission received representations supporting the inclusion of these electoral wards within the proposed constituency as there are existing local ties with the north Wales coast. Representations were also received supporting the existence of ties between Betws yn Rhos and Colwyn Bay.
- 3.9 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners’ report, the Commission accepted the recommendations of the Assistant Commissioners and proposed to include the electoral ward of Betws yn Rhos along with the electoral wards of St Asaph East, and St Asaph West, together with the surrounding wards of Bodelwyddan, Tremeirchion, and Trefnant within this proposed constituency.

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- 3.10 Although the representation made by the former Member of Parliament for the Vale of Clwyd has a body of support and would retain the existing Vale of Clwyd constituency, the Commission is of the opinion that retaining the existing Vale of Clwyd constituency would have a detrimental effect on the other proposed constituencies in mid and north Wales. The proposal put forward by the Assistant Commissioners better reflected the statutory requirements overall and this proposal would allow other existing constituencies in north east Wales to be retained within proposed constituencies.
- 3.11 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:
- 3.11 a. The electoral wards within the existing Aberconwy CC and County of Conwy of Conwy (3,227), Craig-y-Don (2,801), Deganwy (3,235), Gogarth (2,829), Llansanffraid (1,807), Marl (3,500), Mostyn (2,751), Penrhyn (3,784), Pensarn (2,075) and Tudno (3,606);
  - 3.11 b. the electoral wards within the existing Clwyd West CC and County of Conwy of Abergele Pensarn (1,905), Betws yn Rhos (1,626), Colwyn (3,288), Eirias (2,749), Gele (3,784), Glyn (2,935), Kinmel Bay (4,506), Llanddulas (1,323), Llandrillo yn Rhos (6,032), Llysfaen (1,862), Mochdre (1,458), Pentre Mawr (2,747), Rhiw (4,909) and Towyn (1,842); and,
  - 3.11 c. the electoral wards within the existing Vale of Clwyd CC and the County of Denbighshire of Bodelwyddan (1,583), St. Asaph East (1,375), St. Asaph West (1,265), Trefnant (1,496) and Tremeirchion (1,313).
- 3.12 This constituency would have 77,613 electors which is 3.8% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 3.13 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations on the geographical composition of this proposed constituency. The representations provided support for the revised proposal. The Commission also received representations, however, that proposed that the electoral wards of Bodelwyddan, Denbigh Central, Denbigh Lower, Denbigh Upper/Henllan, St. Asaph East, St. Asaph West, Trefnant, and Tremeirchion should be included within a new Vale of Clwyd constituency as suggested by the former Member of Parliament for the existing Vale of Clwyd constituency. The Commission also received representations that provided different views on the composition of the proposed constituency with a small number of representations suggesting that the Commission should consider the wards of Bryn, Capelulo, Pandy, and Pant-yr-afon/Penmaenan being included in a constituency within Conwy and not with the island of Anglesey.
- 3.14 The Commission considered all of the representations. The Commission considered again the proposal by the former Member of Parliament for the existing Vale of Clwyd constituency but is satisfied the arrangement proposed does not better reflect the statutory criteria overall. The Commission considered again the areas of Bryn, Capelulo, Pandy, and Pant-yr-afon/Penmaenan and concluded that they were appropriately included within this proposed constituency for the reasons set out in paragraph 1.9 of section 5.

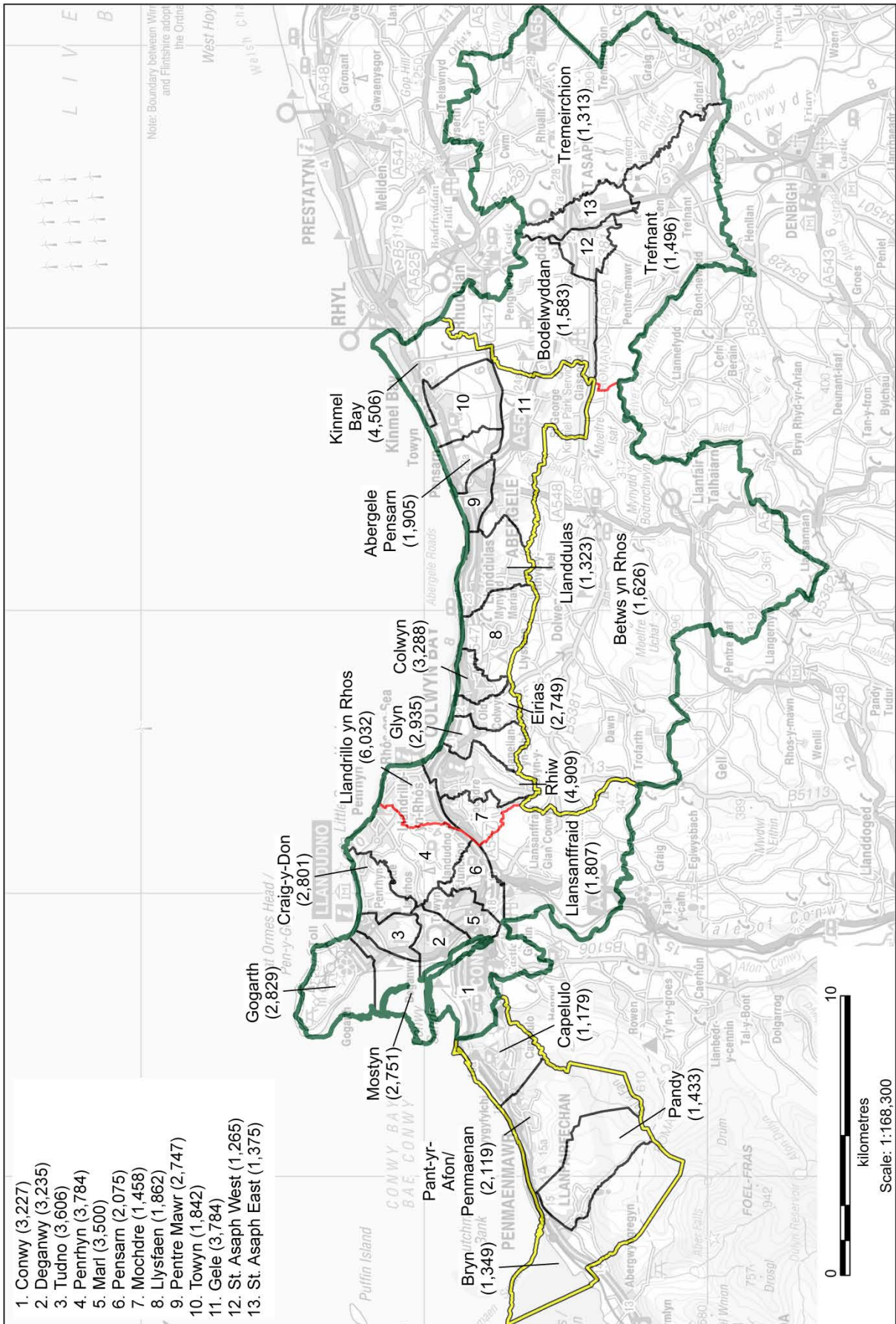
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The Commission is satisfied that the recommended Conwy and Colwyn constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in this area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

- 3.15 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Conwy and Colwyn. The recommended alternative name is Conwy a Cholwyn.
- 3.16 The Commission initially proposed the name Colwyn and Conwy, having listed the component parts in alphabetical order. The change to the recommended name reflects a Welsh language convention in which places tend to be named from west to east, to which the Commission's attention was drawn in the Assistant Commissioners' report.

Conwy and Colwyn (Conwy a Cholwyn)



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## 4. Rhuddlan and Flint (Rhuddlan ac Y Fflint)

### Recommendation

- 4.1 **The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:**
- 4.1 a. **The electoral wards within the existing Delyn CC and the County of Flintshire of Bagillt East (1,420), Bagillt West (1,559), Brynford (1,702), Caerwys (1,979), Cilcain (1,495), Ffynngroyw (1,409), Flint Castle (1,324), Flint Coleshill (2,914), Flint Oakenholt (2,026), Flint Trelawny (2,645), Greenfield (1,965), Gronant (1,182), Halkyn (1,395), Holywell Central (1,389), Holywell East (1,361), Holywell West (1,766), Mostyn (1,413), Northop (2,439), Northop Hall (1,248), Trelawnyd and Gwaenysgor (1,451) and Whitford (1,824); and,**
- 4.1 b. **the electoral wards within the existing Vale of Clwyd CC and the County of Denbighshire of Dyserth (1,905), Prestatyn Central (2,814), Prestatyn East (3,219), Prestatyn Meliden (1,572), Prestatyn North (4,691), Prestatyn South West (2,848), Rhuddlan (2,851), Rhyl East (3,684), Rhyl South (2,948), Rhyl South East (6,007), Rhyl South West (3,736) and Rhyl West (3,367).**
- 4.2 **This constituency would have 75,548 electors which is 1% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**
- 4.3 **The Commission recommends that the proposed constituency should be named Rhuddlan and Flint. The suggested alternative name is Rhuddlan ac Y Fflint.**
- 4.4 **The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:**
- 4.4 a. **The existing Delyn CC has a total of 52,388 electors which is 30% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 26% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
- 4.4 b. **The existing Vale of Clwyd CC has a total of 55,839 electors which is 25% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 21% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**

### Background

- 4.5 **In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:**
- 4.5 a. **The electoral wards within the existing Delyn CC and the County of Flintshire of Bagillt East (1,420), Bagillt West (1,559), Brynford (1,702), Caerwys (1,979), Cilcain (1,495), Ffynngroyw (1,409), Flint Castle (1,324), Flint Coleshill (2,914), Flint Oakenholt (2,026), Flint Trelawny (2,645), Greenfield (1,965), Gronant (1,182), Gwernaffield (1,602), Halkyn (1,395), Holywell Central (1,389), Holywell East (1,361), Holywell West (1,766), Mostyn (1,413), Northop (2,439), Trelawnyd and Gwaenysgor (1,451) and Whitford (1,824); and,**

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- 4.5 b. the electoral wards within the existing Vale of Clwyd CC and the County of Denbighshire of Dyserth (1,905), Prestatyn Central (2,814), Prestatyn East (3,219), Prestatyn Meliden (1,572), Prestatyn North (4,691), Prestatyn South West (2,848), Rhuddlan (2,851), Rhyl East (3,684), Rhyl South (2,948), Rhyl South East (6,007), Rhyl South West (3,736) and Rhyl West (3,367).
- 4.6 This constituency would have 75,902 electors which is 1.5% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Flint and Rhuddlan. The suggested alternative name was Fflint a Rhuddlan.
- 4.7 The Commission received a representation at the Wrexham public hearing from the Member of Parliament for the existing Delyn constituency that the electoral ward of Gwernaffield should be included within the Alyn and Deeside proposed constituency due to its local ties with the town of Mold, and that Northop Hall should be included within the proposed constituency due to its local ties with the electoral ward of Northop. This was supported by other representations received by the Commission. The Commission also received an alternative scheme from the former Member of Parliament for the existing Vale of Clwyd as discussed previously at paragraph 3.10 of section 5.
- 4.8 The Assistant Commissioners concluded that the electoral ward of Northop Hall has ties with the electoral ward of Northop and should be included within this proposed constituency and that the electoral ward of Gwernaffield, which has local ties with the town of Mold, should be included within the proposed constituency of Alyn and Deeside.
- 4.9 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners' report, the Commission accepted the recommendations of the Assistant Commissioners and proposed to include the electoral ward of Northop Hall within this proposed constituency to avoid breaking its links with Northop, and also to include the electoral ward of Gwernaffield within the proposed Alyn and Deeside constituency to avoid breaking its links with the town of Mold. The Commission received an alternative proposal from the former Member of Parliament for the Vale of Clwyd, and this is considered at paragraph 3.10 of section 5.
- 4.10 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:
- 4.10 a. The electoral wards within the existing Delyn CC and the County of Flintshire of Bagillt East (1,420), Bagillt West (1,559), Brynford (1,702), Caerwys (1,979), Cilcain (1,495), Ffynnongroyw (1,409), Flint Castle (1,324), Flint Coleshill (2,914), Flint Oakenholt (2,026), Flint Trelawny (2,645), Greenfield (1,965), Gronant (1,182), Halkyn (1,395), Holywell Central (1,389), Holywell East (1,361), Holywell West (1,766), Mostyn (1,413), Northop (2,439), Northop Hall (1,248), Trelawnyd and Gwaenysgor (1,451) and Whitford (1,824); and,
- 4.10 b. the electoral wards within the existing Vale of Clwyd CC and the County of Denbighshire of Dyserth (1,905), Prestatyn Central (2,814), Prestatyn East (3,219), Prestatyn Meliden (1,572), Prestatyn North (4,691), Prestatyn South West (2,848),

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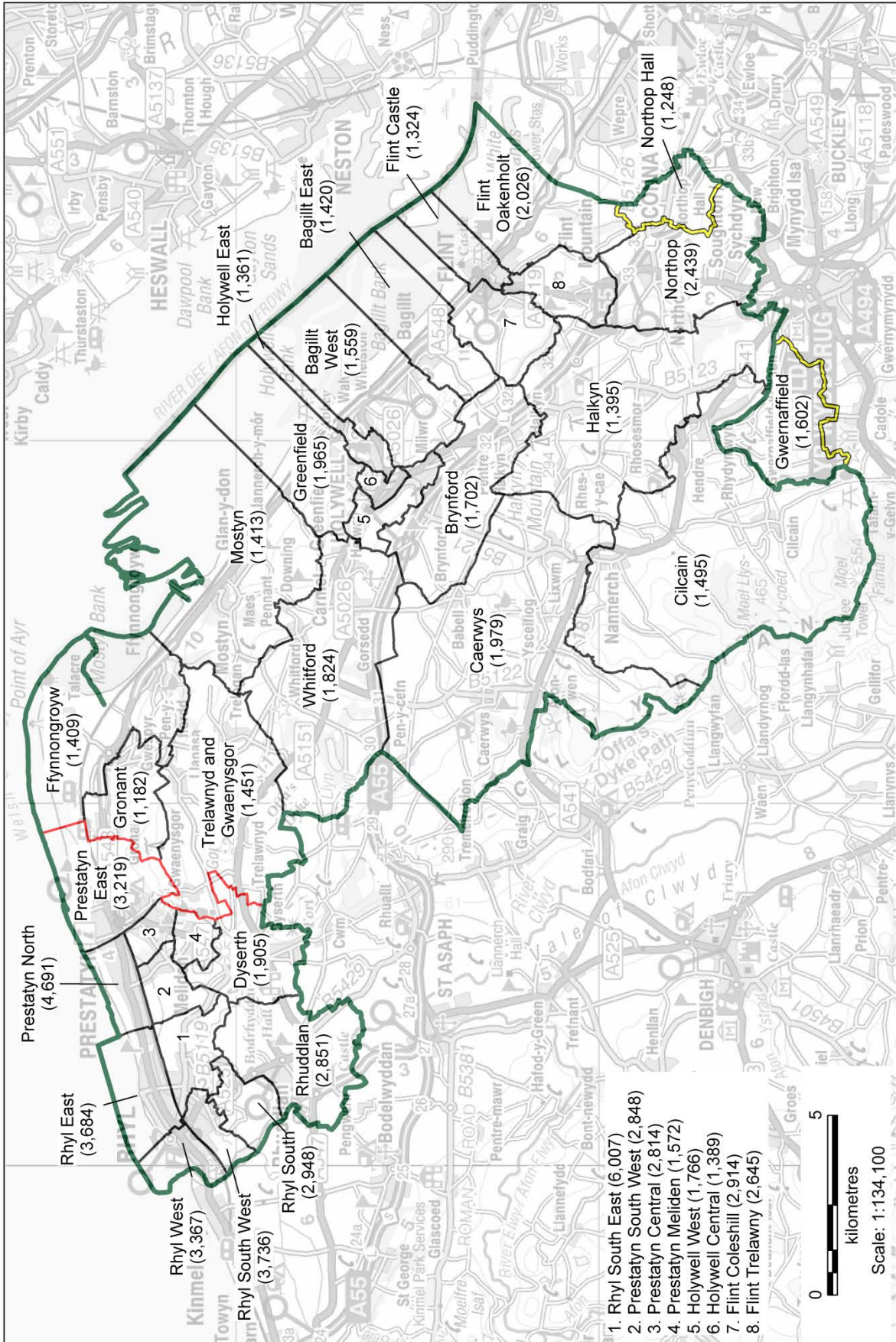
Rhuddlan (2,851), Rhyl East (3,684), Rhyl South (2,948), Rhyl South East (6,007), Rhyl South West (3,736) and Rhyl West (3,367).

- 4.11 This constituency would have 75,548 electors which is 1% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 4.12 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations on the geographical composition of this proposed constituency. The representations provided different views on the proposed constituency. There was concern about combining wards, some of which were coastal and some industrial in nature, within the same constituency. There was also some continued support for a constituency that would retain the existing Vale of Clwyd constituency, and which would include the western electoral wards of Flintshire in order to ensure that the proposed constituency fell within the statutory electorate range.
- 4.13 The Commission considered all of the representations. The Commission concluded that the recommended Rhuddlan and Flint constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in this area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

- 4.14 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Rhuddlan and Flint. The recommended alternative name is Rhuddlan ac Y Fflint.
- 4.15 The Commission initially proposed the name Flint and Rhuddlan, having listed the component parts of the proposed constituency in alphabetical order. The change to Rhuddlan and Flint reflects the Welsh language convention which tends to name places from west to east. The Commission received representations that stated that the correct form in the Welsh language would be Y Fflint and has made a change to reflect this. The Commission received a number of representations that suggested different names for this proposed constituency (including replacing Rhuddlan with other names). However, the Commission is of the view that the inclusion of Rhuddlan within the recommended name is appropriate as a large part of the recommended constituency comprises the area of the former district council of Rhuddlan.
- 4.16 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Rhuddlan and Flint (Rhuddlan ac Y Fflint).

**Rhuddlan and Flint (Rhuddlan ac Y Fflint)**



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## 5. Alyn and Deeside (Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy)

### Recommendation

- 5.1 **The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:**
- 5.1 a. **The electoral wards within the existing Alyn and Deeside CC and County of Flintshire of Aston (2,440), Broughton North East (1,660), Broughton South (2,808), Buckley Bistre East (2,596), Buckley Bistre West (3,139), Buckley Mountain (2,436), Buckley Pentrobin (3,956), Caergwrle (1,157), Ewloe (4,171), Connah's Quay Central (2,232), Connah's Quay Golftyn (3,662), Connah's Quay South (4,357), Connah's Quay Wepre (1,591), Hawarden (1,549), Higher Kinnerton (1,283), Hope (2,008), Llanfynydd (1,391), Mancot (2,582) Penyffordd (3,283), Queensferry (1,236), Saltney Mold Junction (878), Saltney Stonebridge (2,583), Sealand (1,917), Shotton East (1,267), Shotton Higher (1,678), Shotton West (1,409) and Treuddyn (1,281); and,**
- 5.1 b. **the electoral wards within the existing Delyn CC and County of Flintshire of Argoed (2,130), Gwernaffield (1,602), Gwernymynydd (1,371), Leeswood (1,543), Mold Broncoed (1,878), Mold East (1,491), Mold South (2,155), Mold West (1,965) and New Brighton (2,347).**
- 5.2 **This constituency would have 77,032 electors which is 3% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**
- 5.3 **The Commission recommends that the proposed constituency should be named Alyn and Deeside. The recommended alternative name is Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy.**
- 5.4 **The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:**
- 5.4 a. **The existing Alyn and Deeside CC has a total of 60,550 electors which is 19% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 15% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
- 5.4 b. **The existing Delyn CC has a total of 52,388 electors which is 30% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 26% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**

### Background

- 5.5 **In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:**
- 5.5 a. **The whole of the existing Alyn and Deeside CC; and,**
- 5.5 b. **the electoral wards within the existing Delyn CC and County of Flintshire of Argoed (2,130), Gwernymynydd (1,371), Leeswood (1,543), Mold Broncoed (1,878),**

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Mold East (1,491), Mold South (2,155), Mold West (1,965), New Brighton (2,347) and Northop Hall (1,248).

- 5.6 This constituency would have 76,678 electors which is 2.6% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Alyn and Deeside. The suggested alternative name was Alyn a Glannau Dyfrdwy.
- 5.7 The Commission received a representation at the Wrexham public hearing from the Member of Parliament for the existing Delyn constituency which stated that the electoral ward of Gwernaffield should be included within the Alyn and Deeside proposed constituency due to its local ties with the town of Mold, and that the electoral ward of Northop Hall should be included within the Flint and Rhuddlan proposed constituency due to its links with the electoral ward of Northop. This was supported by other representations received by the Commission and in the Labour Party submission. The Commission also received an alternative scheme from the former Member of Parliament for the existing Vale of Clwyd constituency which is discussed at paragraph 3.10 of section 5.
- 5.8 The Assistant Commissioners concluded that the electoral ward of Gwernaffield should be included in the proposed constituency because of its local ties with Mold, and also that the electoral ward of Northop Hall, which has local ties with Northop, should be included within the proposed constituency of Flint and Rhuddlan as discussed at paragraph 4.8 of section 5.
- 5.9 Having considered the representation and the Assistant Commissioners' report, the Commission accepted the recommendations of the Assistant Commissioners and proposed to include the electoral ward of Gwernaffield in the proposed constituency to avoid breaking its links with the town of Mold, and also to include the electoral ward of Northop Hall within the proposed Flint and Rhuddlan constituency to avoid breaking its links with the electoral ward of Northop. The Commission received an alternative proposal from the former Member of Parliament for the Vale of Clwyd, previously considered at paragraph 3.10 of section 5.
- 5.10 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:
- 5.10 a. The whole of the existing Alyn and Deeside CC; and,
- 5.10 b. the electoral wards within the existing Delyn CC and County of Flintshire of Argoed (2,130), Gwernaffield (1,602), Gwernymynydd (1,371), Leeswood (1,543), Mold Broncoed (1,878), Mold East (1,491), Mold South (2,155), Mold West (1,965) and New Brighton (2,347).
- 5.11 This constituency would have 77,032 electors which is 3% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 5.12 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received few representations on the geographical composition of this proposed constituency. A

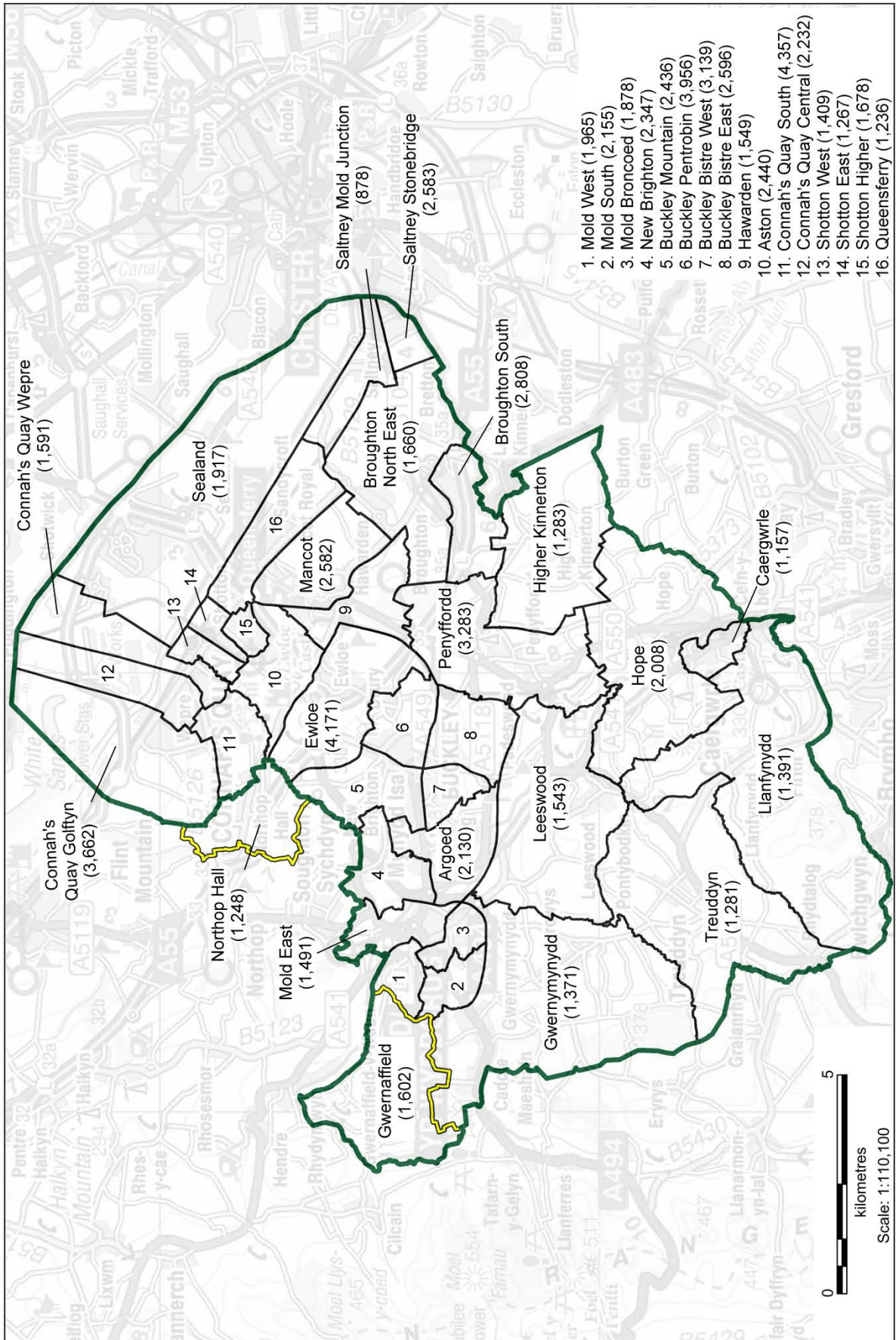
representation commented that it was good to see the towns of Buckley and Mold within the same constituency, given the local ties between the two, and fully supported this proposed constituency. A representation also re-stated support for a Vale of Clwyd constituency as discussed at paragraph 3.7 of section 5.

- 5.13 The Commission considered all of the representations. The Commission concluded that the recommended Alyn and Deeside constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in the area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

- 5.14 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Alyn and Deeside. The recommended alternative name is Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy.
- 5.15 The Commission initially proposed the name Alyn and Deeside, with Alyn and Glannau Dyfrdwy as the alternative name. The Commission received representations stating that the correct form in the Welsh language would be Alun and has accordingly made a change to the recommended name to reflect this.
- 5.16 The Commission received representation suggesting an alternative name for this proposed constituency. The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Alyn and Deeside (Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy).

**Alyn and Deeside (Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy)**



## 6. Wrexham (Wreccsam)

### Recommendation

- 6.1 **The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:**
- 6.1 a. **The electoral wards within the existing Clwyd South CC and County Borough of Wrexham of Bronington (2,540), Brymbo (2,982), Bryn Cefn (1,482), Coedpoeth (3,482), Esclusham (2,023), Gwenfro (1,214), Marchwiel (1,824), Minera (1,843), New Broughton (2,649), Overton (2,601) and the Aberoer and Pentrebychan wards of the community of Esclusham (part of the electoral ward of Ponciau) (636); and,**
- 6.1 b. **the electoral wards within the existing Wrexham CC and County Borough of Wrexham of Acton (2,141), Borrass Park (1,941), Brynyffynnon (2,190), Cartrefle (1,547), Erddig (1,437), Garden Village (1,614), Gresford East and West (2,202), Grosvenor (1,518), Gwersyllt East and South (3,599), Gwersyllt North (1,967), Gwersyllt West (2,141), Hermitage (1,549), Holt (2,411), Little Acton (1,812), Llay (3,519), Maesydre (1,402), Marford and Hoseley (1,818), Offa (1,383), Queensway (1,436), Rhosnesni (2,838), Rossett (2,544), Smithfield (1,364), Stansty (1,631), Whitegate (1,590) and Wynnstay (1,267).**
- 6.2 **This constituency would have 72,137 electors which is 3.5% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**
- 6.3 **The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Wrexham. The recommended alternative name is Wreccsam.**
- 6.4 **The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:**
- 6.4 a. **The existing Clwyd South CC has a total of 53,094 electors which is 29% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 25% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
- 6.4 b. **The existing Wrexham CC has a total of 48,861 electors which is 35% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 31% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**

### Background

- 6.5 **In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:**
- 6.5 a. **The electoral wards within the existing Clwyd South CC and County Borough of Wrexham of Bronington (2,540), Brymbo (2,982), Bryn Cefn (1,482), Coedpoeth (3,482), Esclusham (2,023), Gwenfro (1,214), Marchwiel (1,824), Minera (1,843), New Broughton (2,649), Overton (2,601) and the Aberoer and**

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Pentrebychan wards of the community of Esclusham (part of the electoral ward of Ponciau) (636); and,

- 6.5 b. the whole of the existing Wrexham CC.
- 6.6 This constituency would have 72,137 electors which is 3.5% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Wrexham Maelor. The suggested alternative name was Wreccsam Maelor.
- 6.7 The Commission received representations that supported the initial proposal. By way of example, the Member of Parliament for the existing Wrexham constituency stated that, *“To be absolutely clear, I support the proposals in respect of the Wrexham Maelor constituency.”* He also stated, *“I have not seen any persuasive alternatives to this proposal for Wrexham.”* The Commission did receive a representation that suggested that Wrexham and Newtown should be within the same constituency and the Liberal Democrats proposed that the electoral ward of Ponciau should be wholly within the De Clwyd a Gogledd Sir Faldwyn proposed constituency. However, the Commission did not consider that these proposals better reflected the statutory criteria than the initial proposals.
- 6.8 The Assistant Commissioners recommended no changes to the composition of the proposed Wrexham Maelor constituency which had received general support in the representations and at the public hearings.
- 6.9 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners’ report, the Commission accepted the recommendation of the Assistant Commissioners and proposed to recommend a constituency as described in the initial proposal.
- 6.10 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:
- 6.10 a. The electoral wards within the existing Clwyd South CC and County Borough of Wrexham of Bronington (2,540), Brymbo (2,982), Bryn Cefn (1,482), Coedpoeth (3,482), Esclusham (2,023), Gwenfro (1,214), Marchwiell (1,824), Minera (1,843), New Broughton (2,649), Overton (2,601) and the Aberoer and Pentrebychan wards of the community of Esclusham (part of the electoral ward of Ponciau) (636); and,
- 6.10 b. the whole of the existing Wrexham CC.
- 6.11 This constituency would have 72,137 electors which is 3.5% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 6.12 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations on the geographical composition of this proposed constituency. Some representations argued that the split of the electoral ward of Ponciau between this proposed constituency and the proposed De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn was unnecessary and that the whole ward could be retained within this proposed constituency. A representation from the Community Council of Rhosllanerchrugog also stated that the Community Council would

like their community to be wholly contained within a proposed Wrexham constituency rather than a De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn constituency.

- 6.13 The Commission considered all of the representations. In relation to the Ponciau electoral ward, the Commission had regard to existing local government boundaries. In Wales, these include the boundaries of electoral wards and, also, the boundaries of communities. Ponciau forms one electoral ward. Parts of the Ponciau electoral ward, however, fall within one community (Aberoer and Pentrebychan form part of the community of Esclusham) but parts fall within another community (Ponciau North, Ponciau South and Rhos form part of the community of Rhosllanerchrugog). It would not have been possible to include those parts of the electoral ward of Ponciau which fall within the community of Rhosllanerchrugog within the proposed Wrexham constituency as that would have resulted in the proposed De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn constituency falling below the prescribed statutory electorate range.
- 6.14 It would have been possible to include the Aberoer and Pentrebychan wards of the community of Esclusham in the proposed De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn constituency rather than within the proposed Wrexham constituency. That, however, would result in part of the community of Esclusham being within the proposed Wrexham constituency and part within the proposed De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn constituency. The Commission decided it was preferable to retain the whole community within one proposed constituency, thereby respecting the existing boundaries of the community and avoiding breaking the local ties between the wards forming the community, notwithstanding the fact that this would involve dividing the Ponciau electoral ward. Overall, the Commission were satisfied that including the Aberoer and Pentrebychan wards of the community of Esclusham within the recommended Wrexham constituency better satisfies the statutory criteria, particularly having regard both to Rule 5.1(b) and (d) of Schedule 2 to the Act.
- 6.15 The Commission considered the representation from the Community Council of Rhosllanerchrugog which wished the entire community to be within the recommended Wrexham constituency rather than the proposed De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn constituency. However, it would not be possible for the community of Rhosllanerchrugog, which is comprised of the electoral wards of Johnstown, Pant and the community wards of Ponciau North, Ponciau South and Rhos, to be included within the recommended Wrexham constituency as to do so would result in that proposed constituency exceeding the statutory electorate range. The Commission concluded that the recommended Wrexham constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in the area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

- 6.16 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Wrexham. The recommended alternative name is Wrecsam.
- 6.17 The Commission initially proposed the name Wrexham Maelor. The Commission received representation from the Member of Parliament for the existing Wrexham constituency which stated that Wrexham is a very recognisable name and that adding Maelor was

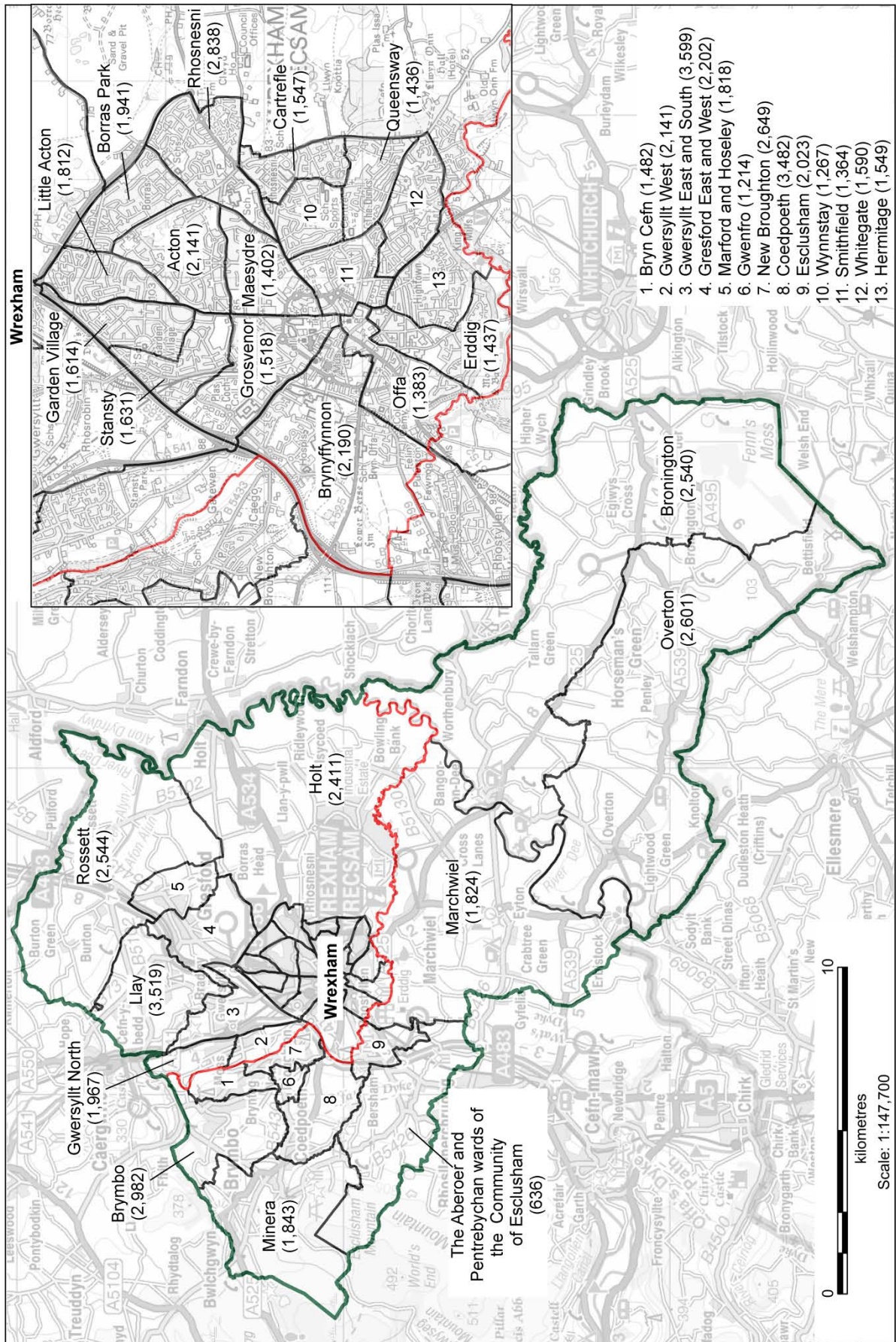
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unnecessary and would create confusion. The Commission changed the name of the proposed constituency to reflect this.

- 6.18 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Wrexham (Wrecsam).



Wrexham (Wrecsam)



## **7. De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn (South Clwyd and North Montgomeryshire)**

### **Recommendation**

**7.1 The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:**

- 7.1 a. The electoral wards within the existing Clwyd South CC and:**
- i. the County of Denbighshire of Corwen (1,826), Llandrillo (930) and Llangollen (3,319); and,**
  - ii. the County Borough of Wrexham electoral wards of Cefn (3,709); Dyffryn Ceiriog/Ceiriog Valley (1,670), Chirk North (1,811), Chirk South (1,549), Johnstown (2,415), Llangollen Rural (1,578), Pant (1,534), Penycae (1,479), Penycae and Ruabon South (1,898), Plas Madoc (1,198), Ruabon (2,071) and the Ponciau North, Ponciau South and Rhos wards of the community of Rhosllanerchrugog (part of the electoral ward of Ponciau) (2,831);**
- 7.1 b. the electoral wards within the existing Clwyd West CC and the County of Denbighshire of Efenechtyd (1,316), Llanarmon-yn-lâl/Llandegla (1,978), Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd/Llangynhafal (1,218) Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd/Gwyddelwern (1,793), Llanrhaeadr-yng-Nghinmeirch (1,478) and Ruthin (4,372);**
- 7.1 c. the electoral wards within the existing Montgomeryshire CC and County of Powys of Banwy (746), Berriew (1,064), Guilsfield (1,799), Llandrinio (1,656), Llandysilio (1,387), Llanfair Caereinion (1,227), Llanfihangel (872), Llanfyllin (1,147), Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant/Llansilin (1,733), Llansantffraid (1,511), Llanwyddyn (818), Meifod (1,040), Trewern (1,504), Welshpool Castle (954), Welshpool Gungrog (1,772) and Welshpool Llanerchuddol (1,652); and,**
- 7.1 d. the electoral wards within the existing Vale of Clwyd CC and the County of Denbighshire of Denbigh Central (1,567), Denbigh Lower (3,575), Denbigh Upper/Henllan (2,371) and Llandyrnog (1,652).**

**7.2 This constituency would have 71,570 electors which is 4.3% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**

**7.3 The Commission recommends that the name of the proposed constituency should be De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn. The recommended alternative name is South Clwyd and North Montgomeryshire.**

- 7.4 The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:
- 7.4 a. The existing Clwyd South CC has a total of 53,094 electors which is 29% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 25% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.
  - 7.4 b. The existing Clwyd West CC has a total of 56,862 electors which is 24% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 20% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.
  - 7.4 c. The existing Dwyfor Meirionnydd CC has a total of 42,353 electors which is 43% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 40% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.
  - 7.4 d. The existing Montgomeryshire CC has a total of 46,989 electors which is 37% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 34% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.
  - 7.4 e. The existing Vale of Clwyd CC has a total of 55,839 electors which is 25% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 21% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.

#### Background

- 7.5 In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:
- 7.5 a. The electoral wards within the existing Clwyd South CC and:
    - i. the County of Denbighshire electoral wards of Corwen (1,826), Llandrillo (930) and Llangollen (3,319); and,
    - ii. the County Borough of Wrexham electoral wards of Cefn (3,709); Dyffryn Ceiriog/Ceiriog Valley (1,670), Chirk North (1,811), Chirk South (1,549), Johnstown (2,415), Llangollen Rural (1,578), Pant (1,534), Penycae (1,479), Penycae and Ruabon South (1,898), Plas Madoc (1,198), Ruabon (2,071) and the Ponciau North, Ponciau South and Rhos wards of the community of Rhosllanerchrugog (part of the electoral ward of Ponciau) (2,831);
  - 7.5 b. the electoral wards within the existing Clwyd West CC of:
    - i. the County Borough of Conwy electoral ward of Uwchaed (1,124); and,
    - ii. the County of Denbighshire County electoral wards of Efenechtyd (1,316), Llanarmon-yn-lâl/Llandegla (1,978), Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd/Llangynhafal (1,218) Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd/Gwyddelwern (1,793), Llanrhaeadr-yng-Nghinmeirch (1,478) and Ruthin (4,372);
  - 7.5 c. the electoral wards within the existing Dwyfor Meirionnydd CC and County of Gwynedd of Bala (1,290), Llandderfel (1,090) and Llanuwchllyn (673);

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- 7.5 d. the electoral wards within the existing Montgomeryshire CC and County of Powys Banwy (746), Glantwymyn (1,558), Guilsfield (1,799), Llanbryn-mair (742), Llandrinio (1,656), Llandysilio (1,387), Llanfair Caereinion (1,227), Llanfihangel (872), Llanfyllin (1,147), Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant/Llansilin (1,733), Llansantffraid (1,511), Llanwyddyn (818), Machynlleth (1,627), Meifod (1,040), Trewern (1,504), Welshpool Castle (954), Welshpool Gungrog (1,772) and Welshpool Llanerchuddol (1,652); and,
- 7.5 e. the electoral ward within the existing Vale of Clwyd CC and County of Denbighshire of Llandyrnog (1,652).
- 7.6 This constituency would have 71,097 electors which is 4.9% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was De Clwyd a Gogledd Sir Faldwyn. The suggested alternative name was South Clwyd and North Montgomeryshire.
- 7.7 During the initial consultation period the Commission received a number of representations that Machynlleth and the surrounding electoral wards of Glantwymyn and Llanbryn-mair should not be included within this proposed constituency but should be included within the proposed Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro constituency as their ties are with Ceredigion rather than Clwyd. By way of example, one representation said with reference to the location of Machynlleth, *“Situated adjacent to the west coast of Wales, the Machynlleth area has closer links to Aberystwyth.”* There was a large measure of agreement among the political parties who made representations (and amongst other representations) that Machynlleth and the other two electoral wards should be included in the proposed Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro constituency. The Labour Party, although not having an objection to the suggested changes, was not convinced that Machynlleth does have greater ties to Ceredigion.
- 7.8 The Commission received representations on whether to include the electoral wards of Berriew and Forden within this proposed constituency. They also received representations about the desirability of retaining the existing constituency of Montgomeryshire. The latter representations referred to the fact that Montgomeryshire had been a Parliamentary Constituency since 1536 and that it should be retained. The Commission received a petition with 237 signatories in support of retaining the existing constituency.
- 7.9 The Assistant Commissioners proposed that the electoral ward of Llansannan and three Denbighshire electoral wards (Denbigh Central, Denbigh Lower, and Denbigh Upper/Henllan) should not be included within the proposed Gogledd Clwyd a Gwynedd constituency but should be included within this proposed constituency. The Assistant Commissioners also proposed that the electoral wards of Bala, Llandderfel, Llanuwchllyn and Uwchaled should not be included within this proposed constituency but should be included within a revised Gwynedd constituency due to the links that exist with the Gwynedd area and they highlighted the strong support for these changes at the public hearings and in the representations. The Assistant Commissioners concluded that Machynlleth and the two surrounding wards should also not be included within the proposed constituency but should be included within the proposed Ceredigion a Gogledd

Sir Benfro constituency due to the local ties between Machynlleth and Aberystwyth. The Assistant Commissioners also recommended that both the electoral wards of Berriew and Forden should be included within this proposed constituency as they both have ties with the town of Welshpool. The Assistant Commissioners considered that the alternative proposals intended to enable the existing Montgomeryshire constituency to be retained “... creates significant issues elsewhere including splitting Ceredigion and linking the northern part to a constituency that would extend to the outskirts of Caernarfon and Conwy, and having a Beacons constituency that would extend from Pendine Sands almost as far as the English border.” The Assistant Commissioners concluded that retaining the existing Montgomeryshire constituency would have effects on other proposed constituencies throughout Wales which were negative and, although they had sympathy for the people of Montgomeryshire, they considered that it was not feasible to retain the historic constituency.

- 7.10 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners’ report, the Commission accepted the recommendations of the Assistant Commissioners in relation to the three electoral wards from Denbighshire (Denbigh Central, Denbigh Lower, and Denbigh Upper/Henllan) and proposed to include those wards within this proposed constituency. However, the Commission decided not to include the electoral ward of Llansannan within the proposed constituency and recommended that it should be included within the proposed Gwynedd constituency for the reasons previously discussed at paragraphs 2.11 and 2.12 of section 5. The Commission also accepted the Assistant Commissioners’ recommendation that the electoral wards of Bala, Llandderfel, Llanuwchllyn, and Uwchaled should be included within the proposed Gwynedd constituency rather than this proposed constituency as previously discussed at paragraph 2.9 of section 5. The Commission also accepted the Assistant Commissioners’ recommendation to include the electoral wards of Machynlleth, Llanbrynmair and Glantwymyn within the proposed Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro constituency, rather than within this proposed constituency, to avoid breaking their ties with the town of Aberystwyth.
- 7.11 The Commission considered the recommendations of the Assistant Commissioners and the representations received with regard to the electoral wards of Berriew and Forden. At least one of the electoral wards has to be included within the recommended De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn constituency in order to ensure that the electorate of this proposed constituency remains within the statutory electorate range. The representation received from Forden with Leighton and Trelystan Community Council referred to Forden’s existing local ties with Montgomery and Churchstoke and indicates that those ties would be broken if Forden were not included within the recommended Brecon, Radnor, and Montgomery constituency. There have been no representations from residents or any community council indicating that it was inappropriate to include the electoral ward of Berriew in the proposed De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn constituency. In the circumstances, the Commission concluded that the electoral ward of Berriew should be included within the recommended De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn constituency.
- 7.12 The Commission has considerable sympathy with the aim of retaining the existing, and historic, Montgomeryshire constituency. The Commission has, however, accepted the

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Assistant Commissioners' recommendation that it would not be feasible to retain the existing Montgomeryshire constituency. The Commission agreed that to do so would have consequential effects on many of the other proposed constituencies in Wales and would result in constituencies which, overall, would be a less effective reflection of the statutory criteria.

7.13 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:

7.13 a. The electoral wards within the existing Clwyd South CC and:

- i. the County of Denbighshire of Corwen (1,826), Llandrillo (930) and Llangollen (3,319); and,
- ii. the County Borough of Wrexham of Cefn (3,709); Dyffryn Ceiriog/Ceiriog Valley (1,670), Chirk North (1,811), Chirk South (1,549), Johnstown (2,415), Llangollen Rural (1,578), Pant (1,534), Penycae (1,479), Penycae and Ruabon South (1,898), Plas Madoc (1,198), Ruabon (2,071) and the Ponciau North, Ponciau South and Rhos wards of the community of Rhosllanerchrugog (part of the electoral ward of Ponciau) (2,831);

7.13 b. the electoral wards within the existing Clwyd West CC and the County of Denbighshire of Efenechtyd (1,316), Llanarmon-yn-lâl/Llandegla (1,978), Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd/Llangynhafal (1,218) Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd/Gwyddelwern (1,793), Llanrhaeadr-yng-Nghinmeirch (1,478) and Ruthin (4,372);

7.13 c. the electoral wards within the existing Montgomeryshire CC and County of Powys of Banwy (746), Berriew (1,064), Guilsfield (1,799), Llandrinio (1,656), Llandysilio (1,387), Llanfair Caereinion (1,227), Llanfihangel (872), Llanfyllin (1,147), Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant/Llansilin (1,733), Llansantffraid (1,511), Llanwyddyn (818), Meifod (1,040), Trewern (1,054), Welshpool Castle (954), Welshpool Gungrog (1,772) and Welshpool Llanerchuddol (1,652); and,

7.13 d. the electoral wards within the existing Vale of Clwyd CC and the County of Denbighshire of Denbigh Central (1,567), Denbigh Lower (3,575), Denbigh Upper/Henllan (2,371) and Llandyrnog (1,652).

7.14 This constituency would have 71,570 electors which is 4.3% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.

7.15 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations that highlighted concern over the geographical size of the proposed constituency. The Commission noted that whilst the proposed constituency is large compared with others within Wales, it is significantly smaller than the maximum size permitted under the Act. Some representations argued the division of the electoral ward of Ponciau between this proposed constituency and the proposed Wrexham constituency was unnecessary and that the whole ward could be retained within the proposed Wrexham constituency. A representation from the Community Council of Rhosllanerchrugog states that the Community Council would like their community to be wholly contained within a Wrexham constituency. The Commission received a representation that argued that the town of

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Welshpool should not be included within this proposed constituency but should be included within the proposed Brecon, Radnor, and Montgomery constituency due to its links with Newtown and Montgomery. The Commission also received a number of representations supporting the proposed constituency, including a representation from Powys County Council that stated *“We feel the changes made to the initial proposals better meet the wishes of the local communities affected .....Powys would like to accept the proposals put forward for the new constituencies in the Powys area.”*

- 7.16 The Commission considered all of the representations. In relation to Ponciau, as explained at paragraphs 6.13 and 6.14 of section 5, it was not possible for those parts of the Ponciau electoral ward included within the proposed De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn constituency to be included, instead, within the proposed Wrexham constituency. That would have resulted in the proposed De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn constituency falling below the statutory electorate range. For the reasons given previously, the Commission considered that retaining parts of the Ponciau electoral ward within the proposed Wrexham constituency better reflected the statutory criteria overall. The Commission considered the representation from the Community Council of Rhosllanerchrugog. However, it concluded that it would not be possible for the Community of Rhosllanerchrugog, which includes the electoral wards of Johnstown, Pant and the community wards of Ponciau North, Ponciau South, and Rhos, to be included within the proposed constituency as to do so would exceed the statutory electorate range for the proposed Wrexham constituency and the proposed constituency of De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn would fall below the statutory electorate range.
- 7.17 The Commission concluded that it would be unable to recommend retaining the existing constituency of Montgomeryshire. The electorate of the existing constituency is 56,989 and therefore would not meet the statutory electorate range. To retain the existing Montgomeryshire constituency wholly within a proposed constituency would have an adverse effect on other proposed constituencies in Wales. The Commission would not be able to place the town of Welshpool within the proposed Brecon, Radnor, and Montgomery constituency as the proposed De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn constituency would then fall below the statutory electorate range. The Commission considered again the electoral ward of Forden, but as stated in paragraph 7.11 in section 5, the Forden with Leighton and Trelystan Community Council’s made representations that it should be included within the proposed Brecon, Radnor and Montgomery constituency as it has local ties with Montgomery and Churchstoke. Those ties would be broken if the electoral ward of Forden was included within the recommended De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn constituency. The Commission concluded that the recommended De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in the area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

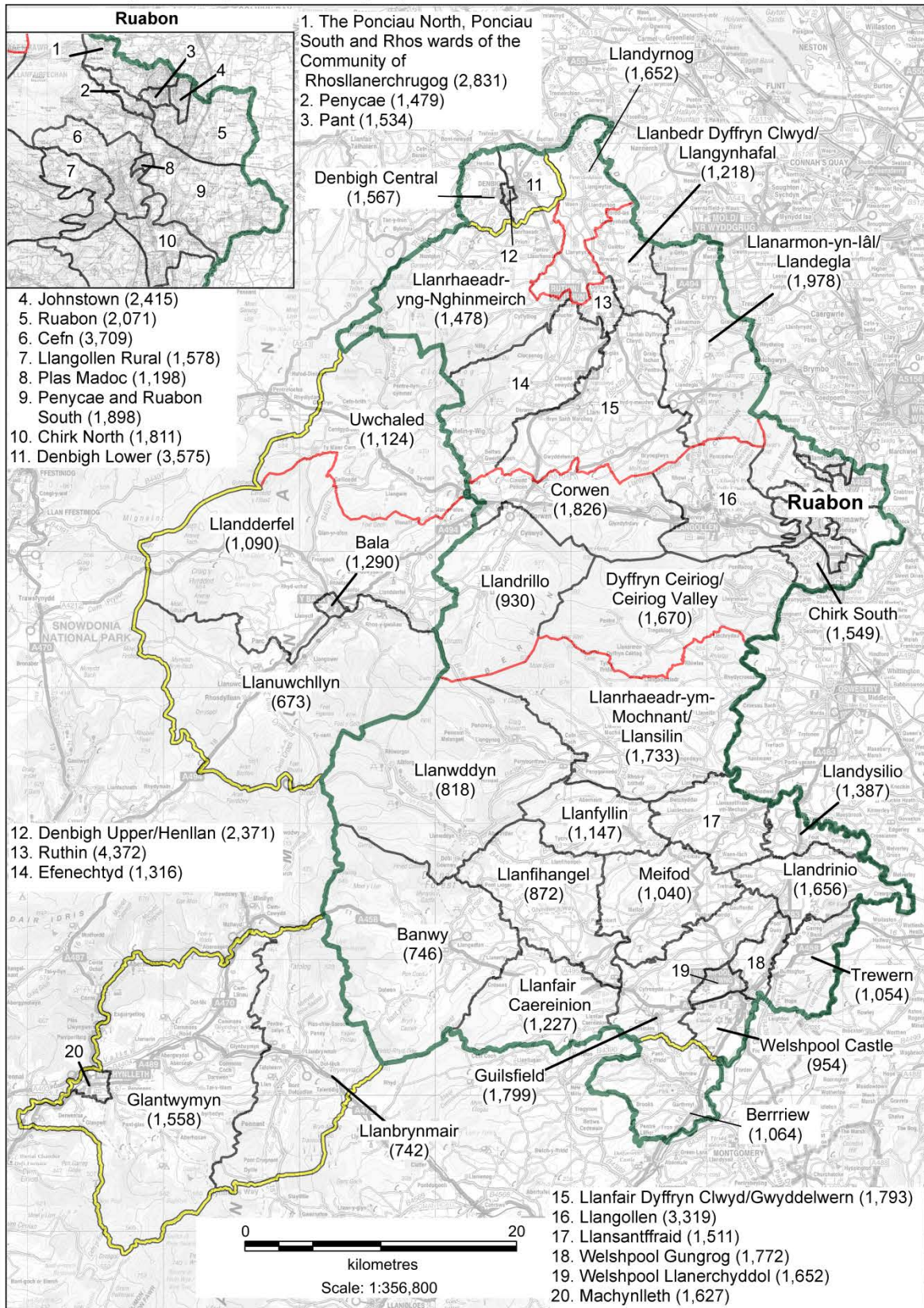
- 7.18 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn. The recommended alternative name is South Clwyd and North Montgomeryshire.

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- 7.19 The Commission initially proposed the name De Clwyd a Gogledd Sir Faldwyn. During the initial consultation the Commission received representations that the traditional Welsh names for Montgomeryshire are either Maldwyn or Sir Drefaldwyn, and has made a change to the recommended name to reflect this.
- 7.20 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn (South Clwyd and North Montgomeryshire).



**De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn (South Clwyd and North Montgomeryshire)**



## **8. Brecon, Radnor and Montgomery (Aberhonddu, Maesyfed a Threfaldwyn)**

### **Recommendation**

**8.1 The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:**

- 8.1 a. The electoral wards within the existing Brecon and Radnorshire CC and County of Powys of Aber-craf (1,110), Beguildy (1,099), Bronllys (957), Builth (1,809), Bwlch (774), Crickhowell (2,202), Cwm-twrch (1,486), Disserseth and Trecoed (1,045), Felinfach (1,030), Glasbury (1,754), Gwernyfed (1,163), Hay (1,137), Knighton (2,221), Llanafanfawr (1,103), Llanbadarn Fawr (861), Llandrindod East/Llandrindod West (892), Llandrindod North (1,417) Llandrindod South (1,562), Llanelwedd (951), Llangattock (749), Llangors (855), Llangunllo (1,025), Llangyndir (821), Llanwrtyd Wells (1,404), Llanyre (948), Maescar/Llywel (1,354), Nantmel (1,150), Old Radnor (1,292), Presteigne (2,129), Rhayader (1,486), St. David Within (1,210), St. John (2,521), St. Mary (1,852), Talgarth (1,241), Talybont-on-Usk (1,469), Tawe-Uchaf (1,680), Ynyscedwyn (1,686), Yscir (848) and Ystradgynlais (1,980); and,**
- 8.1 b. the electoral wards within the existing Montgomeryshire CC and County of Powys of Blaen Hafren (1,782), Caersws (1,712), Churchstoke (1,214), Dolforwyn (1,587), Forden (1,083), Kerry (1,563), Llandinam (1,063), Llanidloes (2,070), Montgomery (1,059), Newtown Central (2,103), Newtown East (1,391), Newtown Llanllwchaiarn North (1,726), Newtown Llanllwchaiarn West (1,361), Newtown South (1,242) and Rhiwcynon (1,674).**

**8.2 This constituency would have 74,903 electors which is 0.2% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**

**8.3 The Commission recommends that the proposed constituency should be named Brecon, Radnor, and Montgomery. The recommended alternative name is Aberhonddu, Maesyfed a Threfaldwyn.**

**8.4 The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:**

- 8.4 a. The existing Brecon and Radnor CC has a total of 52,273 electors which is 30% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 26% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
- 8.4 b. The existing Montgomeryshire CC has a total of 46,989 electors which is 37% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 34% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**

### **Background**

**8.5 In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:**

- 8.5 a. The whole of the existing Brecon and Radnorshire CC; and,
- 8.5 b. the electoral wards within the existing Montgomeryshire CC and County of Powys of Berriew (1,064), Caersws (1,712), Churchstoke (1,214), Dolforwyn (1,587), Forden (1,083), Kerry (1,563), Llandinam (1,063), Montgomery (1,059), Newtown Central (2,103), Newtown East (1,391), Newtown Llanllwchaiarn North (1,726), Newtown Llanllwchaiarn West (1,361), Newtown South (1,242) and Rhiwcynon (1,674).
- 8.6 This constituency would have 72,115 electors which is 3.5% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Brecon, Radnor, and Montgomery. The suggested alternative name was Aberhonddu, Maesfyed a Threfaldwyn.
- 8.7 During the initial consultation period the Commission received a large number of representations stating that the electoral wards of Llanidloes and Blaen Hafren have local community ties with Newtown and that those wards should be included in the Brecon, Radnor and Montgomery proposed constituency. The Commission received representations from Forden with Leighton and Trelystan Community Council which stated that Forden should be retained within this proposed constituency and stated, “... *it is felt that the Forden ward has a natural affinity to both Montgomery and Churchstoke, both of which are also proposed to lie within that constituency.*”
- 8.8 The Commission received a large body of representations in relation to the existing constituency of Montgomeryshire with representations stating that Montgomeryshire had been a Parliamentary Constituency since 1536 and that it should be retained in full. The Commission received a petition with 237 signatories in support of retaining the Montgomeryshire constituency.
- 8.9 The Assistant Commissioners concluded that the electoral wards of Berriew and Forden should not be included within this proposed constituency but should be included within the proposed De Clwyd a Gogledd Sir Faldwyn constituency as previously discussed at paragraph 7.8 of section 5. The Assistant Commissioners also concluded that the electoral wards of Llanidloes and Blaen Hafren should be included within this proposed constituency to avoid breaking the ties between Llanidloes and Newtown which were highlighted throughout the representations received by the Commission. The Assistant Commissioners considered the representations to retain the Montgomeryshire constituency as previously discussed at paragraph 7.9 of section 5.
- 8.10 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners’ report, the Commission agreed with the Assistant Commissioners’ recommendation that the electoral wards of Llanidloes and Blaen Hafren should be included within this proposed constituency. There was a high number of representations and agreement among the political parties which made representations supporting this change to the initial proposals. The Commission considered the recommendation with regard to the electoral wards of Berriew and Forden as discussed previously at paragraph 7.17 of section 5. The

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Commission considered that Forden should be included within this proposed constituency, as initially proposed, to avoid breaking the ties that the representations demonstrated existed between Forden, Montgomery and Churchstoke. There have been no representations from residents or any community council indicating that it was inappropriate to include the electoral ward of Berriew in the proposed De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn constituency. The Commission therefore decided that it was appropriate to include the electoral ward of Berriew within the proposed De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn constituency rather than this proposed constituency.

8.11 The Commission agreed with the Assistant Commissioners' recommendation that it is not feasible to retain the existing Montgomeryshire constituency as previously discussed at paragraph 7.17 of section 5.

8.12 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:

8.12 a. The whole of the existing Brecon and Radnorshire CC; and,

8.12 b. the electoral wards within the existing Montgomeryshire CC and County of Powys of Blaen Hafren (1,782), Caersws (1,712), Churchstoke (1,214), Dolforwyn (1,587), Forden (1,083), Kerry (1,563), Llandinam (1,063), Llanidloes (2,070), Montgomery (1,059), Newtown Central (2,103), Newtown East (1,391), Newtown Llanllwchaiarn North (1,726), Newtown Llanllwchaiarn West (1,361), Newtown South (1,242) and Rhiwcynon (1,674).

8.13 This constituency would have 74,903 electors which is 0.2% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.

8.14 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations that highlighted concern over the geographical size of the proposed constituency. The Commission noted that whilst the proposed constituency is large compared with others within Wales, it is significantly smaller than the maximum size permitted under the Act. The Commission received representations that argued that the town of Welshpool should be included within this proposed constituency not within the proposed De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn constituency due to its links with Newtown and Montgomery. The Commission also received a representation from Powys County Council that supported the proposal and stated, "*We feel the changes made to the initial proposals better meet the wishes of the local communities affected... Powys would like to accept the proposals put forward for the new constituencies in the Powys area.*" The Commission also received representation that the electoral ward of Machynlleth should be included in this proposed constituency rather than Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro due to its links with Montgomeryshire rather than Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire.

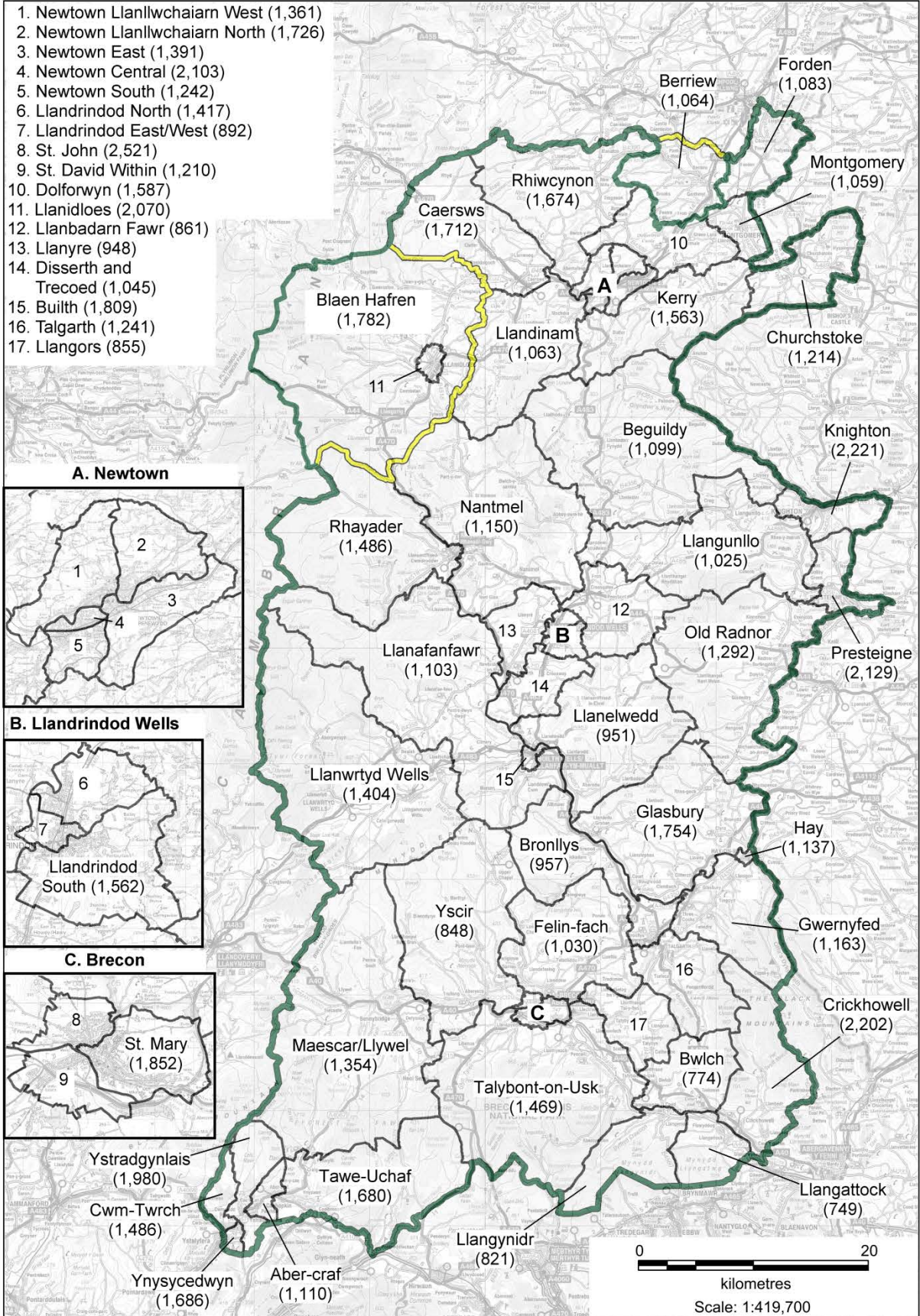
8.15 The Commission considered all of the representations made. The Commission concluded that it would be unable to recommend retaining the existing constituency of Montgomeryshire. The electorate of the existing constituency is 56,989 and therefore would not meet the statutory electorate range. The Commission considered that including the existing Montgomeryshire constituency wholly within a proposed constituency would

have an adverse effect on other proposed constituencies. The Commission would also not be able to recommend including the town of Welshpool within this proposed constituency, as to do so would result in the proposed De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn constituency falling below the statutory electorate range. The Commission considered again the electoral ward of Forden, however, as stated in paragraph 7.11 in section 5, the Forden with Leighton and Trelystan Community Council made representations that this ward should be included within this proposed constituency and the Commission agrees that this would avoid breaking local ties between Forden, Montgomery and Churchstoke. The Commission also considered the electoral ward of Machynlleth and noted that there had been general support for its inclusion in the proposed Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro constituency during the initial proposals consultation period. Including it within this proposed constituency would also result in the proposed Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro constituency falling below the statutory electorate range. The Commission concluded that the recommended Brecon, Radnor and Montgomery constituency, and also the other constituencies in this area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

- 8.16 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Brecon, Radnor and Montgomery. The recommended alternative name is Aberhonddu, Maesyfed a Threfaldwyn.
- 8.17 The Commission considered representations for different names for this proposed constituency. The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Brecon, Radnor, and Montgomery (Aberhonddu, Maesyfed a Threfaldwyn).

**Brecon, Radnor and Montgomery (Aberhonddu, Maesyfed a Threfaldwyn)**



1. Newtown Llanllwchaiarn West (1,361)
2. Newtown Llanllwchaiarn North (1,726)
3. Newtown East (1,391)
4. Newtown Central (2,103)
5. Newtown South (1,242)
6. Llandrindod North (1,417)
7. Llandrindod East/West (892)
8. St. John (2,521)
9. St. David Within (1,210)
10. Dolforwyn (1,587)
11. Llanidloes (2,070)
12. Llanbadarn Fawr (861)
13. Llanyre (948)
14. Disserth and Trecoed (1,045)
15. Builth (1,809)
16. Talgarth (1,241)
17. Llangors (855)

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## 9. Monmouthshire (Sir Fynwy)

### Recommendation

- 9.1 **The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:**
- 9.1 a. **The electoral wards within the existing Monmouth CC and County of Monmouthshire of Caerwent (1,615), Cantref (1,579), Castle (1,507), Croesonen (1,607), Crucorney (1,691), Devauden (1,174), Dixton with Osbaston (1,793), Drybridge (2,423), Goetre Fawr (1,833), Grofield (1,285), Lansdown (1,540), Larkfield (1,475), Llanbadoc (1,014), Llanelly Hill (3,014), Llanfoist Fawr (1,616), Llangybi Fawr (1,439), Llanover (1,717), Llantilio Crossenny (1,422), Llanwenarth Ultra (1,073), Mardy (1,331), Mitchel Troy (953), Overmonnow (1,509), Portskewett (1,684), Priory (1,437), Raglan (1,510), Shirenewton (1,754), St. Arvans (1,253), St. Christopher's (1,762), St. Kingsmark (2,226), St. Mary's (1,414), Thornwell (1,860), Trellech United (2,122), Usk (1,862) and Wyesham (1,644); and,**
- 9.1 b. **the electoral wards within the existing Newport East CC and:**
- i. **the County of Monmouthshire of Caldicot Castle (1,736), Dewstow (1,370), Green Lane (1,363), Mill (2,242), Rogiet (1,303), Severn (1,269), The Elms (2,408) and West End (1,438); and,**
  - ii. **the City of Newport of Langstone (3,620) and Llanwern (2,645).**
- 9.2 **This constituency would have 74,532 electors which is 0.3% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**
- 9.3 **The Commission recommends that the name for the proposed constituency should be Monmouthshire. The recommended alternative name is Sir Fynwy.**
- 9.4 **The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:**
- 9.4 a. **The existing Monmouth CC has a total of 62,729 electors which is 16% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 12% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
- 9.4 b. **The existing Newport East CC has a total of 53,959 electors which is 28% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 24% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**

### Background

- 9.5 **In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:**
- 9.5 a. **The electoral wards within the existing Monmouth CC and County of Monmouthshire of Caerwent (1,615), Cantref (1,579), Castle (1,507), Croesonen (1,607), Crucorney (1,691), Devauden (1,174), Dixton with**

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Osbaston (1,793), Drybridge (2,423), Goetre Fawr (1,833), Grofield (1,285), Lansdown (1,540), Larkfield (1,475), Llanbadoc (1,014), Llanelly Hill (3,014), Llanfoist Fawr (1,616), Llangybi Fawr (1,439), Llanover (1,717), Llantilio Crossenny (1,422), Llanwenarth Ultra (1,073), Mardy (1,331), Mitchel Troy (953), Overmonnow (1,509), Portskewett (1,684), Priory (1,437), Raglan (1,510), Shirenewton (1,754), St. Arvans (1,253), St. Christopher's (1,762), St. Kingsmark (2,226), St. Mary's (1,414), Thornwell (1,860), Trellech United (2,122), Usk (1,862) and Wyesham (1,644); and,

- 9.5 b. the electoral wards within the existing Newport East CC and:
- i. the County of Monmouthshire of Caldicot Castle (1,736), Dewstow (1,370), Green Lane (1,363), Mill (2,242), Rogiet (1,303), Severn (1,269), The Elms (2,408) and West End (1,438); and,
  - ii. the City of Newport of Langstone (3,620) and Llanwern (2,645).

9.6 This constituency would have 74,532 electors which is 0.3% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Monmouthshire. The suggested alternative name was Sir Fynwy.

9.7 During the initial consultation period the Commission received few representations with regard to the proposal for the proposed Monmouthshire constituency. There was agreement among the political parties which made representations that the proposal was acceptable. The Member of Parliament for the existing Monmouth constituency was also in favour of the Commission's initial and revised proposals and stated that the inclusion of the Monmouth electoral wards from Newport East was eminently sensible, and by doing so the constituency would marry areas of the principal council and Parliamentary constituency. The representation also supports the removal of the Torfaen principal council electoral wards from the constituency for the same reason.

9.8 The Assistant Commissioners did not recommend any change to the proposed Monmouthshire constituency. They noted that there had been comparatively few representations at the public hearings or in written representations in relation to the proposed Monmouthshire constituency, although they noted support for the proposed constituency from five Members of Parliament from the area.

9.9 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners' report, the Commission accepted the Assistant Commissioners' recommendations and proposed a Monmouthshire constituency as set out in the initial proposals.

9.10 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:

- 9.10 a. The electoral wards within the existing Monmouth CC and County of Monmouthshire of Caerwent (1,615), Cantref (1,579), Castle (1,507), Croesonen (1,607), Crucorney (1,691), Devauden (1,174), Dixton with Osbaston (1,793), Drybridge (2,423), Goetre Fawr (1,833), Grofield (1,285), Lansdown (1,540), Larkfield (1,475), Llanbadoc (1,014), Llanelly Hill (3,014), Llanfoist Fawr (1,616), Llangybi Fawr (1,439), Llanover (1,717),



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Llantilio Crossenny (1,422), Llanwenarth Ultra (1,073), Mardy (1,331), Mitchel Troy (953), Overmonnow (1,509), Portskewett (1,684), Priory (1,437), Raglan (1,510), Shirenewton (1,754), St. Arvans (1,253), St. Christopher's (1,762), St. Kingsmark (2,226), St. Mary's (1,414), Thornwell (1,860), Trellech United (2,122), Usk (1,862) and Wyesham (1,644); and,

- 9.10 b. the electoral wards within the existing Newport East CC and:
- i. the County of Monmouthshire of Caldicot Castle (1,736), Dewstow (1,370), Green Lane (1,363), Mill (2,242), Rogiet (1,303), Severn (1,269), The Elms (2,408) and West End (1,438); and,
  - ii. the City of Newport of Langstone (3,620) and Llanwern (2,645).

9.11 This constituency would have 74,532 electors which is 0.3% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Monmouthshire. The suggested alternative name was Sir Fynwy.

9.12 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received few representations on the geographical composition of this proposed constituency. The Commission received representations that the community of Magor with Undy should be included within the proposed Newport constituency and not within this proposed constituency.

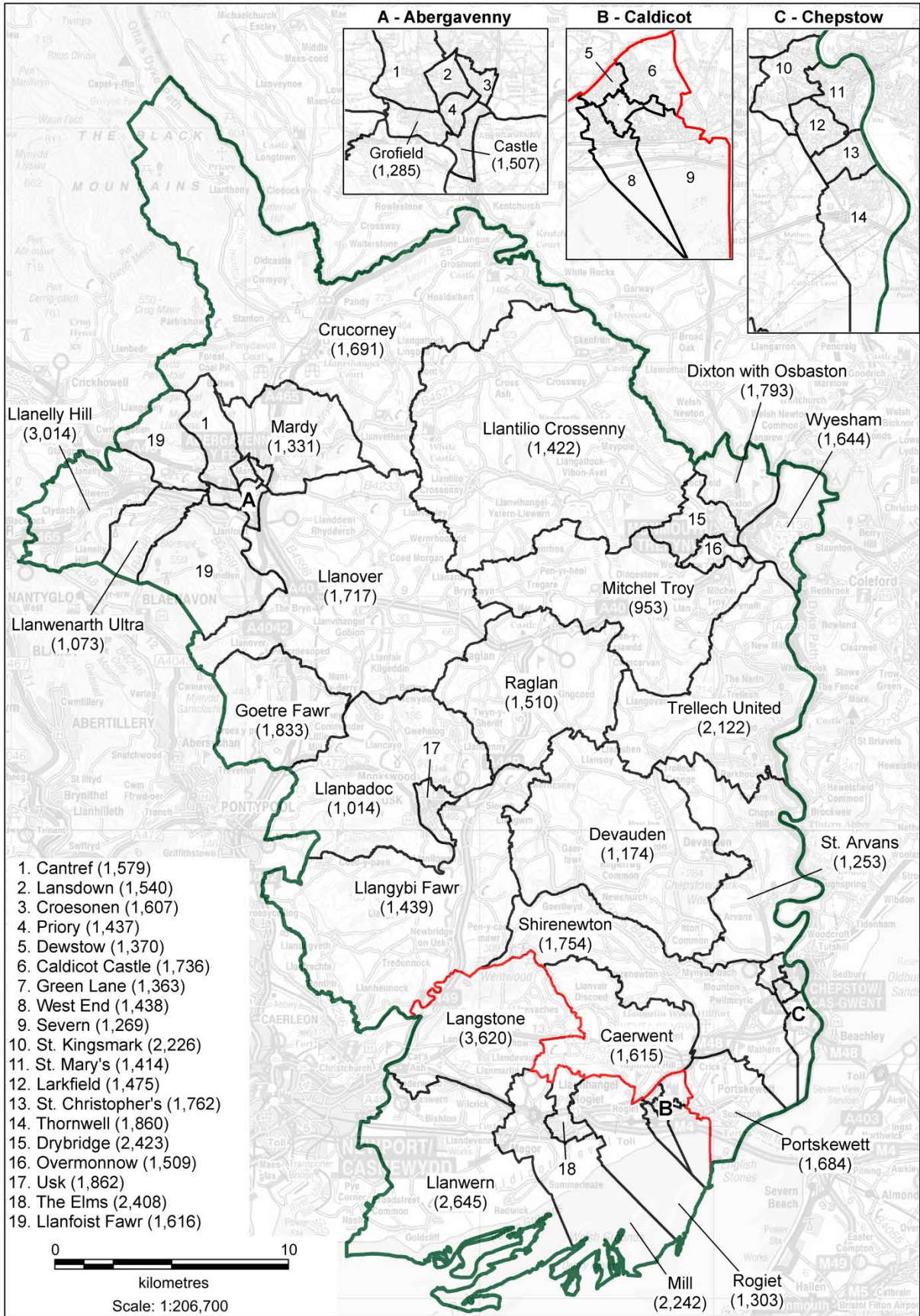
9.13 The Commission considered that the community of Magor with Undy (comprised of the electoral wards of Mill and The Elms) was appropriately placed within this constituency as it forms part of the local authority area of Monmouthshire which is wholly contained within this proposed constituency. The Commission concluded that the recommended Monmouthshire constituency, and also the other constituencies in this area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

9.14 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Monmouthshire. The recommended alternative name is Sir Fynwy.

9.15 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Monmouthshire (Sir Fynwy).

Monmouthshire (Sir Fynwy)



## 10. Newport (Casnewydd)

### Recommendation

- 10.1 **The Commission recommends a borough constituency be created from:**
- 10.1 a. **The electoral wards within the existing Newport East CC and City of Newport of Alway (5,427), Beechwood (5,353), Liswerry (7,897), Ringland (5,732), St. Julians (5,876) and Victoria (4,280); and,**
- 10.1 b. **the electoral wards within the existing Newport West CC and City of Newport of Allt-yr-Yn (6,368), Bettws (5,275), Gaer (6,084), Malpas (5,939), Marshfield (4,554), Pillgwenlly (4,067), Shaftesbury (3,548), Stow Hill (2,794) and Tredegar Park (2,792).**
- 10.2 **This constituency would have 75,986 electors which is 1.6% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**
- 10.3 **The Commission recommends that the proposed constituency should be named Newport. The recommended alternative name is Casnewydd.**
- 10.4 **The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:**
- 10.4 a. **The existing Newport East CC has a total of 53,959 electors which is 28% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 24% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
- 10.4 b. **The existing Newport West CC has a total of 60,101 electors which is 20% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 15% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**

### Background

- 10.5 **In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a borough constituency be created from:**
- 10.5 a. **The electoral wards within the existing Newport East CC and City of Newport of Alway (5,427), Beechwood (5,353), Liswerry (7,897), Ringland (5,732), St. Julians (5,876) and Victoria (4,280); and,**
- 10.5 b. **the electoral wards within the existing Newport West CC and City of Newport of Allt-yr-Yn (6,368), Bettws (5,275), Gaer (6,084), Malpas (5,939), Marshfield (4,554), Pillgwenlly (4,067), Shaftesbury (3,548), Stow Hill (2,794) and Tredegar Park (2,792).**
- 10.6 **This constituency would have 75,986 electors which is 1.6% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Newport. The suggested alternative name was Casnewydd.**

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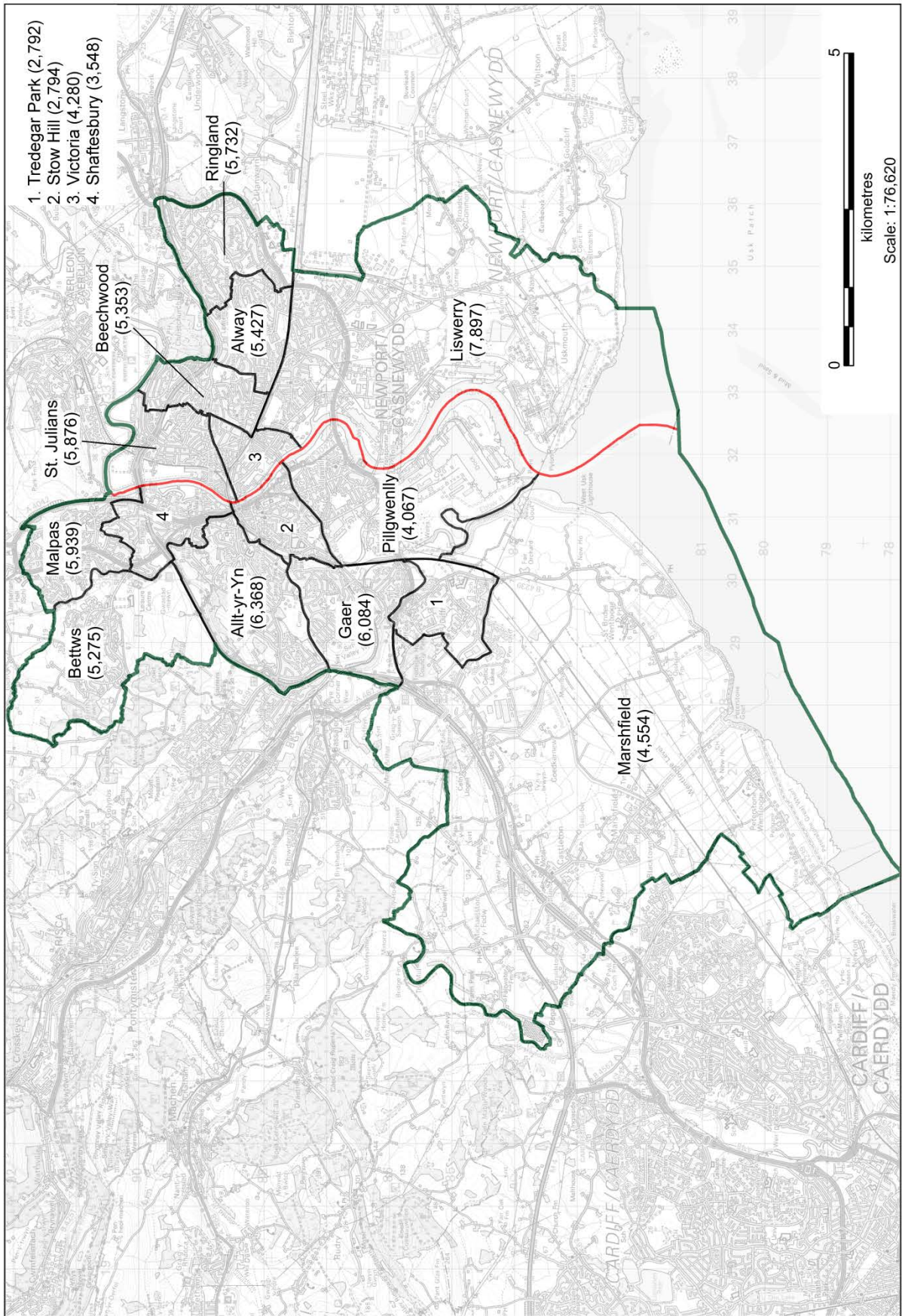
- 10.7 The Commission received few representations with regard to the initial proposal for Newport. It received representations that the electoral ward of Caerleon should be included with the proposed Newport constituency and that the Bettws and Malpas electoral wards could replace Caerleon in the proposed Torfaen constituency.
- 10.8 The Assistant Commissioners did not recommend any change to the proposed Newport constituency, commenting there was little support for the counter proposals. They noted that there had been comparatively few representations at the public hearings or in written representations in relation to the proposed Newport constituency, although they noted support for the proposed constituency from five Members of Parliament from the area.
- 10.9 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners' report, the Commission accepted the recommendations of the Assistant Commissioners and proposed Newport constituency as set out in the initial proposals. The Commission remains of the view that the inclusion of the Bettws and Malpas electoral wards within the proposed Newport constituency, rather than Caerleon, is appropriate as the Bettws and Malpas wards have ties with Newport rather than Torfaen, and Caerleon has ties with the Torfaen area. The initial proposals therefore better reflected the statutory criteria than the proposed alternative.
- 10.10 The Commission therefore proposed to create a borough constituency from:
- 10.10 a. The electoral wards within the existing Newport East CC and City of Newport of Alway (5,427), Beechwood (5,353), Liswerry (7,897), Ringland (5,732), St. Julians (5,876) and Victoria (4,280); and,
- 10.10 b. the electoral wards within the existing Newport West CC and City of Newport of Allt-yr-Yn (6,368), Bettws (5,275), Gaer (6,084), Malpas (5,939), Marshfield (4,554), Pillgwenlly (4,067), Shaftesbury (3,548), Stow Hill (2,794) and Tredegar Park (2,792).
- 10.11 This constituency would have 75,986 electors which is 1.6% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 10.12 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations from residents of Rogerstone who were concerned that the proposals would remove Rogerstone from a Newport constituency. The Commission also received representations suggesting that Caerleon should be included within this proposed constituency. The Commission also received representations supporting its proposals.
- 10.13 The Commission considered all of the representations made. The Commission considered the electoral wards of Rogerstone and Caerleon. The Commission must recommend constituencies that are within the statutory electorate range. To include the Rogerstone electoral ward within the proposed Newport constituency would mean that the proposed Newport constituency would exceed the statutory electorate range and that the proposed Caerphilly constituency would fall below the statutory electorate range. To include the Caerleon electoral ward within the proposed Newport constituency would mean that the proposed Newport constituency would exceed the statutory electorate range and that the

proposed Torfaen constituency would fall below the statutory electorate range. There were no wards within the proposed Newport constituency that were more appropriately included within the proposed Torfaen constituency than Caerleon. The Commission has concluded that the recommended Newport constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in the area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

- 10.14 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Newport. The recommended alternative name is Casnewydd.
- 10.15 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Newport (Casnewydd).

**Newport (Casnewydd)**



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## 11. Torfaen

### Recommendation

- 11.1 **The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:**
- 11.1 a. **The electoral wards within the existing Torfaen CC and County Borough of Torfaen of Abersychan (5,002), Blaenavon (4,193), Brynwern (1,243), Coed Eva (1,792), Cwmyniscoy (979), Fairwater (3,839), Greenmeadow (2,649), Llantarnam (4,099), New Inn (4,773), Panteg (5,585) Pontnewydd (4,370), Pontnewynydd (1,030), Pontypool (1,329), St. Cadocs and Penygarn (1,170), St. Dials (2,684), Snatchwood (1,535), Trevethin (2,300), Two Locks (4,525), Upper Cwmbran (3,739) and Wainfelin (1,726);**
  - 11.1 b. **the electoral wards within the existing Monmouth CC and County Borough of Torfaen of Croesyceiliog North (2,580), Croesyceiliog South (1,420), Llanyrafon North (1,492) and Llanyrafon South (2,099); and,**
  - 11.1 c. **the electoral ward within the existing Newport West CC and City of Newport of Caerleon (6,214).**
- 11.2 **This constituency would have 72,367 electors which is 3.2% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**
- 11.3 **The Commission recommends that the name for the proposed constituency should be Torfaen.**
- 11.4 **The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:**
- 11.4 a. **The existing Monmouth CC has a total of 62,729 electors which is 16% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 12% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
  - 11.4 b. **The existing Newport East CC has a total of 53,959 electors which is 28% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 24% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
  - 11.4 c. **The existing Torfaen CC has a total of 58,562 electors which is 22% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 18% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
- 11.5 **In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:**
- 11.5 a. **The whole of the existing Torfaen CC;**

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- 11.5 b. the electoral wards within the existing Monmouth CC and County Borough of Torfaen of Croesyceiliog North (2,580), Croesyceiliog South (1,420), Llanyrafon North (1,492) and Llanyrafon South (2,099); and,
- 11.5 c. the electoral ward within the existing Newport West CC and City of Newport of Caerleon (6,214).
- 11.6 This constituency would have 72,367 electors which is 3.2% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Torfaen.
- 11.7 The Commission received few representations with regard to the initial proposal for Torfaen. The Member of Parliament for the existing Torfaen constituency was in favour of the Commission's initial proposal stating that Caerleon is the obvious electoral ward to be included within Torfaen due to its links to Ponthir and Llanfrechfa. The Member of Parliament also noted that the proposed constituency would include the whole of the Torfaen principal council area and he considered that this would help create an affinity with the constituency.
- 11.8 The Assistant Commissioners did not recommend any change to the proposed Torfaen constituency, commenting there was little support for the counter proposals. They noted that there had been comparatively few representations at the public hearings or in written representations in relation to the proposed Torfaen constituency, and these were generally supportive of the proposed constituency. The Assistant Commissioners noted that the wards within the Torfaen local authority area did not of themselves ensure that the proposed constituency fell within the statutory electorate range. They considered that there were ties between the ward of Caerleon and Cwmbran, and other wards in the proposed constituency and its inclusion within this proposed constituency was justified.
- 11.9 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners' report, the Commission accepted the recommendations of the Assistant Commissioners and proposed to recommend a constituency as described in the initial proposals.
- 11.10 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:
- 11.10 a. The whole of the existing Torfaen CC;
- 11.10 b. the electoral wards within the existing Monmouth CC and County Borough of Torfaen of Croesyceiliog North (2,580), Croesyceiliog South (1,420), Llanyrafon North (1,492) and Llanyrafon South (2,099); and,
- 11.10 c. the electoral ward within the existing Newport West CC and City of Newport of Caerleon (6,214).
- 11.11 This constituency would have 72,367 electors which is 3.2% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.



- 11.12 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations stating that Caerleon should be retained within a Newport constituency. The representation largely supported the proposed constituency of Torfaen; however, it argued that Caerleon should not be included within the proposed constituency and that it had been done purely to achieve the required electorate without any consideration to local ties.
- 11.13 The Commission considered all of the representations. The Commission again considered the electoral ward of Caerleon. The Commission must recommend constituencies that are within the statutory electorate range. The Commission is satisfied that the electoral ward of Caerleon is an appropriate ward to include within the proposed Torfaen constituency and would ensure that it falls within the statutory electorate range. The Commission is satisfied that the recommended Torfaen constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in the area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

- 11.14 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Torfaen. Torfaen is recognisable in both languages and therefore no alternative name is suggested.
- 11.15 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Torfaen.



## 12. Blaenau Gwent

### Recommendation

- 12.1 **The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:**
- 12.1 a. **The electoral wards within the existing Blaenau Gwent CC and the County Borough of Blaenau Gwent of Abertillery (3,095), Badminton (2,428), Beaufort (2,768), Blaina (3,351), Brynmawr (3,826), Cwm (3,168), Cwmtillery (3,358), Ebbw Vale North (3,249), Ebbw Vale South (2,905), Georgetown (2,942), Llanhilleth (3,324), Nantyglo (3,187), Rassau (2,386), Sirhowy (4,125), Six Bells (1,702) and Tredegar Central and West (3,847); and,**
- 12.1 b. **the electoral wards within the existing Islwyn CC and County Borough of Caerphilly of Argoed (1,910), Blackwood (5,947), Cefn Fforest (2,765), Crumlin (4,195), Newbridge (4,611), Pengam (2,571) and Penmaen (4,004).**
- 12.2 **This constituency would have 75,664 electors which is 1.2% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**
- 12.3 **The Commission recommends that the name for the proposed constituency should be Blaenau Gwent.**
- 12.4 The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:
- 12.4 a. The existing Blaenau Gwent CC has a total of 49,661 electors which is 34% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 30% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.
- 12.4 b. The existing Islwyn CC has a total of 53,306 electors which is 29% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 25% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.

### Background

- 12.5 In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:
- 12.5 a. The whole of the existing Blaenau Gwent CC; and,
- 12.5 b. the electoral wards within the existing Islwyn CC and County Borough of Caerphilly of Argoed (1,910), Blackwood (5,947), Cefn Fforest (2,765), Crumlin (4,195), Newbridge (4,611), Pengam (2,571) and Penmaen (4,004).
- 12.6 This constituency would have 75,664 electors which is 1.2% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Blaenau Gwent.

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- 12.7 The Commission received few representations with regard to the initial proposal for Blaenau Gwent. There was agreement among the political parties making representations that the proposal was acceptable and the Member of Parliament for the existing Blaenau Gwent constituency was also in favour of the Commission's initial proposal stating that the proposed constituency contains the whole of the principal council of Blaenau Gwent, recognising the geographical and community links that the principal council has with the electoral wards of northern Islwyn. The Commission received a representation from Argoed Community Council, which the Member of Parliament for the existing Islwyn constituency supported, that proposed an alternative arrangement for the existing constituencies of Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, and Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney. The Labour Party submission, however, expressed the belief that the Commission's approach in the south east Wales area maximises the respect for existing constituencies and principal councils.
- 12.8 The Assistant Commissioners considered the alternative arrangements put forward by Argoed Community Council and supported by the Member of Parliament for the existing Islwyn constituency and concluded that the proposals split principal council areas and broke local ties. The Assistant Commissioners noted that the alternative proposals were opposed by five of the Members of Parliament for existing constituencies which would be affected by the alternative proposals and noted that the four political parties with representation at Westminster supported the initial proposals.
- 12.9 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioner's report, the Commission accepted the recommendations of the Assistant Commissioners and proposed to recommend a constituency as described in the initial proposals. The Commission considered that the proposed alternative arrangements put forward by Argoed Community Council, and supported by the Member of Parliament for the existing Islwyn constituency, had a greater effect on existing constituencies than the approach of the Commission in this area and would result in breaking local ties. The Commission considered that the initial proposal better reflected the statutory criteria overall than the proposed alternatives.
- 12.10 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:
- 12.10 a. The whole of the existing Blaenau Gwent CC; and,
  - 12.10 b. the electoral wards within the existing Islwyn CC and County Borough of Caerphilly of Argoed (1,910), Blackwood (5,947), Cefn Fforest (2,765), Crumlin (4,195), Newbridge (4,611), Pengam (2,571) and Penmaen (4,004).
- 12.11 This constituency would have 75,664 electors which is 1.2% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 12.12 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations that were opposed to the inclusion of Blackwood within this proposed constituency. The Commission also received representations that called for the electoral ward of Pengam to be included within the Caerphilly constituency due to its links to Caerphilly for leisure and employment and not to be within this proposed constituency. The Commission received a

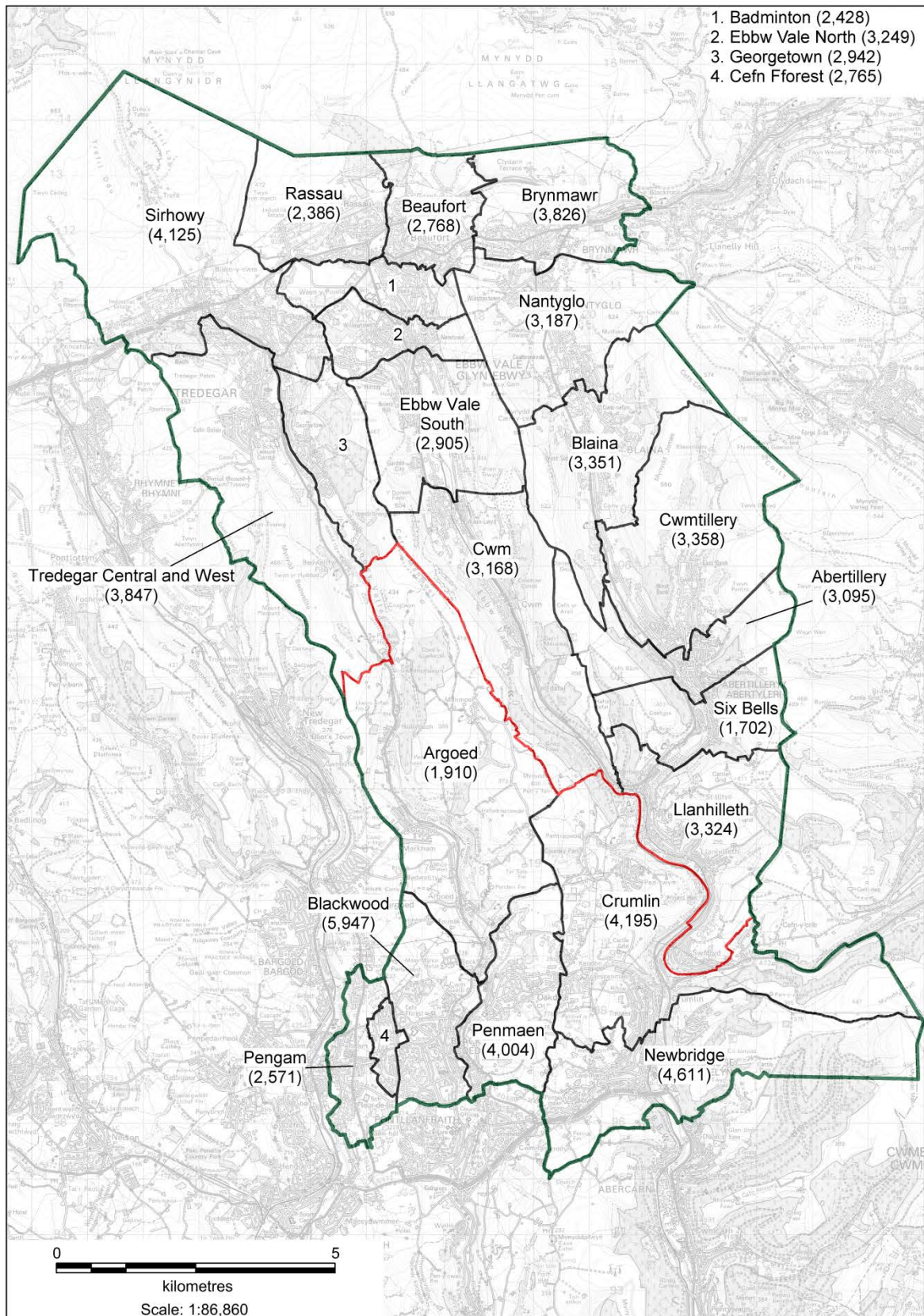
further representation from the Member of Parliament for Islwyn which referred to the alternative arrangements proposed by Argoed Community Council and expressed concerns about breaking of ties between certain communities. The Commission also received representations, however, from the Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council which endorsed the revised proposals, which included the wards of Blackwood and Pengam within this proposed constituency, and from Brynmawr Town Council supporting the proposed constituency.

- 12.13 The Commission considered all of the representations made. The Commission considered that the electoral wards of Pengam and Blackwood should be included within this proposed constituency. The Commission considered again the alternative arrangements proposed by Argoed Community Council and supported by the Member of Parliament for Islwyn and his concerns that the proposed arrangements would break what he considers to be strong ties between certain communities. The Commission must recommend constituencies that are within the statutory electorate range. The Commission was satisfied that the constituencies it recommended in this area better reflected the statutory criteria overall than the proposed alternatives. The Commission is satisfied that the recommended Blaenau Gwent constituency, and also the other constituencies in this area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

- 12.14 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Blaenau Gwent. Blaenau Gwent is recognisable in both languages and therefore no alternative name is suggested.
- 12.15 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Blaenau Gwent.

**Blaenau Gwent**



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## 13. Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney (Merthyr Tudful a Rhymni)

### Recommendation

- 13.1 The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:
- 13.1 a. The electoral wards within the existing Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney CC and:
    - i. the County Borough of Caerphilly of Darren Valley (1,760), Moriah (3,031), New Tredegar (3,233), Pontlottyn (1,405) and Twyn Carno (1,655); and,
    - ii. the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil of Bedlinog (2,649), Cyfarthfa (4,961), Dowlais (4,736), Gurnos (3,309), Merthyr Vale (2,663), Park (3,176), Penydarren (3,678), Plymouth (3,855), Town (5,580), Treharris (4,831) and Vaynor (2,644);
  - 13.1 b. the electoral wards within the existing Caerphilly CC and County Borough of Caerphilly of Bargoed (4,277), Gilfach (1,481), Hengoed (3,617), Nelson (3,374), St. Cattwg (5,400) and Ystrad Mynach (3,935); and,
  - 13.1 c. the electoral ward within the existing Islwyn CC and County Borough of Caerphilly of Aberbargoed (2,520).
- 13.2 This constituency would have 77,770 electors which is 4% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 13.3 The Commission recommends that the name for the proposed constituency should be Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney. The recommended alternative name is Merthyr Tudful a Rhymni.
- 13.4 The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:
- 13.4 a. The existing Caerphilly CC has a total of 61,158 electors which is 18% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 14% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.
  - 13.4 b. The existing Islwyn CC has a total of 53,306 electors which is 29% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 25% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.
  - 13.4 c. The existing Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney CC has a total of 53,166 electors which is 29% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 25% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.

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### Background

- 13.5 In the Commission's initial proposals it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:
- 13.5 a. The whole of the existing Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney CC;
  - 13.5 b. the electoral wards within the existing Caerphilly CC and County Borough of Caerphilly of Bargoed (4,277), Gilfach (1,481), Hengoed (3,617), Nelson (3,374), St. Cattwg (5,400) and Ystrad Mynach (3,935); and,
  - 13.5 c. the electoral ward within the existing Islwyn CC and County Borough of Caerphilly of Aberbargoed (2,520).
- 13.6 This constituency would have 77,770 electors which is 4% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney. The suggested alternative name was Merthyr Tudful a Rhymni.
- 13.7 The Commission received few representations with regard to the initial proposal for Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney. There was agreement among the political parties that made representations that the proposal was acceptable and the Member of Parliament for the existing Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney constituency was also in favour of the Commission's initial proposal. They stated that the proposed constituency contains the whole of the existing constituency of Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney and recognised the geographical and community links that the area of the principal council has with the electoral wards within the existing Islwyn and Caerphilly constituencies. The Commission received a representation from Argoed Community Council, supported by the Member of Parliament for the existing Islwyn constituency, that proposed an alternative arrangement for the existing constituencies of Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, and Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney. The Labour Party submission, however, expressed the belief that the Commission approach in the south east Wales area maximises the respect for existing constituencies and principal councils.
- 13.8 The Assistant Commissioners considered the alternative arrangements put forward by Argoed Community Council which would affect this proposed constituency. They concluded that the proposals splits principal council areas and breaks local ties. The Assistant Commissioners noted that the alternative proposals were opposed by five of the Members of Parliament for the existing constituencies which would be affected by the alternative proposals and noted that the four political parties with representation at Westminster supported the initial proposals.
- 13.9 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners' report, the Commission accepted the recommendations of the Assistant Commissioners and proposed a constituency as described in the initial proposals. The Commission considered that proposal put forward by Argoed Community Council had a greater effect on the existing constituencies than the approach of the Commission in this area and broke local ties. The initial proposals therefore better reflect the statutory requirements than the proposed alternatives.

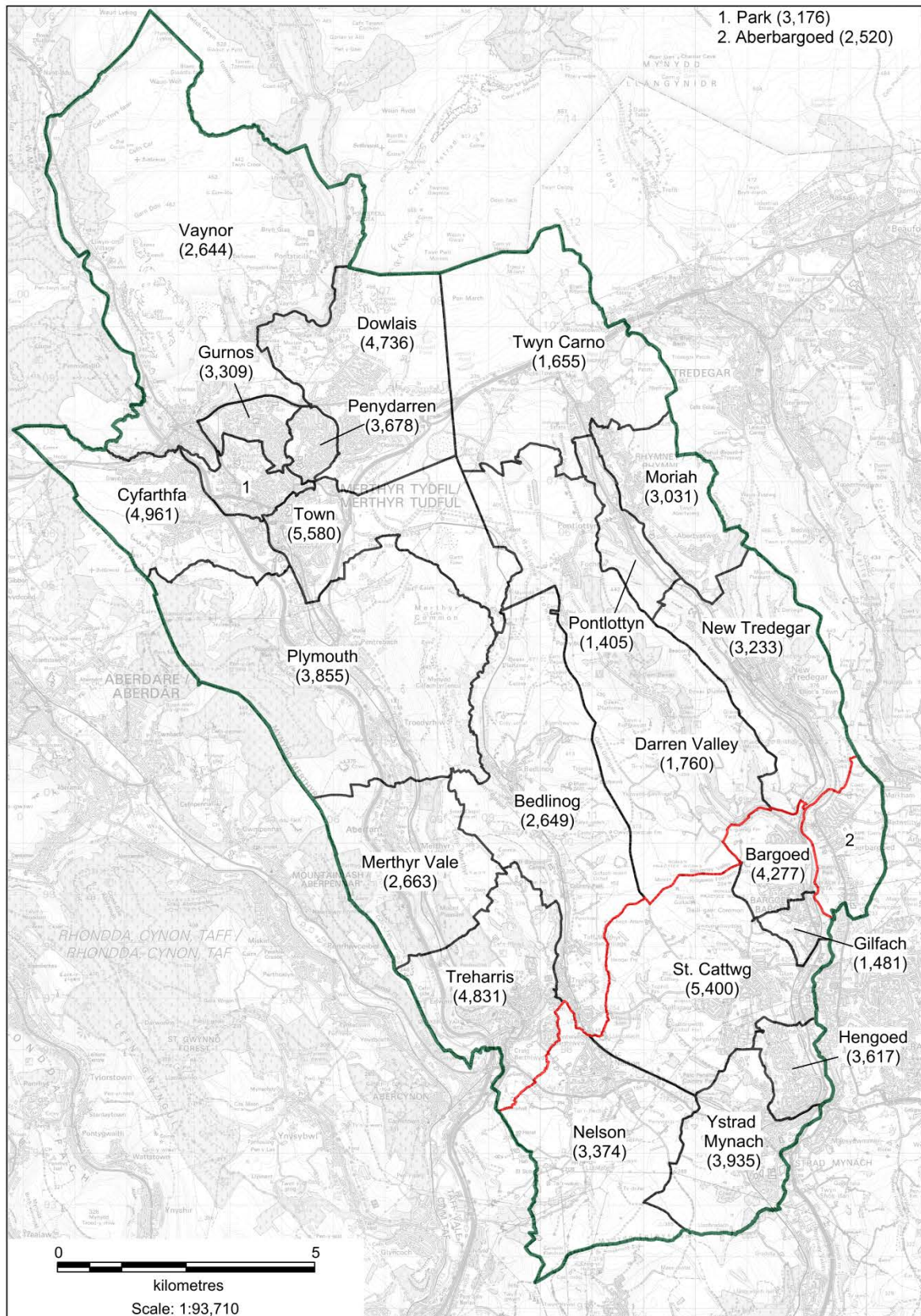


- 13.10 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:
- 13.10 a. The whole of the existing Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney CC;
  - 13.10 b. the electoral wards within the existing Caerphilly CC and County Borough of Caerphilly of Bargoed (4,277), Gilfach (1,481), Hengoed (3,617), Nelson (3,374), St. Cattwg (5,400) and Ystrad Mynach (3,935); and,
  - 13.10 c. the electoral ward within the existing Islwyn CC and County Borough of Caerphilly of Aberbargoed (2,520).
- 13.11 This constituency would have 77,770 electors which is 4% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 13.12 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations with regard to the geographical composition of the proposed constituency. The Commission received representations that supported its approach to the valleys constituencies and its general approach in south east Wales. One representation suggested that the proposal was the most logical and the alternatives did not adhere to the rules set out in the Act to the same extent as this proposed constituency. The Commission received a further representation from the Member of Parliament for Islwyn which referred to the alternative arrangements proposed by Argoed Community Council and expressed concerns about the breaking of ties between certain communities.
- 13.13 The Commission considered all of the representations. The Commission considered again the alternative arrangement proposed by Argoed Community Council and supported by the Member of Parliament for Islwyn. The Commission must recommend constituencies that are within the statutory electorate range. For the reasons discussed in paragraph 13.9 in section 5, the Commission is satisfied that the recommended Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in the area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

- 13.14 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney. The recommended alternative name is Merthyr Tudful a Rhymni.
- 13.15 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney (Merthyr Tudful a Rhymni).

**Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney (Merthyr Tudful a Rhymni)**



## 14. Caerphilly (Caerffili)

### Recommendation

- 14.1 **The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:**
- 14.1 a. **The electoral wards within the existing Caerphilly CC and County Borough of Caerphilly of Aber Valley (4,478), Bedwas, Trethomas and Machen (7,456), Llanbradach (3,133), Morgan Jones (5,153), Penyrheol (8,525), St. James (4,126) and St. Martins (6,203);**
  - 14.1 b. **the electoral wards within the existing Islwyn CC and County Borough of Caerphilly of Abercarn (3,884), Crosskeys (2,344), Maesycwmmmer (1,607), Pontllanfraith (5,976), Risca East (4,468), Risca West (3,795) and Ynysddu (2,709); and,**
  - 14.1 c. **the electoral wards within the existing Newport West CC and City of Newport of Graig (4,723) and Rogerstone (7,743).**
- 14.2 **This constituency would have 76,323 electors which is 2.1% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**
- 14.3 **The Commission recommends that the proposed constituency should be named Caerphilly. The recommended alternative name is Caerffili.**
- 14.4 **The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:**
- 14.4 a. **The existing Caerphilly CC has a total of 61,158 electors which is 18% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 14% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
  - 14.4 b. **The existing Islwyn CC has a total of 53,306 electors which is 29% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 25% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
  - 14.4 c. **The existing Newport West CC has a total of 60,101 electors which is 20% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 15% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**

### Background

- 14.5 In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:
- 14.5 a. The electoral wards within the existing Caerphilly CC and County Borough of Caerphilly of Aber Valley (4,478), Bedwas, Trethomas and Machen (7,456), Llanbradach (3,133), Morgan Jones (5,153), Penyrheol (8,525), St. James (4,126) and St. Martin's (6,203);

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- 14.5 b. the electoral wards within the existing Islwyn CC and County Borough of Caerphilly of Abercarn (3,884), Crosskeys (2,344), Maesycwmmer (1,607), Pontllanfraith (5,976), Risca East (4,468), Risca West (3,795) and Ynysddu (2,709); and,
- 14.5 c. the electoral wards within the existing Newport West CC and City of Newport of Graig (4,723) and Rogerstone (7,743).
- 14.6 This constituency would have 76,323 electors which is 2.1% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Caerphilly. The suggested alternative name was Caerffili.
- 14.7 The Commission received a written representation from the Member of Parliament for the existing Caerphilly constituency that supported the initial proposal, although the Member of Parliament expressed the view that the inclusion of two Newport wards was not ideal. The Member of Parliament for the existing Caerphilly constituency did stress that the initial proposal was significantly better than any proposed alternatives. The Commission received a representation from Argoed Community Council, supported by the Member of Parliament for the existing Islwyn constituency, which proposed an alternative arrangement for the existing constituencies of Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, and Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney. The Labour Party submission, however, expressed the view that the Commission approach in the south east Wales area maximises the respect for existing constituencies and principal councils.
- 14.8 The Assistant Commissioners concluded that the electoral ward of Rogerstone should be included within the proposed constituency. They concluded that the electoral ward was an appropriate ward for inclusion within the proposed Caerphilly constituency given its location and its links with Caerphilly and would enable the proposed constituency to fall within the statutory electorate range. In relation to the alternative arrangements proposed by the Argoed Community Council, the Assistant Commissioners concluded that the proposals splits principal council areas and breaks local ties. The Assistant Commissioners noted that the alternative proposals were opposed by five of the Members of Parliament for existing constituencies which would be affected by the alternative proposals and noted that the four political parties with representation at Westminster supported the initial proposals.
- 14.9 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners' report, the Commission accepted the recommendations of the Assistant Commissioners and proposed to recommend a Caerphilly constituency as set out in the initial proposals. The proposal put forward by Argoed Community Council has a greater effect on the existing constituencies than the approach of the Commission in this area and the initial proposal better reflected the statutory requirements than the proposed alternative.
- 14.10 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:

- 14.10 a. The electoral wards within the existing Caerphilly CC and County Borough of Caerphilly of Aber Valley (4,478), Bedwas, Trethomas and Machen (7,456), Llanbradach (3,133), Morgan Jones (5,153), Penyrheol (8,525), St. James (4,126) and St. Martin's (6,203);
- 14.10 b. the electoral wards within the existing Islwyn CC and County Borough of Caerphilly of Abercarn (3,884), Crosskeys (2,344), Maesycwmmmer (1,607), Pontllanfraith (5,976), Risca East (4,468), Risca West (3,795) and Ynysddu (2,709); and,
- 14.10 c. the electoral wards within the existing Newport West CC and City of Newport of Graig (4,723) and Rogerstone (7,743).
- 14.11 This constituency would have 76,323 electors which is 2.1% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 14.12 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations that called for the electoral ward of Pengam to be included within the Caerphilly constituency due to its links to Caerphilly for leisure and employment. The Commission also received representations from residents of Rogerstone that expressed concern about the ward, together with the Graig electoral ward, being removed from a Newport constituency. The Commission received further representations from the Member of Parliament for Islwyn which referred to the alternative arrangements proposed by Argoed Community Council and expressed concerns about breaking of ties between certain communities. The Commission also received a representation that suggested that Taffs Well would be better located within this constituency rather than within a Cardiff constituency and suggested that there are good communication links between Caerphilly and Nantgarw within the Taffs Well electoral ward.
- 14.13 The Commission considered all of the representations. The Commission considered the electoral wards of Rogerstone and Pengam. To include the Pengam electoral ward within this proposed constituency would mean that the proposed constituency would exceed the statutory electorate range. To include the Rogerstone and/or Graig electoral wards within the proposed Newport constituency would mean that the proposed Newport constituency would exceed the statutory electorate range and that the proposed Caerphilly constituency would fall below the statutory electorate range. The Commission considers that the electoral ward of Taffs Well is most appropriately placed within the proposed Cardiff West constituency. To include the Taffs Well electoral ward within this proposed constituency would mean that the proposed constituency would exceed the statutory electorate range. The Commission considered again the alternative arrangement proposed by the Member of Parliament for Islwyn. The Commission must, however, recommend constituencies that are within the statutory electorate range. For the reasons discussed in paragraph 14.9 in section 5, the Commission is satisfied that the recommended Caerphilly constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in the area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

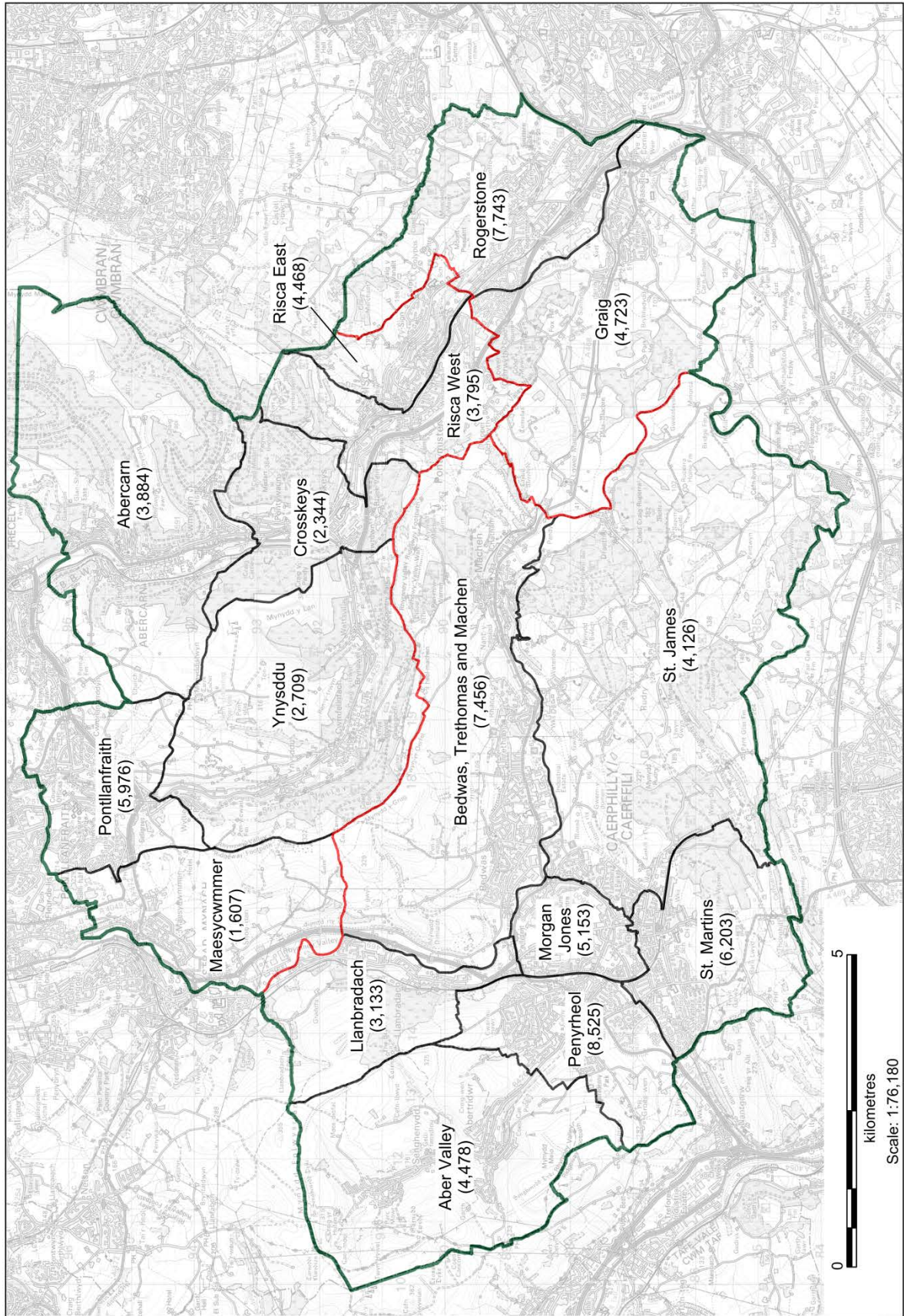
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### Name

14.14 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Caerphilly. The recommended alternative name is Caerffili.

14.15 The Commission has considered all the representations proposing different names for this constituency and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Caerphilly (Caerffili).

**Caerphilly (Caerffili)**



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## **15. Cynon Valley and Pontypridd (Cwm Cynon a Phontypridd)**

### **Recommendation**

**15.1 The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:**

**15.1 a. The electoral wards within the existing Cynon Valley CC and County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf of Aberaman North (3,571), Aberaman South (3,261), Abercynon (4,288), Aberdare East (4,772), Aberdare West/Llwydcoed (7,036), Cilfynydd (1,998), Cwmbach (3,467), Glyncoch (2,039), Hirwaun (3,076), Mountain Ash East (2,086), Mountain Ash West (3,046), Penrhiwceiber (4,013), Pen-y-Waun (1,993), Rhigos (1,337) and Ynysybwl (3,422); and,**

**15.1 b. the electoral wards within the existing Pontypridd CC and County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf of Church Village (3,469), Graig (1,455), Hawthorn (2,869), Llantwit Fardre (4,593), Pontypridd Town (2,141), Rhondda (3,364), Rhydfelen Central/Ilan (2,924), Ton-Teg (3,170), Trallwng (2,770) and Treforest (1,845).**

**15.2 This constituency would have 78,005 electors which is 4.3% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**

**15.3 The Commission recommends that the proposed constituency should be named Cynon Valley and Pontypridd. The recommended alternative name is Cwm Cynon a Phontypridd.**

**15.4 The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:**

**15.4 a. The existing Cynon Valley CC has a total of 49,405 electors which is 34% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 30% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**

**15.4 b. The existing Pontypridd CC has a total of 56,525 electors which is 24% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 20% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**

### **Background**

**15.5 In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:**

**15.5 a. The whole of the existing Cynon Valley CC; and,**

**15.5 b. the electoral wards within the existing Pontypridd CC and County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf of Church Village (3,469), Graig (1,455), Hawthorn (2,869), Llantwit Fardre (4,593), Pontypridd Town (2,141), Rhondda (3,364),**



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Rhydfelen Central/Ilan (2,924), Ton-Teg (3,170), Trallwng (2,770) and Treforest (1,845).

- 15.6 This constituency would have 78,005 electors which is 4.3% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Cynon Valley and Pontypridd. The suggested alternative name was Cwm Cynon a Phontypridd.
- 15.7 The Commission received few representations with regard to the initial proposal for Cynon Valley and Pontypridd. There was agreement among the political parties that made representations that the proposal was acceptable. However, the Commission received proposals for an alternative arrangement for the Cynon Valley and Pontypridd, and Rhondda and Llantrisant proposed constituencies from the Pontypridd Constituency Labour Party (PCLP), which was supported by both the Member of Parliament and the Assembly Member for the existing Pontypridd constituency. The representation stated that Taffs Well's links with Pontypridd, Rhondda Cynon Taf and the valleys are strong. It also argued that Tonyrefail has local ties with Pontypridd and should therefore be in the proposed Pontypridd constituency rather than in the proposed Rhondda and Llantrisant constituency. Representations suggested that the most appropriate way to form constituencies in the valleys would be to create constituencies which went across the south Wales valleys from east to west as opposed to down the valleys from north to south as proposed by the Commission.
- 15.8 The Assistant Commissioners considered the alternative arrangement as put forward and concluded that the electoral ward of Tonyrefail has ties with Llantrisant and Talbot Green which justified its inclusion within the proposed Rhondda and Llantrisant constituency and that its inclusion was necessary to meet the statutory electorate range. They also concluded that there are ties, with good transport and communication links, between Taffs Well and the electoral wards of Cardiff North, which justified its inclusion within the proposed Cardiff North constituency. The Assistant Commissioners referred to the representations that noted that the Cynon Valley had been included entirely within the proposed Cynon Valley and Pontypridd constituency which broadly respected the integrity of the valley.
- 15.9 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners' report, the Commission accepted the recommendations of the Assistant Commissioners and recommended creating a constituency as described in the initial proposals. The Commission considered the alternative arrangements as proposed by the PCLP. The Commission, however, is of the view that the initial proposal better reflected the statutory criteria than the proposed alternatives. The Commission considers that the most appropriate way to create constituencies representing the valleys is to do so by going down the valleys from north to south. The Commission considered that creating constituencies for the valleys in this way reflects existing local ties. The Commission considered the electoral wards of Taffs Well and Tonyrefail. While recognising the arguments for the inclusion of those electoral wards within this proposed constituency, this was not feasible as it would result in the proposed constituency exceeding the statutory electorate range.
- 15.10 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:

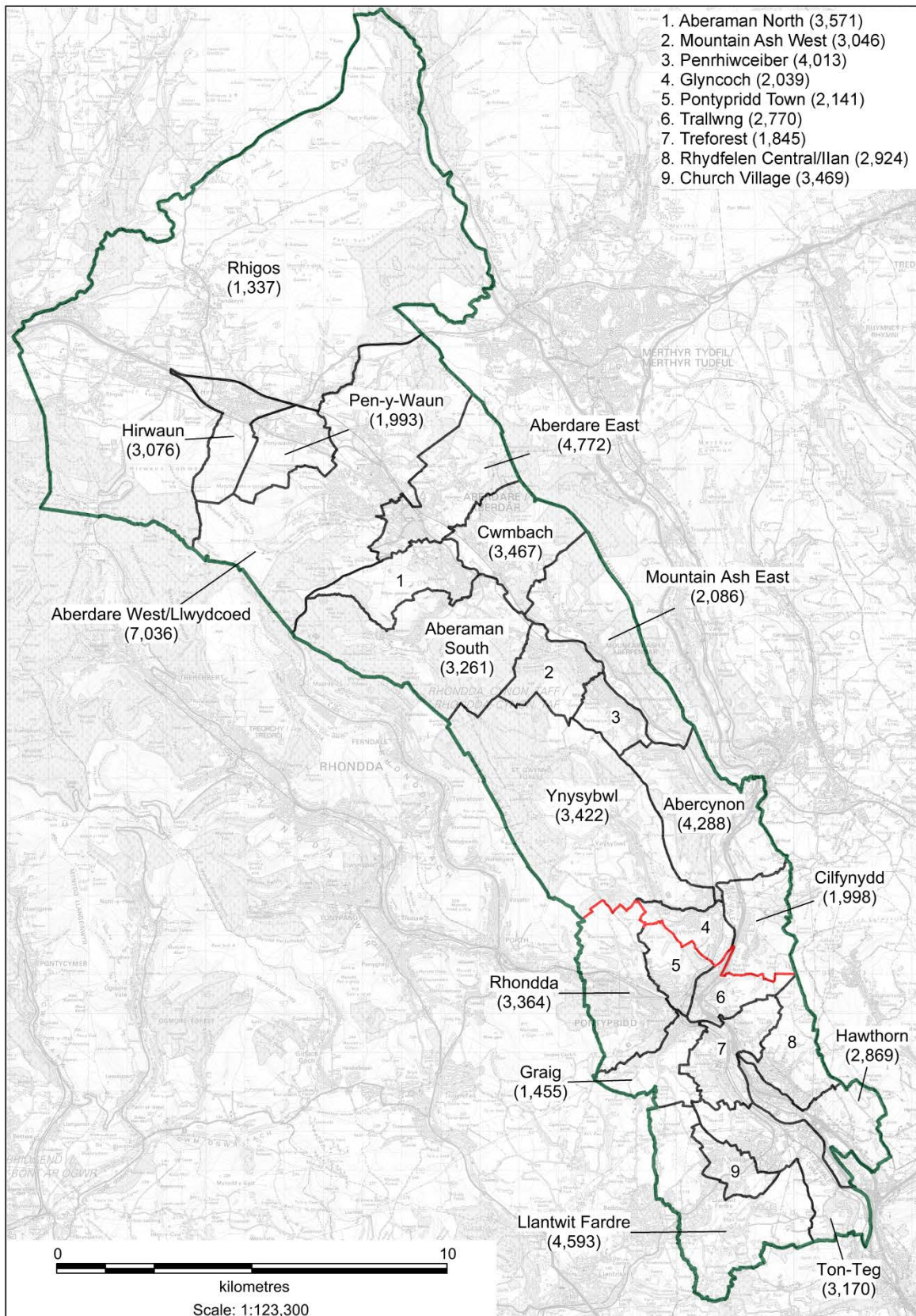
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- 15.10 a. The whole of the existing Cynon Valley CC, and,
- 15.10 b. the electoral wards within the existing Pontypridd CC and County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf of Church Village (3,469), Graig (1,455), Hawthorn (2,869), Llantwit Fardre (4,593), Pontypridd Town (2,141), Rhondda (3,364), Rhydfelen Central/Ilan (2,924), Ton-Teg (3,170), Trallwng (2,770) and Treforest (1,845).
- 15.11 This constituency would have 78,005 electors which is 4.3% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 15.12 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations that re-stated that the most appropriate way to create constituencies including the valleys of the Rhondda Cynon Taf local authority was east to west, as opposed to going from north to south as proposed by the Commission due to distinct differences in east-west community needs and the requirements upon the Members of Parliament who would represent those communities. The Commission also received representations supporting the composition of this proposed constituency, including from both Tredegar Town Council and the Cynon Valley Constituency Labour Party, and supporting the approach of creating constituencies by going down valleys from north to south and not across from east to west. The Commission received further representations that urged the Commission to retain the Taffs Well electoral ward within a constituency comprised of electoral wards from the Rhondda Cynon Taf local authority area - specifically this proposed constituency - due to the ties between the electoral ward of Taffs Well and the local authority area of Rhondda Cynon Taf.
- 15.13 The Commission considered all of the representations. The Commission again considered the alternative arrangements proposed by the PCLP in section 15.7 of section 5. The Commission remains of the view that the most appropriate way to create constituencies representing the valleys is to do so by going down the valleys from north to south as previously discussed in paragraph 15.9 of section 5. Whilst recognising the arguments for the inclusion of the Taffs Well electoral ward within a constituency comprised of electoral wards from the Rhondda Cynon Taf local authority area, this was not feasible as it would result in this proposed constituency exceeding the statutory electorate range. In the circumstances, the Commission considered that the electoral ward of Taffs Well is appropriately placed within the proposed Cardiff West constituency as discussed in paragraph 15.9 of section 5. The proposed arrangements enable the Commission to recommend two constituencies (this proposed constituency and the recommended Rhondda and Llantrisant constituency) which are entirely composed of electoral wards from the local authority area of Rhondda Cynon Taf, thereby respecting existing local government boundaries. The proposed arrangements also enable the whole of the existing Cynon Valley constituency to be included in this proposed constituency (and the whole of the existing Rhondda constituency to be included within the recommended Rhondda and Llantrisant constituency). The Commission has concluded that the recommended Cynon Valley and Pontypridd constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in the area, meet the statutory criteria overall.

Name

- 15.14 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Cynon Valley and Pontypridd. The recommended alternative name is Cwm Cynon a Phontypridd.
- 15.15 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Cynon Valley and Pontypridd (Cwm Cynon a Phontypridd).

**Cynon Valley and Pontypridd (Cwm Cynon a Phontypridd)**



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## 16. Rhondda and Llantrisant (Rhondda a Llantrisant)

### Recommendation

- 16.1 **The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:**
- 16.1.a **The electoral ward within the existing Ogmore CC and County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf of Llanharry (2,940);**
  - 16.1.b **the electoral wards within the existing Pontypridd CC and County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf of Beddau (3,090), Llantrisant Town (3,590), Pont-y-clun (5,888), Talbot Green (1,936), Tonyrefail East (4,215), Tonyrefail West (4,620) and Tyn-y-nant (2,465); and,**
  - 16.1.c **the electoral wards within the existing Rhondda CC and the County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf of Cwm Clydach (1,975), Cymmer (3,905), Ferndale (3,040), Llwyn-y-pia (1,644), Maerdy (2,244), Pentre (3,722), Pen-y-graig (3,879), Porth (4,280), Tonypandy (2,618), Trealaw (2,803), Treherbert (4,035), Treorchy (5,545), Tylorstown (2,895), Ynyshir (2,372) and Ystrad (4,204).**
- 16.2 **This constituency would have 77,905 electors which is 4.2% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**
- 16.3 **The Commission recommends that the proposed constituency should be named Rhondda and Llantrisant. The recommended alternative name is Rhondda a Llantrisant.**
- 16.4 **The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:**
- 16.4.a **The existing Ogmore CC has a total of 54,614 electors which is 27% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 23% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
  - 16.4.b **The existing Pontypridd CC has a total of 56,525 electors which is 24% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 20% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
  - 16.4.c **The existing Rhondda CC has a total of 49,161 electors which is 34% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 31% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**

### Background

- 16.5 **In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:**

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- 16.5.a The electoral wards within the existing Pontypridd CC and County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf of Beddau (3,090), Llantrisant Town (3,590), Pont-y-clun (5,888), Talbot Green (1,936), Tonyrefail East (4,215), Tonyrefail West (4,620) and Tyn-y-nant (2,465); and,
- 16.5.b the whole of the existing Rhondda CC.
- 16.6 This constituency would have 77,905 electors which is 4.2% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Rhondda and Llantrisant. The suggested alternative name was Rhondda a Llantrisant.
- 16.7 The Commission received few representations with regard to the initial proposal for the proposed Rhondda and Llantrisant constituency. There was agreement among the parties that made representations that the proposal was acceptable. The Commission received a proposal for an alternative arrangement for the proposed Cynon Valley, Pontypridd, and Rhondda and Llantrisant constituencies from the PCLP, which was supported by both the Member of Parliament for the existing Pontypridd constituency and the Assembly Member for Pontypridd. The representation stated that Taffs Well's links with Pontypridd, Rhondda Cynon Taf and the valleys are strong. It also argued that Tonyrefail has local ties with Pontypridd and should therefore be in the proposed Pontypridd constituency rather than the proposed Rhondda and Llantrisant constituency. Representations suggested that the most appropriate way to form constituencies in the south Wales valleys would be to create constituencies which went across the valleys from east to west as opposed to down the valleys from north to south as proposed by the Commission.
- 16.8 The Commission received a representation that referred to the affinity that the Llanharry electoral ward has with the Rhondda Cynon Taf local authority area and the representations therefore did not agree that the ward should be included within an Ogmere constituency. The Commission also received representations that the Gilfach Goch electoral ward should be included within the proposed Rhondda and Llantrisant constituency, although the representation does concede that it may not be possible to achieve this due to the statutory constraints placed on the Commission.
- 16.9 The Assistant Commissioners considered the alternative arrangements put forward by the PCLP. They concluded that the electoral ward of Tonyrefail has ties with Llantrisant and Talbot Green which justifies its inclusion within the proposed Rhondda and Llantrisant constituency and that its inclusion was necessary to meet the statutory electorate range. They also concluded that there are links between Taffs Well and the electoral wards of Cardiff North justifying its inclusion within the proposed Cardiff North constituency. The Assistant Commissioners referred to the representations that noted that the Rhondda Valley had been included entirely within the proposed Rhondda and Llantrisant constituency which broadly respected the integrity of the valley.
- 16.10 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioner's report, the Commission accepted the recommendations of the Assistant Commissioners in relation to this proposed constituency. The Commission considered the alternative arrangements as proposed by the PCLP. The Commission is of the view that the initial proposal better

reflects the statutory criteria as discussed at paragraph 15.7 of section 5. The Commission has concluded that it is appropriate to include the Llanharry electoral ward within this proposed constituency.

- 16.11 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:
- 16.11.a The electoral ward within the existing Ogmore CC and County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf of Llanharry (2,940);
  - 16.11.b the electoral wards within the existing Pontypridd CC and County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf of Beddau (3,090), Llantrisant Town (3,590), Pont-y-clun (5,888), Talbot Green (1,936), Tonyrefail East (4,215), Tonyrefail West (4,620) and Tyn-y-nant (2,465); and,
  - 16.11.c the whole of the existing Rhondda CC.
- 16.12 This constituency would have 77,905 electors which is 4.2% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 16.13 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations that re-stated that the most appropriate way to split the valleys of the Rhondda Cynon Taf local authority was east to west as opposed to the north to south split that has been proposed by the Commission due to the distinct difference in community needs and the requirements on the Members of Parliament who would represent those communities. The Commission also received representations supporting this proposed constituency. These representations supported forming the constituency by going down the valleys from north to south and not across from east to west as has been suggested by some. The Commission also received a representation suggesting that Gilfach Goch should be included within this proposed constituency and not within the proposed Ogmore and Aberavon constituency. The representation referred to the different challenges that exist for the people of Gilfach Goch which looks towards the Rhondda Valley for its services.
- 16.14 The Commission considered all of the representations. The Commission again considered the alternative arrangements proposed by the PCLP in section 15.7 of section 5. The Commission remains of the view that the most appropriate way to create constituencies representing the valleys is to do so by going down the valleys from north to south as previously discussed in paragraph 15.9 of section 5. The Commission considered the electoral ward of Gilfach Goch. The Commission must recommend constituencies which fall within the statutory electorate range and the inclusion of the Gilfach Goch electoral ward within this proposed constituency would result in the constituency exceeding the statutory electorate range. The proposed arrangements enable the Commission to recommend two constituencies (this proposed constituency and the recommended Cynon Valley and Pontypridd constituency) which are entirely composed of electoral wards from the local authority area of Rhondda Cynon Taf, thereby respecting existing local government boundaries. The proposed arrangements also enable the whole of the existing Rhondda constituency to be included in this proposed constituency (and the whole of the existing Cynon Valley constituency to be included within the recommended Cynon Valley and

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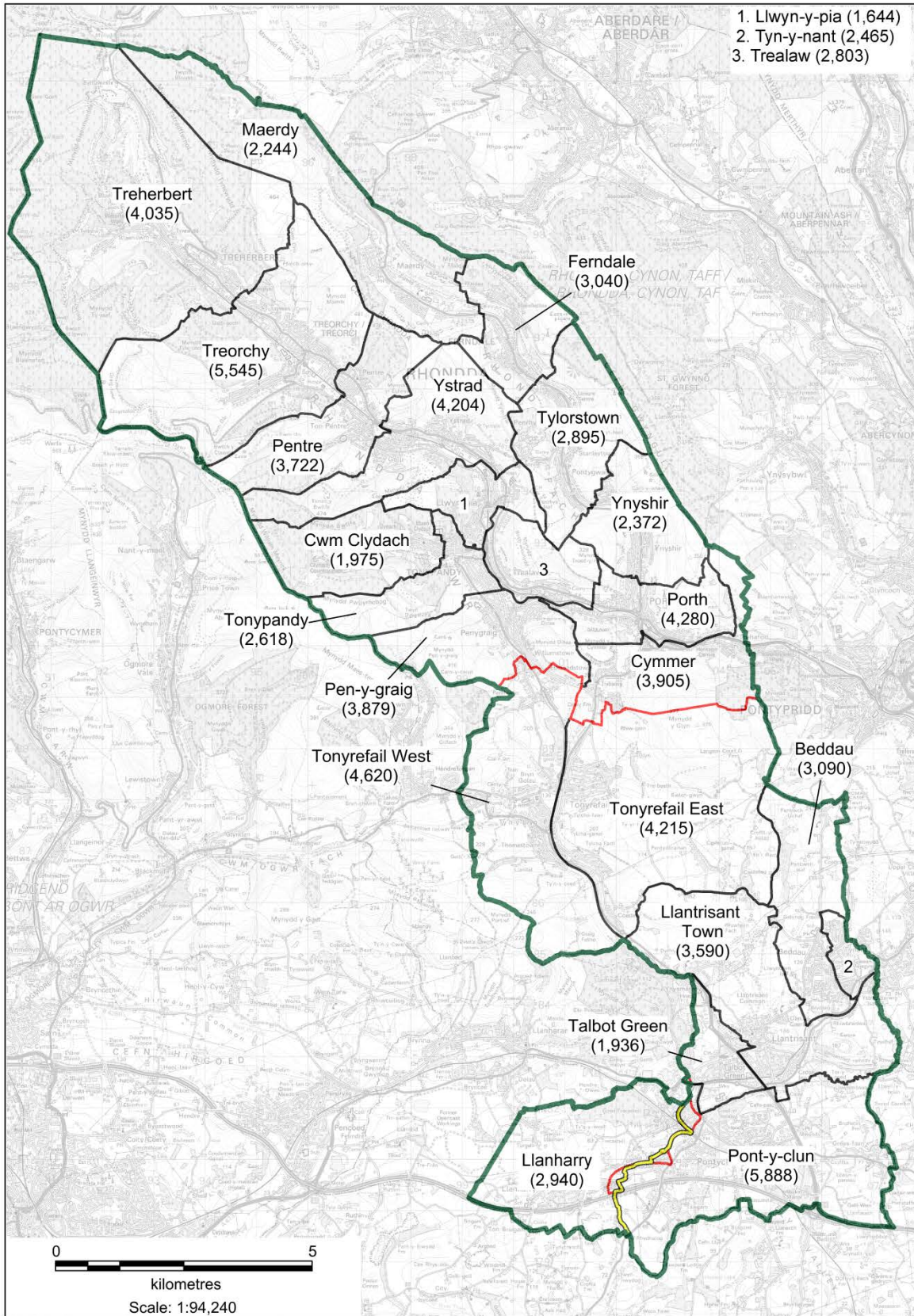
Pontypridd constituency) and thereby avoiding the breaking of local ties within the valleys. The Commission concluded that the recommended Rhondda and Llantrisant constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in the area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

- 16.15 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Rhondda and Llantrisant. The recommended alternative name is Rhondda a Llantrisant.
- 16.16 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Rhondda and Llantrisant (Rhondda a Llantrisant).



**Rhondda and Llantrisant (Rhondda a Llantrisant)**



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## 17. Cardiff West (Gorllewin Caerdydd)

### Recommendation

- 17.1 **The Commission recommends a borough constituency be created from:**
- 17.1.a **The electoral ward within the existing Cardiff South and Penarth BC and City and County of Cardiff of Grangetown (11,671);**
  - 17.1.b **the electoral wards within the existing Cardiff West BC and City and County of Cardiff of Caerau (7,480), Canton (10,371), Creigiau/St. Fagans (3,888), Ely (9,449), Fairwater (9,338), Llandaff (6,828), Pentyrch (2,752), Radyr (5,146) and Riverside (8,640); and,**
  - 17.1.c **the electoral ward within the existing Pontypridd CC and County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf of Taffs Well (2,758).**
- 17.2 **This constituency would have 78,321 electors which is 4.8% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**
- 17.3 **The Commission recommends that the proposed constituency should be named Cardiff West. The recommended alternative name is Gorllewin Caerdydd.**
- 17.4 The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:
- 17.4.a The existing Cardiff South and Penarth BC has a total of 72,392 electors which is 3.2% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 2% above the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.
  - 17.4.b The existing Cardiff West BC has a total of 63,892 electors which is 15% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 10% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.
  - 17.4.c The existing Pontypridd CC has a total of 56,525 electors which is 24% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 20% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.

### Background

- 17.5 In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a borough constituency be created from:
- 17.5.a The electoral ward within the existing Cardiff South and Penarth BC and City and County of Cardiff of Grangetown (11,671); and,
  - 17.5.b the whole of the existing Cardiff West BC.

- 17.6 This constituency would have 75,563 electors which is 1.1% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Cardiff West. The suggested alternative name was Gorllewin Caerdydd.
- 17.7 The Commission received a significant number of representations in relation to the proposed constituencies for the Cardiff area. The Commission received a number of representations supporting its initial proposal, including representations from the Member of Parliament for the existing Cardiff West constituency. The Member of Parliament drew attention to the use of the River Taff as an easily recognisable boundary; the good public transport, school catchment areas, social, and communication links between the electoral wards that the Commission has included within Cardiff West; and the fact that Grangetown had, historically, been a part of the Cardiff West constituency.
- 17.8 The Commission received representations that the electoral ward of Grangetown should be included together with the electoral ward of Butetown within a Cardiff South constituency and to include either the electoral ward of Cathays or the wards of Llandaff North and Gabalfa within the proposed Cardiff West constituency.
- 17.9 The political parties which made representations, apart from the Conservative Party, proposed no alternative arrangements for this proposed constituency. The Conservative Party proposed that the northern wards of the existing constituency be included within the proposed Cardiff North constituency and the proposed Cardiff West constituency should include the wards of Llandaff North and Grangetown. They referred to the cultural links that exist between Grangetown and Butetown. An Assembly Member also made representations expressing the view that the electoral wards in the north of the proposed Cardiff West constituency had a greater affinity with wards in the proposed Cardiff North constituency.
- 17.10 The Assistant Commissioners concluded that the northern wards of the proposed Cardiff West constituency would be more appropriately placed in Cardiff North stating that *“We consider that the electoral wards of Pentyrch, Radyr, and Creigiau/St Fagans are more appropriately included in the proposed constituency of Cardiff North rather than as proposed in Cardiff West.”* They concluded that Butetown and Grangetown should also be united in this proposed constituency due to strong cultural links between the two wards.
- 17.11 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners’ report, the Commission did not accept the Assistant Commissioners’ recommendations for the proposed Cardiff West constituency. The initial proposals proposed grouping the electoral wards within the local authority area of the City and County of Cardiff wholly within three constituencies. Two of the constituencies would be comprised entirely of wards from that local authority area and one constituency would be comprised of wards from that local authority area and one ward from another local authority area. The Commission remained of the view that that approach was a sound one, reflecting local government boundaries, existing local ties and, to a large extent, existing constituencies. The entirety of the existing Cardiff West constituency would be included within this proposed constituency together with the electoral ward of Grangetown (also within the local authority area of the City and County of Cardiff). In addition, it was appropriate to include the Taffs Well electoral ward

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from the Rhondda Cynon Taf local authority area. That ward could not be included within the proposed Cynon Valley and Pontypridd constituency as the electorate of that constituency would then exceed the prescribed electorate. To that extent it was necessary to include an electoral ward from outside the local authority area of the City and County of Cardiff within a Cardiff constituency. The Taffs Well electoral ward could not be included within the proposed Cardiff North constituency, as revised, as the electorate of that proposed constituency would then exceed the prescribed electorate. The Commission concluded it was appropriate to include the Taffs Well ward within this proposed constituency. The Commission considered that the proposed Cardiff West constituency, described in the initial proposals, together with the Taffs Well electoral ward, better reflects the statutory criteria than the alternative arrangements proposed. The Commission considered that the proposed arrangements for this proposed constituency, and for the local authority area of the City and County of Cardiff as a whole, better reflected the statutory criteria overall.

17.12 The Commission therefore proposed to create a borough constituency from:

17.12.a The electoral ward within the existing Cardiff South and Penarth BC and City and County of Cardiff of Grangetown (11,671);

17.12.b the whole of the existing Cardiff West BC; and,

17.12.c the electoral ward within the existing Pontypridd CC and County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf of Taffs Well (2,758).

17.13 This constituency would have 78,321 electors which is 4.8% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.

17.14 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations that supported the proposals recommended by the Assistant Commissioners in their report. The Commission also received further representations during this consultation period that proposed the inclusion of both the Butetown and Grangetown electoral wards within this proposed constituency. The representations argue that including these two electoral wards in different constituencies would break a number of existing ties between the two communities. The Commission also received representations that suggested alternative arrangements for the Taffs Well electoral ward. The Commission received representations that suggested that the electoral ward should be included within a Rhondda Cynon Taf local authority constituency. The Commission also received representations that it be included within the proposed Caerphilly constituency.

17.15 The Commission also received representations supporting this proposed constituency. These representations stated that the composition of this constituency as described in either the initial proposals or the revised proposals were acceptable and resulted in well-constructed constituencies with easily identifiable boundaries. One of these representations was from the Member of Parliament of the existing Cardiff West constituency. That representation referred to the community links between the wards of Radyr, Creigiau, and Pentyrch with those of Ely and Fairwater with particular emphasis on

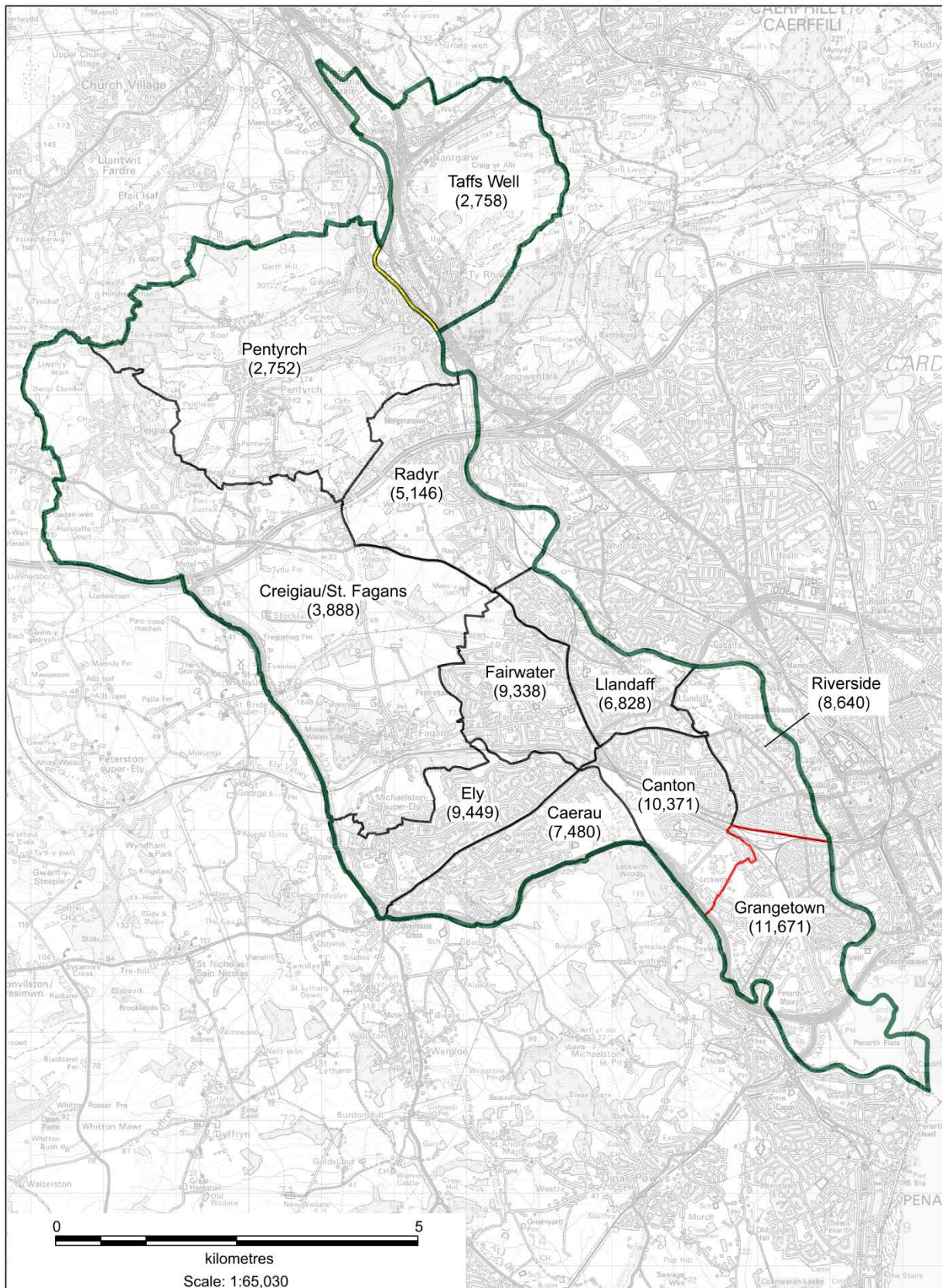
school catchment areas, and the transport links that exist within the proposed constituency. The Commission received representations that supported the Commission's approach to divide the electoral wards of the City and County of Cardiff local authority area wholly within three constituencies.

- 17.16 The Commission considered all of the representations. The Commission again considered the alternative arrangements recommended by the Assistant Commissioners. The Commission remained of the view that the approach of dividing the local authority area of the City and County of Cardiff wholly within three constituencies was a sound one for the reasons given in paragraph 17.11 of section 5. The Commission considered that retaining the entirety of the existing Cardiff West constituency within this proposed constituency better meets the statutory criteria than the alternative arrangements. The Commission considered the electoral wards of Butetown and Grangetown. The Commission concluded that they could not recommend including both wards within the proposed constituency as to do so would exceed the statutory electorate range. The Commission was satisfied that it was appropriate to include the electoral ward of Grangetown within this proposed constituency. The Commission again considered the electoral ward of Taffs Well and considered that it was appropriately placed within the proposed Cardiff West constituency. It would not be possible to include the electoral ward within the proposed Cynon Valley and Pontypridd constituency as to do so would result in the electorate for that constituency exceeding the prescribed electorate as explained in paragraph 17.11 of section 5. Similarly, the Taffs Well electoral ward could not be included within the recommended Caerphilly constituency as that, too, would result in the electorate of that constituency exceeding the statutory electorate range. The Commission concluded that the recommended Cardiff West constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in this area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

- 17.17 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Cardiff West. The recommended alternative name is Gorllewin Caerdydd.
- 17.18 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Cardiff West (Gorllewin Caerdydd).

Cardiff West (Gorllewin Caerdydd)



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## 18 Cardiff North (Gogledd Caerdydd)

### Recommendation

- 18.1 **The Commission recommends a borough constituency be created from:**
- 18.1.a **The electoral wards within the existing Cardiff Central BC and City and County of Cardiff of Cyncoed (8,139) and Pentwyn (10,435); and,**
  - 18.1.b **the electoral wards within the existing Cardiff North BC and City and County of Cardiff of Heath (9,326), Lisvane (2,871), Llandaff North (5,722), Llanishen (12,916), Pontprennau/Old St. Mellons (6,976) Rhiwbina (9,129) and Whitchurch and Tongwynlais (12,673).**
- 18.2 **This constituency would have 78,187 electors which is 4.6% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**
- 18.3 **The Commission recommends that the proposed constituency be named Cardiff North. The recommended alternative name is Gogledd Caerdydd.**
- 18.4 The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:
- 18.4.a The existing Cardiff Central BC has a total of 49,403 electors which is 34% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 30% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.
  - 18.4.b The existing Cardiff North BC has a total of 63,574 electors which is 15% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 10% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.

### Background

- 18.5 In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a borough constituency be created from:
- 18.5.a The electoral wards within the existing Cardiff Central BC and City and County of Cardiff of Cyncoed (8,139) and Pentwyn (10,435);
  - 18.5.b the electoral wards within the existing Cardiff North BC and City and County of Cardiff of Gabalfa (4,045), Heath (9,326), Lisvane (2,871), Llandaff North (5,722), Llanishen (12,916), Rhiwbina (9,129) and Whitchurch and Tongwynlais (12,673); and,
  - 18.5.c the electoral ward within the existing Pontypridd CC and County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf of Taffs Well (2,758).

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- 18.6 This constituency would have 78,014 electors which is 4.3% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Cardiff North. The alternative name was Gogledd Caerdydd.
- 18.7 The Commission received a significant number of representations in relation to the proposed constituencies for the Cardiff area. The Commission received a number of written representations, as well as representations at the public hearings, that a Cardiff North constituency should include the Pontprennau/Old St. Mellons electoral ward. The representations referred to the historical links with Lisvane and the cooperation between the community councils in the area of north Cardiff as reasons for including Pontprennau/Old St. Mellons within a Cardiff North constituency as those ties would be broken if it were included within a different proposed constituency. The Commission did receive representations that opposed the inclusion of Pontprennau/Old St. Mellons ward in a Cardiff North constituency. One representation disputed the need for all cooperating community councils to be within one constituency and pointed out that the community councils are not all presently within the same constituency. The Commission also received representations stating that the communication and transport links between Pontprennau/Old St. Mellons and the rest of the proposed Cardiff North constituency are poor with a lack of public transport and only a country lane linking Pontprennau/Old St. Mellons with Lisvane. Representations were also received suggesting the inclusion of the northern wards of the existing Cardiff West constituency within this proposed constituency including from the Conservative Party which also suggested that the proposed Cardiff West constituency should include the electoral wards of Llandaff North and Grangetown. An Assembly Member also made representations expressing the view that the electoral wards in the north of the existing Cardiff West constituency had a greater affinity with wards in the proposed Cardiff North constituency.
- 18.8 During the initial consultation period the Liberal Democrats also proposed a reconfiguration of both the proposed Cardiff North and Cardiff South and East constituencies based on school catchment areas and census data. This representation prompted responses during the secondary consultation with representations expressing concern about the removal of the Heath ward from the proposed Cardiff North constituency. The Commission received representations that referred to Gabalfa's links with south Cardiff electoral wards such as Cathays, and to the north Cardiff electoral ward of Heath.
- 18.9 The Assistant Commissioners concluded that the northern wards of the existing Cardiff West constituency should be included within this proposed constituency. They also proposed including the ward of Pontprennau/Old St. Mellons within this proposed constituency. In order to ensure that the electorate of the proposed constituency fell within the statutory electorate range, the Assistant Commissioners proposed that the electoral wards of Gabalfa and Llandaff North should not be included within this proposed constituency. They considered that the Llandaff North ward has ties with Llandaff and would be more appropriately included within a Cardiff South East constituency, and that the Gabalfa electoral ward has community ties with Cathays and that these wards would also be more appropriately included within a Cardiff South East constituency.



- 18.10 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners' report, the Commission did consider it appropriate to revise its initial proposals and to include the electoral ward of Pontprennau/Old St. Mellons within this proposed constituency. This would avoid breaking the existing ties between Pontprennau/Old St Mellons and other wards forming part of the proposed Cardiff North constituency. The Commission agreed that the electoral ward of Gabalfa should be included within the proposed Cardiff South and East constituency. Gabalfa has ties with Cathays, and the easily identifiable boundary of the A48 to the north of the Gabalfa electoral ward, additionally, makes it appropriate for this ward to be included within the proposed Cardiff South and East constituency. The Commission did not accept the Assistant Commissioners' other recommendations for this proposed constituency. The Commissioners considered that the initial proposals, revised to include the ward of Pontprennau/Old St. Mellon's but excluding the electoral wards of Gabalfa and Taffs Well, better reflected the statutory criteria overall. The amended proposals would ensure that seven (of the eight) wards of the existing Cardiff North constituency are included within one proposed constituency. The proposed constituency would also ensure that the entirety of the existing Cardiff West constituency remained within one proposed constituency rather than some wards being included within a proposed Cardiff West constituency and some wards within a proposed Cardiff North constituency. The Commission considered the alternative arrangements as proposed in the representations and the Assistant Commissioners' report did not better reflect the statutory criteria for this proposed constituency, or other constituencies, than the revised proposal. The Commission considered that the initial proposals, as revised in the way described, for this proposed constituency better reflected the statutory criteria overall.
- 18.11 The Commission therefore proposed to create a borough constituency from:
- 18.11.a The electoral wards within the existing Cardiff Central BC and City and County of Cardiff of Cyncoed (8,139) and Pentwyn (10,435); and,
  - 18.11.b the electoral wards within the existing Cardiff North BC and City and County of Cardiff of Heath (9,326), Lisvane (2,871), Llandaff North (5,722), Llanishen (12,916), Pontprennau/Old St. Mellons (6,976), Rhiwbina (9,129) and Whitchurch and Tongwynlais (12,673).
- 18.12 This constituency would have 78,187 electors which is 4.6% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 18.13 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations that supported the inclusion of the Pontprennau/Old St. Mellons electoral ward within this proposed constituency. The Commission also received representations that supported the proposals as set out in the Assistant Commissioners' report. The Commission also received representations that supported the Commission's approach to have three constituencies comprised of wards almost entirely from within the local authority area of the City and County of Cardiff.
- 18.14 The Commission considered all of the representations. The Commission remains of the view that including the Pontprennau/Old St. Mellons ward within this constituency is

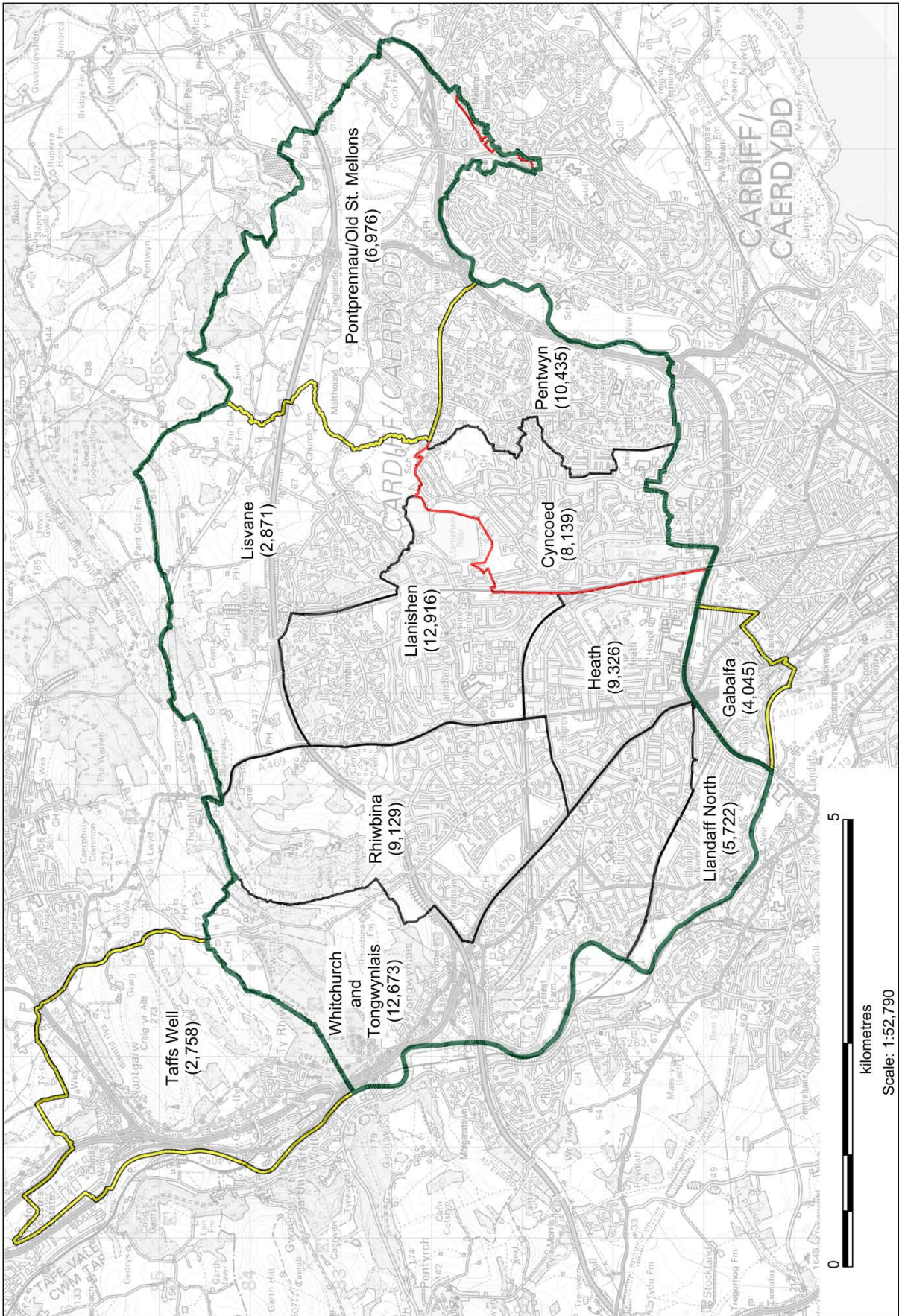
## BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES

appropriate. It avoids breaking local ties between this ward and other wards included within the proposed constituency. The proposed constituency contains seven (out of eight) of the wards of the existing Cardiff North constituency. The proposed constituency is entirely composed of electoral wards from one local authority area. The Commission again considered the alternative arrangements recommended by the Assistant Commissioners but did not consider that those alternative arrangements better reflected the statutory criteria. The Commission remains of the view that the recommended Cardiff North constituency, and the other recommended constituencies in this area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

- 18.15 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Cardiff North. The recommended alternative name is Gogledd Caerdydd.
- 18.16 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Cardiff North (Gogledd Caerdydd).

Cardiff North (Gogledd Caerdydd)



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## 19 Cardiff South and East (De a Dwyrain Caerdydd)

### Recommendation

- 19.1 **The Commission recommends a borough constituency be created from:**
- 19.1.a **The electoral wards within the existing Cardiff Central BC and City and County of Cardiff of Adamsdown (5,044), Cathays (7,176), Penylan (9,188) and Plasnewydd (9,421);**
  - 19.1.b **the electoral wards within the existing Cardiff North BC and City and County of Cardiff of Gabalfa (4,045); and,**
  - 19.1.c **the electoral wards within the existing Cardiff South and Penarth BC and City and County of Cardiff of Butetown (6,524), Llanrumney (7,387), Rumney (6,304), Splott (8,454) and Trowbridge (10,585).**
- 19.2 **This constituency would have 74,128 electors which is 0.9% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**
- 19.3 **The Commission recommends that the proposed constituency should be named Cardiff South and East. The recommended alternative name is De a Dwyrain Caerdydd.**
- 19.4 **The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:**
- 19.4.a **The existing Cardiff Central BC has a total of 49,403 electors which is 34% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 30% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
  - 19.4.b **The existing Cardiff North BC has a total of 63,574 electors which is 15% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 11% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
  - 19.4.c **The existing Cardiff South and Penarth BC has a total of 72,392 electors which is 3% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 2% above the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**

### Background

- 19.5 **In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a borough constituency be created from:**
- 19.5.a **The electoral wards within the existing Cardiff Central BC and City and County of Cardiff of Adamsdown (5,044), Cathays (7,176), Penylan (9,188) and Plasnewydd (9,421);**
  - 19.5.b **the electoral ward within the existing Cardiff North BC and City and County of Cardiff of Pontprennau/Old St. Mellons (6,976); and,**

- 19.5.c the electoral wards within the existing Cardiff South and Penarth BC and City and County of Cardiff of Butetown (6,524), Llanrumney (7,387), Rumney (6,304), Splott (8,454) and Trowbridge (10,585).
- 19.6 This constituency would have 77,059 electors which is 3.1% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Cardiff South and East. The suggested alternative name was De a Dwyrain Caerdydd.
- 19.7 The Commission received a number of written representations, as well as representations at the public hearings, in favour of retaining the existing Cardiff South and Penarth constituency, referring to economic, social, and geographic and transport links between Cardiff South and Penarth. Many representations also noted that the existing constituency is within the statutory electorate range.
- 19.8 The Commission also received representations to the effect that, in order to retain the existing Cardiff South and Penarth constituency, the Commission would need to disrupt the proposals for other proposed constituencies in south east Wales, and that any re-configuration would not better reflect the statutory criteria set out in the Act than the initial proposals. The Commission also received representations supporting the inclusion of Penarth with the Vale of Glamorgan. The representations drew attention to the fact that Penarth is within the area of the principal council of the Vale of Glamorgan and is serviced by the Vale of Glamorgan, and has well established ties with the area.
- 19.9 During the initial consultation the Liberal Democrats proposed a reconfiguration of both Cardiff North and Cardiff South and East constituencies, as proposed by the Commission, based on school catchment areas and census data. The representation prompted responses during the secondary consultation with representations concerned about the removal of the Heath ward from the Cardiff North constituency. The Commission also received representations that both highlighted Gabalfa's connection to the south Cardiff electoral wards such as Cathays, and to the north Cardiff electoral ward of Heath.
- 19.10 The Assistant Commissioners concluded that they could not support the retention of the existing Cardiff South and Penarth constituency as retaining the existing constituency would necessarily result in at least one Cardiff constituency comprising a number of electoral wards from outside the City and County of Cardiff.
- 19.11 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners' report, the Commission agreed with the Assistant Commissioners that they should not recommend the retention of the existing Cardiff South and Penarth constituency. The initial proposals proposed combining the electoral wards within the local authority area of the City and County of Cardiff wholly within three constituencies. The Commission remained of the view that that approach was a sound one, reflecting local government boundaries, existing local ties and, to a large extent, existing constituencies. The Commission considered that the proposed constituency of Cardiff South and East should be comprised of electoral wards from one local authority area, namely the City and County of Cardiff. The Commission agreed with the recommendation made by the Assistant Commissioners that the electoral

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ward of Gabalfa should be included within the proposed Cardiff South and East constituency, that it had ties with the electoral ward of Cathays, and that there was an easily identifiable boundary of the A48 to the north of the Gabalfa electoral ward. The Commission was of the view that the electoral wards forming Penarth, which were within the local authority area of the Vale of Glamorgan, should be included within a constituency comprised of electoral wards from that local authority area.

19.12 The Commission therefore proposed to create a borough constituency from:

19.12 a. The electoral wards within the existing Cardiff Central BC and City and County of Cardiff of Adamsdown (5,044), Cathays (7,176), Penylan (9,188) and Plasnewydd (9,421);

19.12 b. the electoral ward within the existing Cardiff North BC and City and County of Cardiff of Gabalfa (4,045); and,

19.12 c. the electoral wards within the existing Cardiff South and Penarth BC and City and County of Cardiff of Butetown (6,524), Llanrumney (7,387), Rumney (6,304), Splott (8,454) and Trowbridge (10,585).

19.13 This constituency would have 74,128 electors which is 0.9% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.

19.14 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission again received representations opposing the removal of Penarth from a Cardiff constituency. The representations argued that the town had strong links to Cardiff economically, geographically and culturally. The representations also stressed that the existing constituency falls within the statutory electorate range and therefore considered that it could be retained. The representations also stress a lack of commonality with the Vale of Glamorgan. The Commission also received representations that supported the Commissions approach to have three constituencies essentially comprised of wards within the local authority area of the City and County of Cardiff.

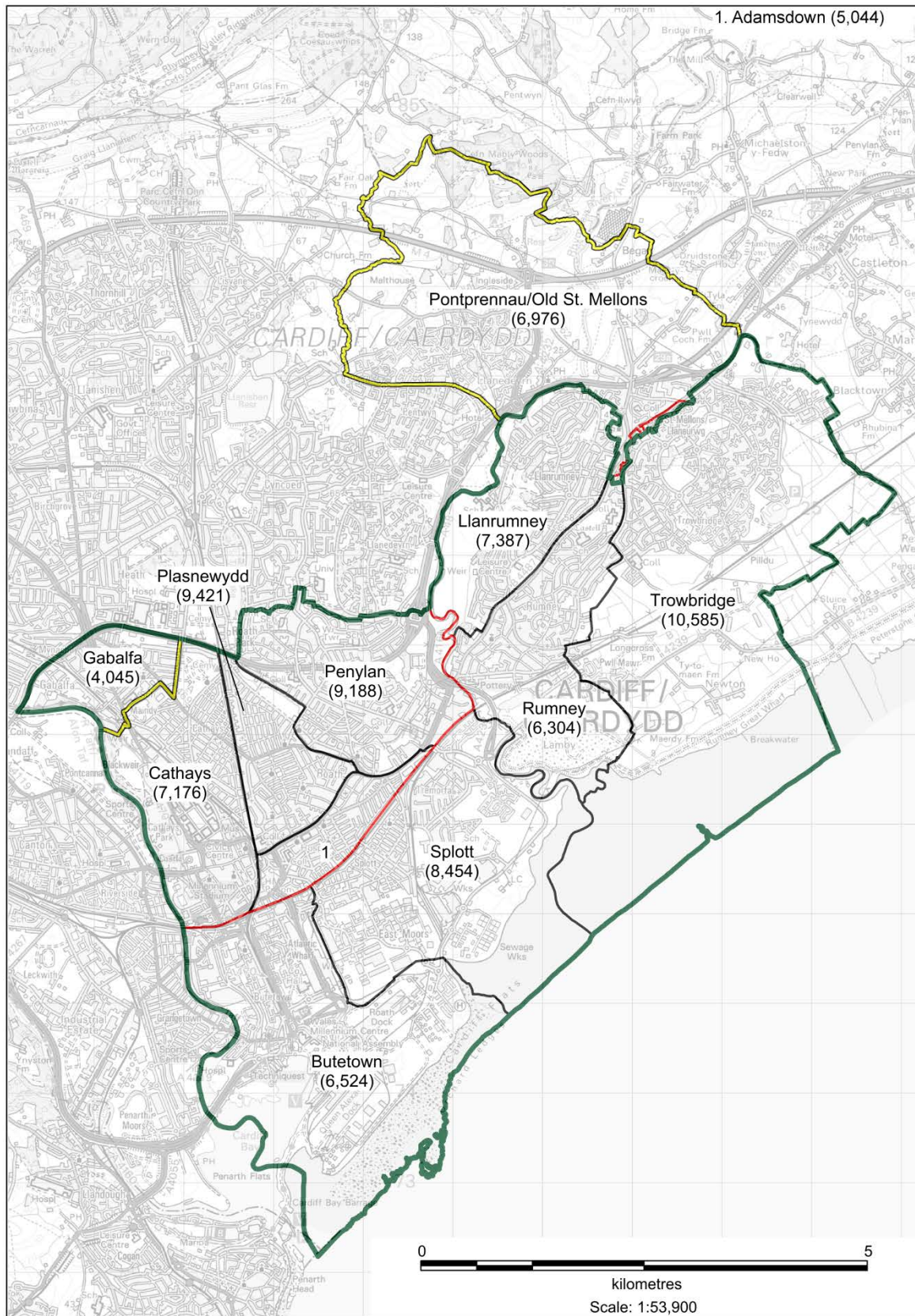
19.15 The Commission considered all of the representations. The Commission again considered the electoral wards forming Penarth. The Commission remained of the view that the approach of providing for three constituencies comprised essentially of wards from one local authority area, that is the City and County of Cardiff, is a sound one for the reasons given at paragraph 17.11 of section 5. There has to be one exception in relation to the Taffs Well electoral ward which is included within the recommended Cardiff West constituency for the reasons given above. The proposed Cardiff South and East constituency is comprised of electoral wards from one local authority area, namely the City and County of Cardiff. The Commission considers that the electoral wards forming Penarth are appropriately included within the proposed Vale of Glamorgan East constituency. They are within the local authority area of the Vale of Glamorgan and the proposed Vale of Glamorgan East constituency is comprised entirely of wards from the Vale of Glamorgan local authority area. The Commission remains of the view that the recommended Cardiff

South and East constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in this area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

- 19.16 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Cardiff South and East. The recommended alternative name is De a Dwyrain Caerdydd.
- 19.17 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Cardiff South and East (De a Dwyrain Caerdydd).

**Cardiff South and East (De a Dwyrain Caerdydd)**



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## 20 Vale of Glamorgan East (Dwyrain Bro Morgannwg)

### Recommendation

- 20.1 **The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:**
- 20.1.a **The electoral wards within the existing Cardiff South and Penarth BC and County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan of Cornerswell (3,885), Llandough (1,454), Plymouth (4,419), St. Augustine's (4,913), Stanwell (3,178) and Sully (3,531); and,**
  - 20.1.b **the electoral wards within the existing Vale of Glamorgan CC and County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan of Baruc (4,636), Buttrills (4,175), Cadoc (6,842), Castleland (3,096), Court (3,031), Cowbridge (4,997), Dinas Powys (6,139), Dyfan (3,983), Gibbonsdown (3,646), Illtyd (5,951), Peterston-super-Ely (1,828), Rhoose (5,158) and Wenvoe (2,122).**
- 20.2 **This constituency would have 76,984 electors which is 3% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**
- 20.3 **The Commission recommends that the proposed constituency should be named Vale of Glamorgan East. The recommended alternative name is Dwyrain Bro Morgannwg.**
- 20.4 **The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:**
- 20.4.a **The existing Cardiff South and Penarth CC has a total of 72,392 electors which is 3% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 2% above the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
  - 20.4.b **The existing Vale of Glamorgan CC has a total of 69,673 electors which is 7% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 2% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**

### Background

- 20.5 **In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:**
- 20.5.a **The electoral wards within the existing Cardiff South and Penarth BC and County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan of Cornerswell (3,885), Llandough (1,454), Plymouth (4,419), St. Augustine's (4,913), Stanwell (3,178) and Sully (3,531); and,**
  - 20.5.b **the electoral wards within the existing Vale of Glamorgan CC and County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan of Baruc (4,636), Buttrills (4,175), Cadoc (6,842), Castleland (3,096), Court (3,031), Cowbridge (4,997), Dinas Powys (6,139), Dyfan (3,983), Gibbonsdown (3,646), Illtyd (5,951), Peterston-super-Ely (1,828), Rhoose (5,158) and Wenvoe (2,122).**

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- 20.6 This constituency would have 76,984 electors which is 3% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Vale of Glamorgan East. The alternative name was Dwyrain Bro Morgannwg.
- 20.7 The Commission received few representations with regard to the initial proposal for Vale of Glamorgan East. The Commission did receive representations with regard to the existing Cardiff South and Penarth constituency as previously discussed at paragraphs 19.7 to 19.9 of section 5. The Commission also received representations that the electoral wards of St. Athan and Cowbridge could be included within the proposed Vale of Glamorgan East, and Bridgend and Vale of Glamorgan West constituencies, respectively.
- 20.8 The Assistant Commissioner did not recommend any change to the initial proposal for this proposed constituency. They could not support the inclusion of wards forming Penarth in the proposed Cardiff South and East constituency as explained at paragraph 19.10 of section 5.
- 20.9 Having considered the representations and the report of the Assistant Commissioners, the Commission decided to propose a constituency as described in the initial proposal. The Commission agreed that it was not feasible to include wards from this proposed constituency within the proposed Cardiff South and East constituency for the reasons given at paragraph 19.11 of section 5. The Commission was satisfied that the constituency proposed in the initial proposals best reflects the statutory criteria.
- 20.10 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:
- 20.10.a The electoral wards within the existing Cardiff South and Penarth BC and County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan of Cornerswell (3,885), Llandough (1,454), Plymouth (4,419), St. Augustine's (4,913), Stanwell (3,178) and Sully (3,531); and,
  - 20.10.b the electoral wards within the existing Vale of Glamorgan CC and County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan of Baruc (4,636), Buttrills (4,175), Cadoc (6,842), Castleland (3,096), Court (3,031), Cowbridge (4,997), Dinas Powys (6,139), Dyfan (3,983), Gibbonsdown (3,646), Illtyd (5,951), Peterston-super-Ely (1,828), Rhoose (5,158) and Wenvoe (2,122).
- 20.11 This constituency would have 76,984 electors which is 3% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 20.12 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations which opposed including wards within the existing Vale of Glamorgan constituency into two constituencies. The representations suggested that combining the rural areas of the Vale of Glamorgan with Bridgend would be detrimental to the people who lived in those rural areas and they had no common ties to Bridgend. Representations received by the Commission stated that the area which included the electoral ward of Llandow/Ewenny, Siginstone (in the electoral ward of Llantwit Major), and Wick (in the electoral ward of St Bride's Major) looked to Cowbridge and not Bridgend for its social and economic activities. The Commission also received representations arguing that the town of Penarth has strong

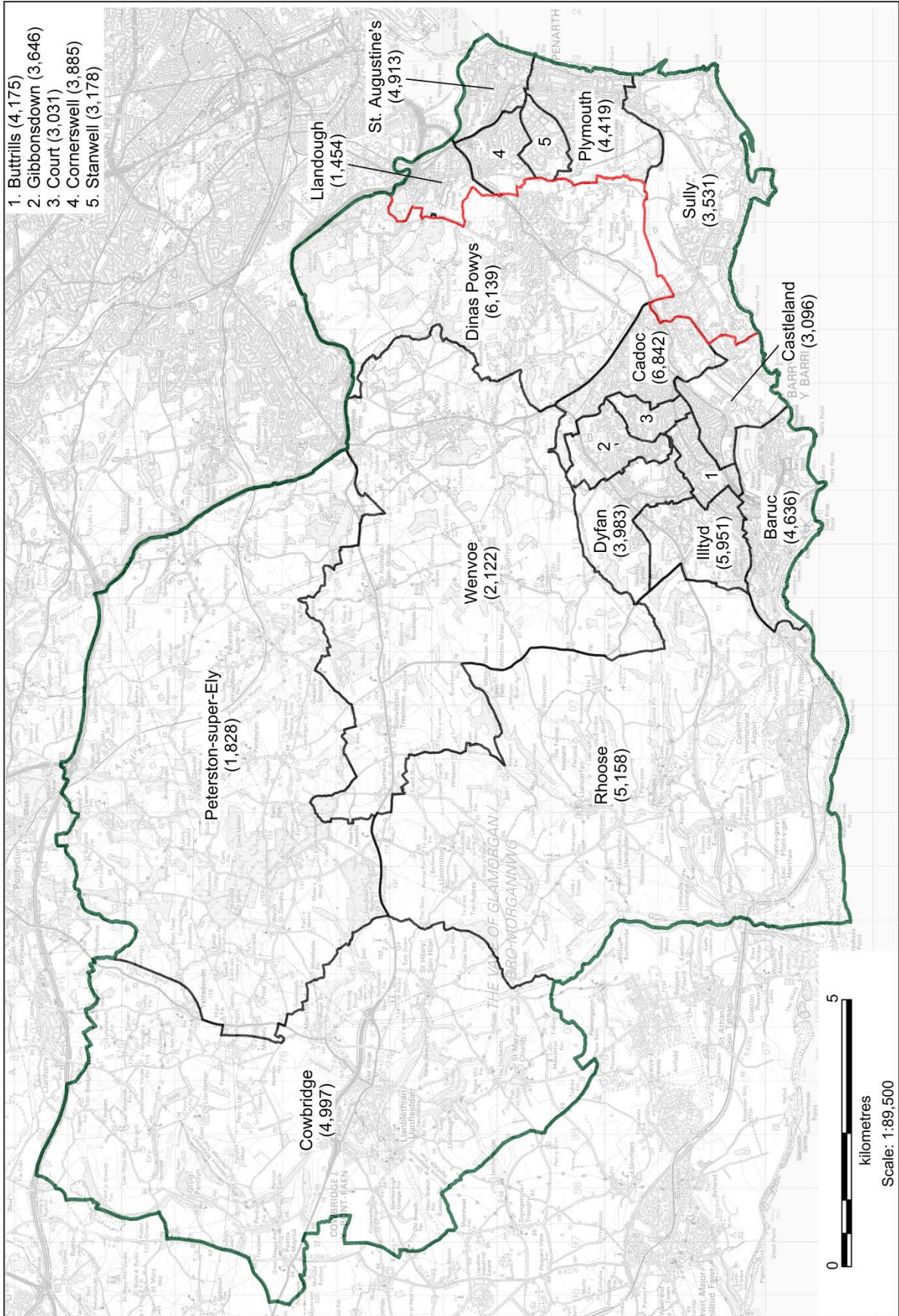
economic, geographic and cultural links to Cardiff and should be included in a Cardiff constituency. The representations also stress a lack of commonality with the Vale of Glamorgan as proposed by the Commission. The Commission also received representations that supported the proposed Vale of Glamorgan East, and Bridgend and Vale of Glamorgan West constituencies proposed by the Commission. The representations suggested that the proposed Vale of Glamorgan East constituency makes sense geographically and that Penarth was within the Vale of Glamorgan local authority area.

- 20.13 The Commission considered all of the representations. The Commission remained of the view that it was appropriate to include the wards forming Penarth within the proposed Vale of Glamorgan East constituency rather than including those wards within a Cardiff constituency as explained at paragraph 19.11 of section 5. The Commission noted that it would not be possible to include additional electoral wards such as Llandow/Ewenny, or Llantwit Major or St Bride's Major within the proposed Vale of Glamorgan East constituency as the electorate of this proposed constituency would exceed the statutory electorate range. The Commission concluded that the recommended Vale of Glamorgan East constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in this area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

- 20.14 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Vale of Glamorgan East. The recommended alternative name is Dwyrain Bro Morgannwg.
- 20.15 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Vale of Glamorgan East (Dwyrain Bro Morgannwg).

Vale of Glamorgan East (Dwyrain Bro Morgannwg)



## 21 Bridgend and Vale of Glamorgan West (Pen-y-bont a Gorllewin Bro Morgannwg)

### Recommendation

- 21.1 The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:
- 21.1.a The electoral wards within the existing Bridgend CC and the County Borough of Bridgend of Brackla (7,934), Bryntirion, Laleston and Merthyr Mawr (6,305), Cefn Glas (1,237), Coity (1,708), Cornelly (5,101), Coychurch Lower (1,131), Litchard (1,715), Llangewydd and Brynhyfryd (1,831), Morfa (3,080), Newcastle (4,010), Newton (2,901), Nottage (2,750), Oldcastle (3,530), Pendre (1,321), Pen-y-fai (1,828), Porthcawl East Central (2,518), Porthcawl West Central (2,775), Pyle (5,331) and Rest Bay (1,926);
  - 21.1.b the electoral ward within the existing Ogmore CC and County Borough of Bridgend of Cefn Cribwr (1,088); and,
  - 21.1.c the electoral wards within the existing Vale of Glamorgan CC and County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan of Llandow/Ewenny (2,061), Llantwit Major (7,502), St. Athan (2,412) and St. Bride's Major (2,097).
- 21.2 This constituency would have 74,092 electors which is 0.9% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 21.3 The Commission recommends that the proposed constituency should be named Bridgend and Vale of Glamorgan West. The recommended alternative name is Pen-y-bont a Gorllewin Bro Morgannwg.
- 21.4 The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:
- 21.4.a The existing Bridgend CC has a total of 58,932 electors which is 21% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 17% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.
  - 21.4.b The existing Ogmore CC has a total of 54,614 electors which is 27% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 23% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.
  - 21.4.c The existing Vale of Glamorgan CC has a total of 69,673 electors which is 7% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 2% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.

### Background

- 21.5 In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:

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- 21.5.a The whole of the existing Bridgend CC; and,
- 21.5.b the electoral wards within the existing Vale of Glamorgan CC and County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan of Llandow/Ewenny (2,061), Llantwit Major (7,502), St. Athan (2,412) and St. Bride's Major (2,097).
- 21.6 This constituency would have 73,004 electors which is 2.4% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Bridgend and Vale of Glamorgan West. The suggested alternative name was Pen-y-bont a Gorllewin Bro Morgannwg.
- 21.7 The Commission received few representations with regard to the initial proposal for Bridgend and Vale of Glamorgan West. The Commission received a representation from the Ogmore Constituency Labour Party referring to what were said to be the strong ties which Cefn Cribwr, Ynysawdre, and Aberkenfig have to the existing Ogmore constituency stating that, *"These areas have long standing links through employment and industry, as well as public transport, cultural, health services and educational delivery means these communities share not only long standing geographical and historical connections but rely on shared public service delivery too."*
- 21.8 The Commission also received representations that expressed the opposite view and contended that these wards were naturally linked to the town and county of Bridgend and should be included within the proposed Bridgend and Vale of Glamorgan West constituency. The Commission also received a representation from the Liberal Democrat Party that suggested that the wards of Hendre and Felindre be within this proposed constituency.
- 21.9 The Assistant Commissioners recommended that the Bridgend and Vale of Glamorgan West constituency should include the wards of Aberkenfig, Cefn Cribwr, and Ynysawdre *"...because those wards have social and economic local ties with Bridgend ... which we consider should not be broken, and because that recommended move allows for a better arrangement for the proposed Ogmore and Port Talbot constituency by avoiding separating Aberavon and Port Talbot whilst keeping within the statutory electorate range for both constituencies."*
- 21.10 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners' report, the Commission agreed with the Assistant Commissioners that the Cefn Cribwr ward should be included within the proposed constituency. The Commission did not agree with the other recommendations made by the Assistant Commissioners. The Commission considered that the Aberkenfig and Ynysawdre electoral wards have strong community ties with the wards of Bryncethin and Sarn and therefore should be included within the same proposed constituency as the Bryncethin and Sarn wards. The Commission was satisfied that the initial proposals, revised as described, better reflected the statutory criteria overall.
- 21.11 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:

- 21.11.a The whole of the existing Bridgend CC;
- 21.11.b the electoral ward within the existing Ogmore CC and County Borough of Bridgend of Cefn Cribwr (1,088); and,
- 21.11.c the electoral wards within the existing Vale of Glamorgan CC and County Borough of the Vale of Glamorgan of Llandow/Ewenny (2,061), Llantwit Major (7,502), St. Athan (2,412) and St. Bride's Major (2,097).
- 21.12 This constituency would have 74,092 electors which is 0.9% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 21.13 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations that opposed dividing wards within the existing Vale of Glamorgan constituency between two different constituencies. The representations suggested that combining the rural areas of the Vale of Glamorgan with Bridgend would be detrimental to the people who lived in those rural areas and they had no common ties to Bridgend. This was referred to in representations received by the Commission that stated that the area which included the electoral ward of Llandow/Ewenny, Siginstone (in the electoral ward of Llantwit Major), and Wick (in the electoral ward of St Bride's Major) looked to Cowbridge and not Bridgend for its social and economic activities.
- 21.14 However, the Commission also received representations that supported this proposed constituency and the proposed Vale of Glamorgan East constituency. The Commission also received a representation that argued that the electoral wards of Aberkenfig, Bryncethin, Bryncoch, Sarn, and Ynysawdre should be included with this proposed constituency. The representation referred to the economic, geographic, and social links that were said to exist between these wards and Bridgend.
- 21.15 The Commission considered all of the representations made. The Commission remained of the view that it was appropriate to include the wards forming Penarth within the proposed Vale of Glamorgan East constituency rather than including those wards within a Cardiff constituency as explained on paragraph 19.11 of section 5. The Commission noted that it would not then be possible to include additional electoral wards such as Llandow/Ewenny, Llantwit Major, or St Bride's Major within the proposed Vale of Glamorgan East constituency as the electorate of this proposed constituency would then exceed the statutory electorate range. The Commission noted that the inclusion of the Aberkenfig, Bryncethin, Bryncoch, Sarn and Ynysawdre wards within this proposed constituency would also result in the electorate exceeding the statutory electorate range in this proposed constituency and would result in the electorate in the proposed Ogmore and Aberavon constituency falling below the statutory electorate range. Furthermore, the majority of the wards forming the existing Ogmore constituency are included within the proposed Ogmore and Aberavon constituency and the Commission considers it appropriate to include these five wards, which are also within the existing Ogmore constituency, within the proposed Ogmore and Aberavon constituency rather than within this proposed constituency. The Commission concluded that the recommended Bridgend and Vale of Glamorgan West

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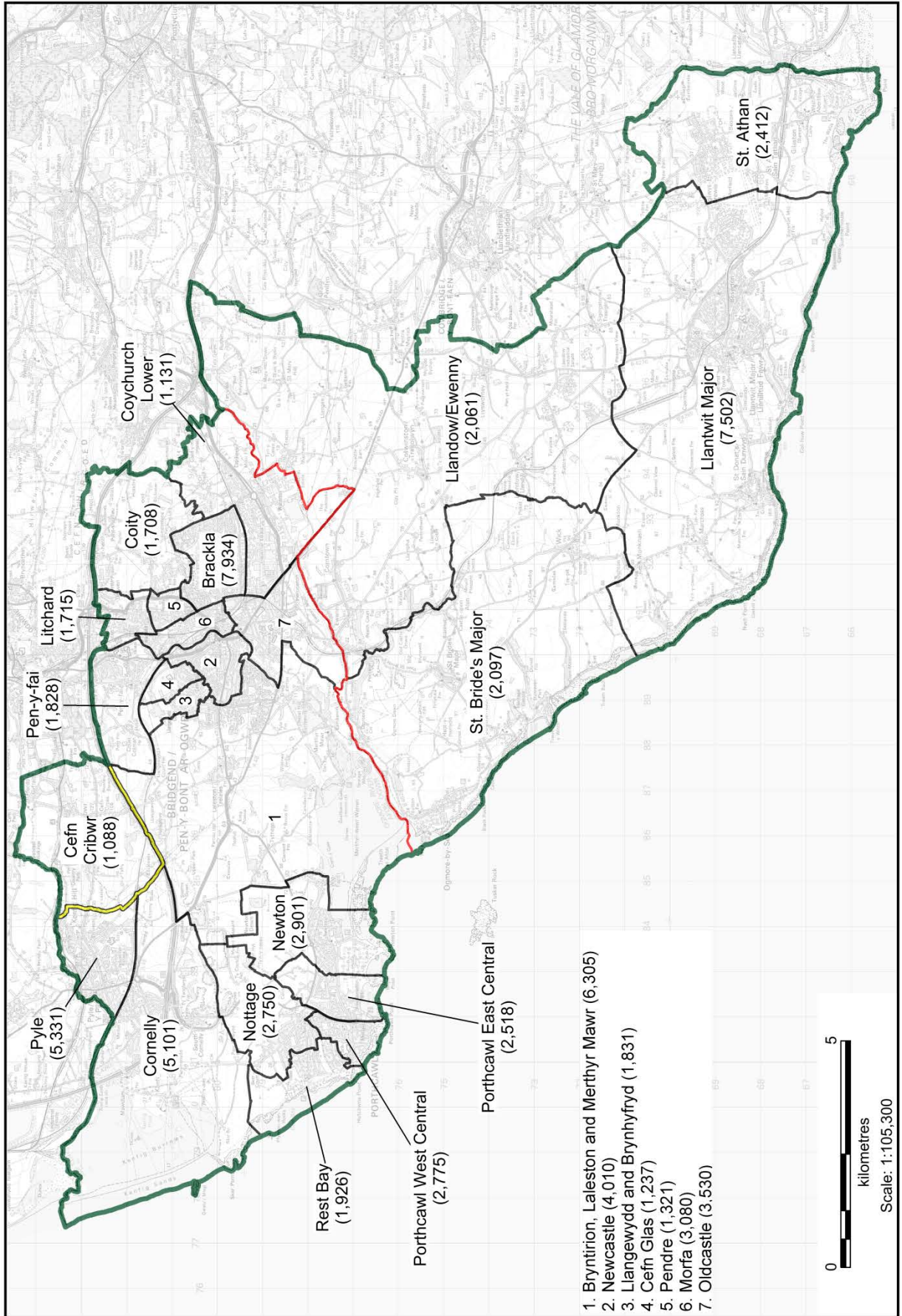
constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in this area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

- 21.16 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Bridgend and Vale of Glamorgan West. The recommended alternative name is Pen-y-bont a Gorllewin Bro Morgannwg.
- 21.17 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Bridgend and Vale of Glamorgan West (Pen-y-bont a Gorllewin Bro Morgannwg).



**Bridgend and Vale of Glamorgan West (Pen-y-bont a Gorllewin Bro Morgannwg)**



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## 22 Ogmore and Aberavon (Ogwr ac Aberafan)

### Recommendation

22.1 The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:

22.1.a The electoral wards within the existing Ogmore CC and:

- i. the County Borough of Bridgend of Aberkenfig (1,692), Bettws (1,536), Blackmill (1,870), Blaengarw (1,260), Bryncethin (995), Bryncoch (1,652), Caerau (4,593), Felindre (2,046), Hendre (2,985), Llangeinor (846), Llangynwyd (2,330), Maesteg East (3,536), Maesteg West (4,185), Nant-y-moel (1,657), Ogmore Vale (2,193), Penprysg (2,337), Pontycymmer (1,648), Sarn (1,748) and Ynysawdre (2,555); and,
- ii. the County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf of Brynna (3,264), Gilfach Goch (2,411), and Llanharan (2,610); and,

22.1.b the electoral wards within the existing Aberavon CC and County Borough of Neath Port Talbot of Aberavon (3,887), Baglan (5,128), Margam (2,197), Port Talbot (4,052), Sandfields East (4,850) Sandfields West (4,745) and Tai-bach (3,557).

22.2 This constituency would have 78,365 electors which is 4.8% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.

22.3 The Commission recommends that the name of the proposed constituency should be Ogmore and Aberavon. The recommended alternative name is Ogwr ac Aberafan.

22.4 The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:

22.4.a The existing Ogmore CC has a total of 54,614 electors which is 27% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 23% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.

22.4.b The existing Aberavon CC has a total of 48,346 electors which is 35% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 32% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.

### Background

22.5 In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:

22.5.a The whole of the existing Ogmore CC ; and,

22.5.b the electoral wards within the existing Aberavon CC and County Borough of Neath Port Talbot of Bryn and Cwmavon (5,018), Cymmer (2,015), Glyncorwg (792), Gwynfi (895), Margam (2,197), Port Talbot (4,052) and Tai-bach (3,557).

- 22.6 This constituency would have 72,503 electors which is 3% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Ogmore and Port Talbot. The suggested alternative name was Ogwr a Phort Talbot.
- 22.7 The Commission received a number of representations which suggested that the electoral wards comprising Aberavon and Port Talbot have a strong affinity to one another and should be included within the same constituency. These representations were supported by representations made at the public hearings and a petition of 537 signatories. The Commission also received representations that the Cefn Cribwr electoral ward would be more appropriately included within a Bridgend constituency. The representation stated that Cefn Cribwr had always been considered as part of Bridgend. The Commission received a representation which referred to the fact that Llanharry is within the principal council area of Rhondda Cynon Taf and has ties with wards in that area, making it more suitable for inclusion within a proposed Pontypridd or Rhondda constituency.
- 22.8 The Commission received an alternative arrangement for the proposed constituencies from the Aberavon Constituency Labour Party (ACLP), which was supported by the Member of Parliament for the existing Aberavon constituency. The representation considered that the Aberavon and Port Talbot electoral wards should be included within the same constituency due to their historic links and proposed constituencies based on this consideration. The proposed alternatives also included other wards, such as Cornelly, Newton, Nottage, Porthcawl East Central, Porthcawl West Central, Pyle and Rest Bay within this proposed constituency.
- 22.9 The Assistant Commissioners considered the large number of representations received and agreed that the electoral wards forming Aberavon and Port Talbot should be included within the same constituency, *“There was a very strong body of representations both at the hearings and in writing that the initial proposals would split the town of Port Talbot in two and that the Port Talbot and Aberavon area forms one community [which] for historic, social and economic reasons that should not be split between two constituencies.”*
- 22.10 The Assistant Commissioners considered the alternative arrangements proposed by the ACLP but considered that they did not provide for the most appropriate constituencies in the area of south west Wales. The Assistant Commissioners concluded that the Bryn and Cwmavon, Cymmer, Glyncorwg, and Gwynfi electoral wards (which are within the Afan Valley) should be included within the proposed Neath constituency and that the Aberkenfig, Cefn Cribwr, and Ynysawdre electoral wards should be included within a Bridgend constituency as discussed at 21.9 of section 5.
- 22.11 Having considered all the representations and the Assistant Commissioners’ report, the Commission accepted the Assistant Commissioners’ recommendations that the electoral wards of Aberavon, Baglan, Sandfields East, and Sandfields West (the Aberavon wards) should be included within this proposed constituency together with the electoral wards of Margam, Port Talbot and Tai-bach (the Port Talbot wards). The Commission also agreed that Cefn Cribwr should be included within the proposed Bridgend and Vale of Glamorgan West constituency but considered that Aberkenfig and Ynysawdre should be included with

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Bryncethin, and Sarn in the proposed Aberavon and Ogmore constituency because of their ties with those wards as discussed at paragraph 21.10 of section 5.

22.12 The Commission was of the view that it was more appropriate to include the Llanharry electoral ward within the proposed Rhondda and Llantrisant constituency to avoid breaking ties between that ward and wards included within that proposed constituency. The Commission additionally noted that the inclusion of the Llanharry ward within the proposed Rhondda and Llantrisant constituency also enabled the Commission to make changes to other constituencies in the area that better reflected the statutory criteria overall while ensuring that the proposed constituencies fell within the statutory electorate range. The Commission considered the alternative arrangements as proposed by the ACLP. The Commission, however, was of the view that these alternative arrangements did not result in constituencies which better reflected the statutory criteria, overall, than the initial proposals, revised in the way described.

22.13 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:

22.13.a The electoral wards within the existing Ogmore CC and:

- i. The County Borough of Bridgend electoral wards of Aberkenfig (1,692), Bettws (1,536), Blackmill (1,870), Blaengarw (1,260), Bryncethin (995), Bryncoch (1,652), Caerau (4,593), Felindre (2,046), Hendre (2,985), Llangeinor (846), Llangynwyd (2,330), Maesteg East (3,536), Maesteg West (4,185), Nant-y-moel (1,657), Ogmore Vale (2,193), Penprysg (2,337), Pontycymmer (1,648), Sarn (1,748) and Ynysawdre (2,555); and,
- ii. the County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf electoral wards of Brynna (3,264), Gilfach Goch (2,411) and Llanharan (2,610); and,

22.13.b the electoral wards within the existing Aberavon CC and County Borough of Neath Port Talbot of Aberavon (3,887), Baglan (5,128), Margam (2,197), Port Talbot (4,052), Sandfields East (4,850) Sandfields West (4,745) and Tai-bach (3,557).

22.14 This constituency would have 78,365 electors which is 4.8% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.

22.15 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations that supported the Commission's decision to revise the initial proposals in order to include the Aberavon and Port Talbot electoral wards within the same proposed constituency, as discussed at paragraph 22.11 of section 5 above. Representations were also received from the Member of Parliament for the existing Aberavon constituency contending that the electoral wards of Bryn and Cwmavon, Cymmer, Glyncorwg, and Gwynfi should also be included within the same constituency due to the ties that exist in the area. The representations also contended that the electoral wards of Cornelly, Newton, Nottage, Porthcawl East Central, Porthcawl West Central, Pyle and Rest Bay be included within the same constituency in order to reunite communities previously part of the Aberavon

constituency. The Member of Parliament for Aberavon encouraged the Commission to consider again the proposals put forward by the ACLP. The Commission also received a representation that stated that the wards of Aberkenfig, Bryncethin, Bryncoch, Sarn, and Ynysawdre should be included within the proposed Bridgend and Vale of Glamorgan West constituency and not within this proposed constituency. The representations argue that the area is strongly linked to Bridgend.

- 22.16 The Commission considered all of the representations, including representations from the Member of Parliament for the existing Aberavon constituency, and considered again the proposals put forward by the ACLP. The Commission concluded that the arrangements proposed would not better reflect the statutory criteria than the proposed constituency described in the Commission's revised proposals and also that the alternative arrangements would have adverse consequential effects on a number of other proposed constituencies. By way of example, the removal of the Bryn and Cwmavon, Cymmer, Glyncorrwg, and Gwynfi wards from the proposed Neath constituency would require the inclusion of other electoral wards to ensure that the electorate of the proposed Neath constituency fell within the statutory electorate range. The representations recognise this and propose the inclusion of electoral wards from the local authority area of Powys. That would mean that the proposed Neath constituency would be comprised of electoral wards from two local authority areas whereas the Commission's proposed Neath constituency is comprised of wards from one local authority area. The Commission also notes that the proposal would mean that the electoral wards in the existing Brecon and Radnorshire constituency which is entirely included within one proposed constituency (Brecon, Radnor and Montgomery) under its proposals would be divided between two proposed constituencies under the alternative proposals. Furthermore, the Assistant Commissioners recommended that Bryn and Cwmavon, Cymmer, Glyncorrwg, and Gwynfi wards be included within the proposed Neath constituency as they have local ties with the wards in that proposed constituency.
- 22.17 The Commission notes that the electoral wards of Cornelly, Newton, Nottage, Porthcawl East Central, Porthcawl West Central, Pyle and Rest Bay wards are within the existing Bridgend constituency and the whole of that existing constituency is proposed to be included within the recommended Bridgend and Vale of Glamorgan West constituency, better reflecting existing constituency boundaries than the proposed alternative which would involve dividing wards within the existing Bridgend constituency between two constituencies. In relation to the wards of Aberkenfig, Bryncethin, Bryncoch, Sarn, and Ynysawdre, the majority of the electoral wards forming the existing Ogmore constituency are included within the proposed Ogmore and Aberavon constituency and the Commission considers it appropriate to include these five wards, which are also within the existing Ogmore constituency, within the proposed Ogmore and Aberavon constituency. The Commission is satisfied that the recommended Ogmore and Aberavon constituency, and the other recommended constituencies in this area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

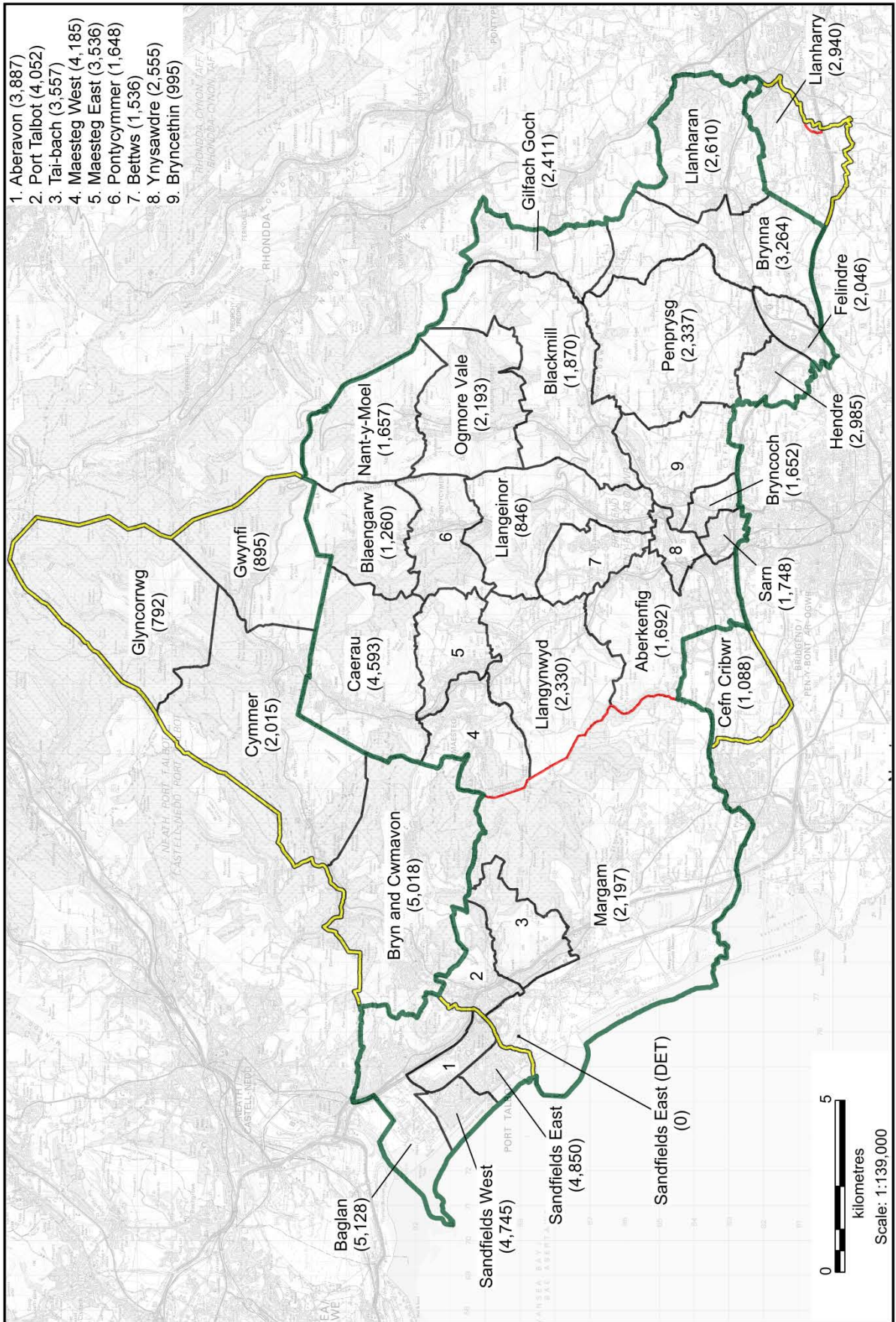
### Name

- 22.18 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Ogmore and Aberavon. The recommended alternative name is Ogwr ac Aberafan.

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- 22.19 The Commission initially proposed the name Ogmores and Port Talbot. In its revised proposals, the Commission proposed the name Ogmores and Aberavon, as suggested by the Assistant Commissioners. That name reflected the geographic composition of the proposed constituency as revised. The name also reflected the fact that the proposed constituency contained substantial parts of two existing constituencies, namely Ogmores CC, and Aberavon CC. Representations indicated that the correct Welsh language version of Aberavon is Aberafan. The Commission therefore proposed the alternative Welsh language name of Ogmores ac Aberafan.
- 22.20 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Ogmores and Aberavon (Ogmores ac Aberafan).

Ogmore and Aberavon (Ogwr ac Aberafan)



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## 23 Neath (Castell-nedd)

### Recommendation

23.1 The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:

23.1.a The electoral wards within the existing Aberavon CC and County Borough of Neath Port Talbot of Briton Ferry East (2,119), Briton Ferry West (1,977), Bryn and Cwmavon (5,018), Coedffranc Central (2,733), Coedffranc North (1,752), Coedffranc West (2,629), Cymmer (2,015), Glyncorrgw (792) and Gwynfi (895); and,

23.1.b the electoral wards within the existing Neath CC and County Borough of Neath Port Talbot of Aberdulais (1,662), Allt-wen (1,903), Blaengwrach (1,458), Bryn-côch North (1,762), Bryn-côch South (4,409), Cadoxton (1,353), Cimla (3,043), Crynant (1,500), Cwmllynfell (894), Dyffryn (2,354), Glynneath (2,578), Godre'r graig (1,452), Gwaun-Cae-Gurwen (2,171), Lower Brynamman (1,014), Neath East (4,298), Neath North (2,872), Neath South (3,513), Onllwyn (900), Pelenna (863), Pontardawe (3,936), Resolven (2,323), Rhos (1,940), Seven Sisters (1,527), Tonna (1,885), Trebanos (1,016) and Ystalyfera (2,065).

23.2 This constituency would have 74,621 electors which is 0.2% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.

23.3 The Commission recommends that the name of the proposed constituency should be Neath. The recommended alternative name is Castell-nedd.

23.4 The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:

23.4.a The existing Neath CC has a total of 54,691 electors which is 27% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 23% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.

23.4.b The existing Aberavon CC has a total of 48,346 electors which is 35% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 32% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.

### Background

23.5 In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:

23.5.a The electoral wards within the existing Aberavon CC and County Borough of Neath Port Talbot of Aberavon (3,887), Baglan (5,128), Briton Ferry East (2,119), Briton Ferry West (1,977), Sandfields East (4,850) and Sandfields West (4,745); and,

23.5.b the whole of the existing Neath CC.



- 23.6 This constituency would have 77,397 electors which is 3.5% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Neath and Aberavon. The suggested alternative name was Castell-nedd ac Aberafon.
- 23.7 The Commission received numerous written representations, as well as representations at the public hearings, that the three Coedffranc electoral wards (that is, Coedffranc Central, Coedffranc North, and Coedffranc West) which were included within the proposed Swansea East constituency in the initial proposals would be more appropriately included within the proposed Neath constituency. By way of example, one representation stated that “... *the Coedffranc wards that mainly make up the town of Skewen look to Neath for their shopping, social, and economic needs rather than to Swansea... [and are wholly] in the area of the Neath Port Talbot unitary local authority.*” A further representation from a former local councillor expressed the view that “...*inclusion [of Coedffranc] in the Aberavon constituency rather than Neath has been a long-standing bone of contention and still rankles. Moving to a constituency outside the county borough altogether would make things much worse.*”
- 23.8 The Commission received a representation proposing alternative arrangements from the Welsh Liberal Democrats Party which suggested the removal of the Coedffranc electoral wards from the proposed Swansea East constituency and their inclusion within a proposed Neath and Aberavon constituency. The alternative arrangements as proposed by the Aberavon Constituency Labour Party (ACLP) agreed that the Coedffranc electoral wards are more appropriately located within a proposed Neath constituency. The ACLP also proposed that the electoral wards of Bryn and Cwmavon, Cymmer, Glyncorrwg, and Gwynfi be included within a proposed Aberavon constituency and that five electoral wards from the local authority area of Powys, namely, Aber-craf, Cwm-twrch, Tawe-Uchaf, Ynyscedwyn, and Ystradgynlais be included within the proposed Neath constituency in order to ensure that the electorate of this proposed constituency fell within the statutory electorate range.
- 23.9 The Assistant Commissioners considered the alternative arrangements proposed by both the ACLP and the Welsh Liberal Democrats and proposed including the Coedffranc electoral wards within a proposed Neath constituency. They did not agree that there was justification for including electoral wards from the local authority area of Powys in this proposed constituency. The Assistant Commissioners instead, recommended four electoral wards which are within the local authority area of Neath Port Talbot, and which they considered had ties with wards in this proposed constituency, as being more appropriately included within the proposed constituency.
- 23.10 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners’ report, the Commission agreed with the Assistant Commissioners’ recommendation that the electoral wards of Coedffranc Central, Coedffranc North, and Coedffranc West, together with the wards of Bryn and Cwmavon, Cymmer, Glyncorrwg, and Gwynfi be included within this proposed constituency to avoid breaking local ties between these areas and other areas included within the proposed constituency. All of the electoral wards included within this proposed constituency fall within one local government area. The proposed constituency would include the whole of the existing Neath constituency.

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23.11 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:

23.11.a The electoral wards within the existing Aberavon CC and County Borough of Neath Port Talbot of Briton Ferry East (2,119), Briton Ferry West (1,977), Bryn and Cwmavon (5,018), Coedffranc Central (2,733), Coedffranc North (1,752), Coedffranc West (2,629), Cymmer (2,015), Glyncorrwg (792) and Gwynfi (895); and,

23.11.b the whole of the existing Neath CC.

23.12 This constituency would have 74,621 electors which is 0.2% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.

23.13 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations that supported the inclusion of the three Coedffranc wards within this proposed constituency. The Commission also received representations that suggested that wards from the Afan Valley (the electoral wards of Bryn and Cwmavon, Cymmer, Glyncorrwg, and Gwynfi) should be included within the same proposed constituency as Aberavon due to the ties that exist in the area. It was proposed, instead, that five electoral wards from the local authority area of Powys, currently within the existing Brecon and Radnorshire constituency, should be included within the proposed Neath constituency in order to ensure that the electorate of this proposed constituency fell within the statutory electorate range. That would mean that the proposed Neath constituency would be comprised of electoral wards from two local authority areas whereas the Commission's recommended Neath constituency is comprised of wards from one local authority area. Furthermore, the Assistant Commissioners recommended that the four Afan Valley wards be included within the proposed Neath constituency as they have local ties with wards in that proposed constituency. More generally, the Commission also notes that under its proposals the entire existing constituency of Brecon and Radnorshire would be included within one recommended constituency (Brecon, Radnor and Montgomery) whereas the alternative proposals would involve including the electoral wards of the existing Brecon and Radnorshire constituency within two constituencies. Having considered all of the representations, and the Assistant Commissioners' report, the Commission has concluded that the electoral wards of Bryn and Cwmavon, Cymmer, Glyncorrwg, and Gwynfi are appropriately included within the proposed Neath constituency. The Commission concluded that the recommended Neath constituency, and the other recommended constituencies in this area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

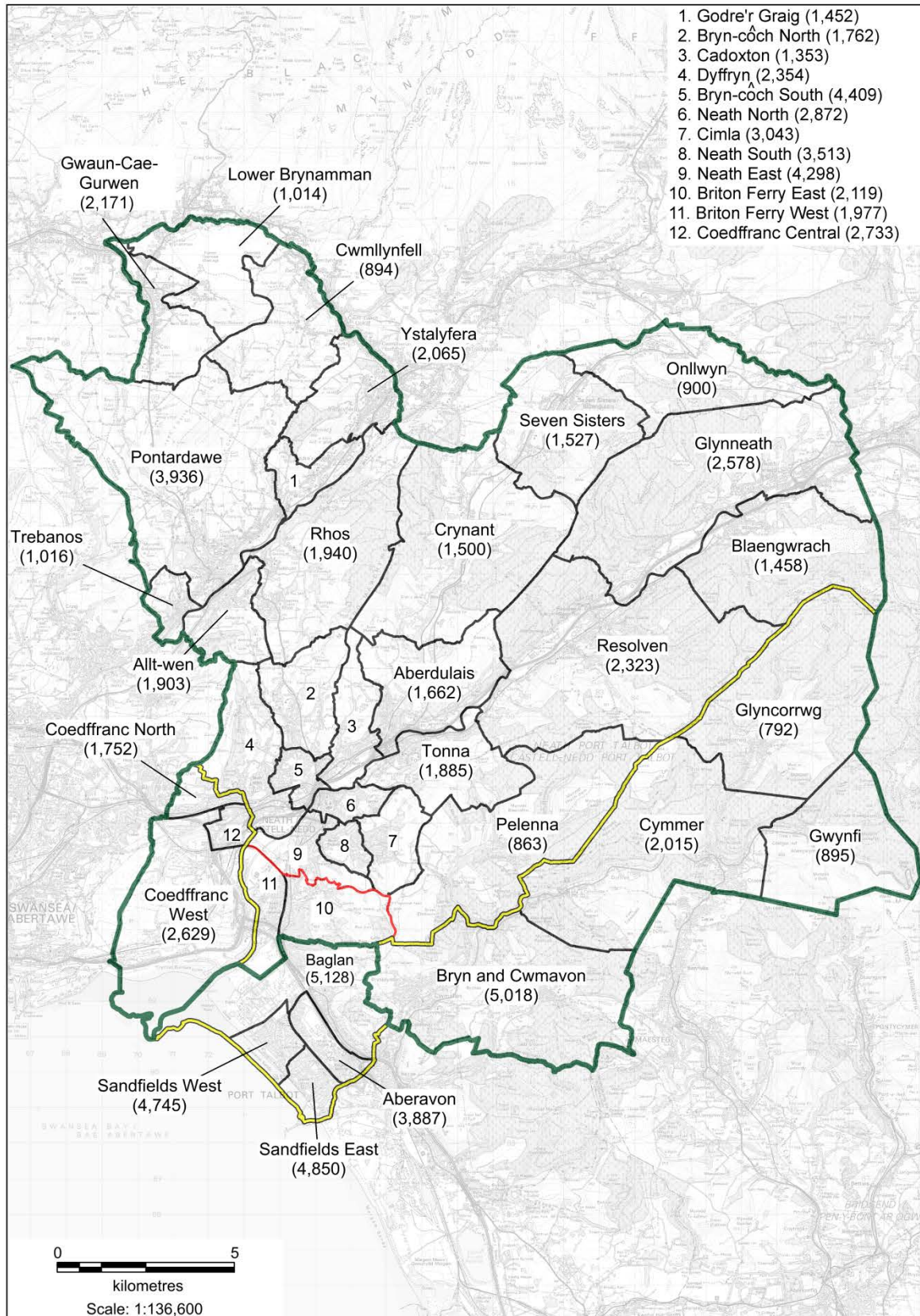
### Name

23.14 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Neath. The recommended alternative name is Castell-nedd.

23.15 The Commission initially proposed the name Neath and Aberavon. Due to the inclusion of the electoral wards comprising Aberavon within the revised constituency of Ogmore and Aberavon, the Commission proposed the name Neath. That name reflects the fact that the existing constituency of Neath is wholly contained within this recommended constituency.

23.16 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Neath (Castell-nedd).

Neath (Castell-nedd)



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## 24 Swansea East (Dwyrain Abertawe)

### Recommendation

- 24.1 **The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:**
- 24.1.a **The electoral wards within the existing Swansea East BC and the City and County of Swansea electoral wards of Bonymaen (4,697), Landore (4,472), Llansamlet (10,408), Morriston (11,532), Mynyddbach (6,429), Penderry (7,146) and St. Thomas (5,020);**
  - 24.1.b **the electoral wards within the existing Gower CC and City and County of Swansea of Clydach (5,525), Llangyfelach (3,803), Mawr (1,305) and Penllergaer (2,466); and,**
  - 24.1.c **the electoral ward within the existing Swansea West BC and City and County of Swansea of Castle (8,834).**
- 24.2 **This constituency would have 71,637 electors which is 4.2% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**
- 24.3 **The Commission recommends that the proposed constituency should be named Swansea East. The recommended alternative name is Dwyrain Abertawe.**
- 24.4 The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:
- 24.4.a The existing Gower CC has a total of 59,478 electors which is 20% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 16% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.
  - 24.4.b The existing Swansea East BC has a total of 55,392 electors which is 26% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 22% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.
  - 24.4.c The existing Swansea West BC has a total of 51,952 electors which is 31% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 27% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.

### Background

- 24.5 In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:
- 24.5.a The whole of the existing Swansea East BC;
  - 24.5.b the electoral wards within the existing Aberavon CC and County Borough of Neath Port Talbot of Coedffranc Central (2,733), Coedffranc North (1,752) and Coedffranc West (2,629);

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- 24.5.c the electoral ward within the existing Gower CC and City and County of Swansea of Clydach (5,525); and,
- 24.5.d the electoral ward within the existing Swansea West BC and City and County of Swansea of Castle (8,834).
- 24.6 This constituency would have 76,514 electors which is 2.3% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Swansea East. The suggested alternative name was Dwyrain Abertawe.
- 24.7 The Commission received numerous written representations, as well as representations at the public hearings, that stated that the three Coedffranc electoral wards, which were included in the proposed Swansea East constituency in the initial proposals, would be more appropriately located within a proposed Neath constituency, as discussed at paragraph 23.7 of section 5.
- 24.8 The Commission received proposals for alternative arrangements. One alternative proposed that the wards of Llangyfelach, Mawr, and Penllergaer be included within the proposed Swansea East constituency in place of the Coedffranc wards, and also suggested that the ward of Cwmbwrla be included within the proposed constituency of Gower and Swansea West, rather than the proposed Swansea East constituency. The suggestion in relation to Cwmbwrla was supported by the former Assembly Member for the area. Other representations expressed the view that the Castle electoral ward should be included within the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency rather than this proposed constituency. Other representations proposed the inclusion of the electoral wards of Llangyfelach, Mawr, and Penllergaer within a Llanelli and Swansea Valley constituency.
- 24.9 The Assistant Commissioners noted the representations which were received indicating that, *“the electoral wards of Llangyfelach, and Penllergaer have ties with the Morrison and Mynyddbach electoral ward that form part of the proposed Swansea East constituency ...”* and *“...residents of Llangyfelach and Penllergaer look to Morrison and the City of Swansea for employment, and services and transport links lie between Llangyfelach and areas within the proposed Swansea East constituency.”* They recommended that these wards be included within the proposed Swansea East constituency to avoid breaking ties between these wards and wards within the proposed Swansea East constituency. The Assistant Commissioners concluded that, *“Mawr is an extensive rural ward within the northwest corner of the Swansea City and County Council area. Transport links follow the rivers into Clydach or Morrison so most of the population looks to Swansea for services. That is where there are local links.”* They therefore recommended that the Mawr ward also be included within the proposed Swansea East constituency.
- 24.10 The Assistant Commissioners also recommended that that the three Coedffranc wards be included within the proposed Neath constituency, rather than this proposed constituency, given the representations received that these wards had ties with Neath and were within the local authority area of Neath Port Talbot. The Assistant Commissioners recommended the electoral ward of Cwmbwrla be included within the proposed Gower and Swansea

West constituency, rather than this proposed constituency, as that ward had ties with wards in the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency rather than this proposed constituency.

- 24.11 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners' report, the Commission accepted the recommendations of the Assistant Commissioners that the wards of, Llangyfelach, Mawr, and Penllergaer should be included within this proposed constituency, and that the three Coedffranc wards should be included within the proposed Neath constituency. The Commission also accepted the Assistant Commissioners' recommendation that the electoral ward of Cwmbwrla was appropriately included within the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency.
- 24.12 The Commission therefore proposed creating a county constituency from:
- 24.12.a The electoral wards within the existing Swansea East BC and the City and County of Swansea electoral wards of Bonymaen (4,697), Landore (4,472), Llansamlet (10,408), Morriston (11,532), Mynyddbach (6,429), Penderry (7,146) and St. Thomas (5,020);
  - 24.12.b the electoral wards within the existing Gower CC and City and County of Swansea of Clydach (5,525), Llangyfelach (3,803), Mawr (1,305), and Penllergaer (2,466); and,
  - 24.12.c the electoral ward within the existing Swansea West BC and City and County of Swansea of Castle (8,834).
- 24.13 This constituency would have 71,637 electors which is 4.2% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 24.14 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations regarding the three proposed constituencies in the Swansea and Llanelli area. The Commission received representations that suggested that the Clydach and Mawr electoral wards should be included within the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency rather than being included within this proposed constituency. The representation referred to the fact that the wards are currently within the Gower constituency and have formed ties within that existing constituency. Representations were received which supported the alternative arrangements proposed by the Conservative Party to include the electoral wards of Clydach, Llangyfelach, Mawr, and Penllergaer from the proposed Swansea East constituency and the electoral ward of Kingsbridge from the proposed Llanelli constituency within a Gower and Swansea West constituency, to achieve the statutory electoral range. The proposal includes the electoral wards of Castle, Cwmbwrla, Townhill and Uplands within the proposed Swansea East constituency rather than the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency to ensure that the electorate of both proposed constituencies fall within the statutory electorate range.
- 24.15 The Commission considered the representations and the alternative arrangements proposed. The Commission concluded that the electoral ward of Kingsbridge was appropriately included within the proposed Llanelli constituency and should not be

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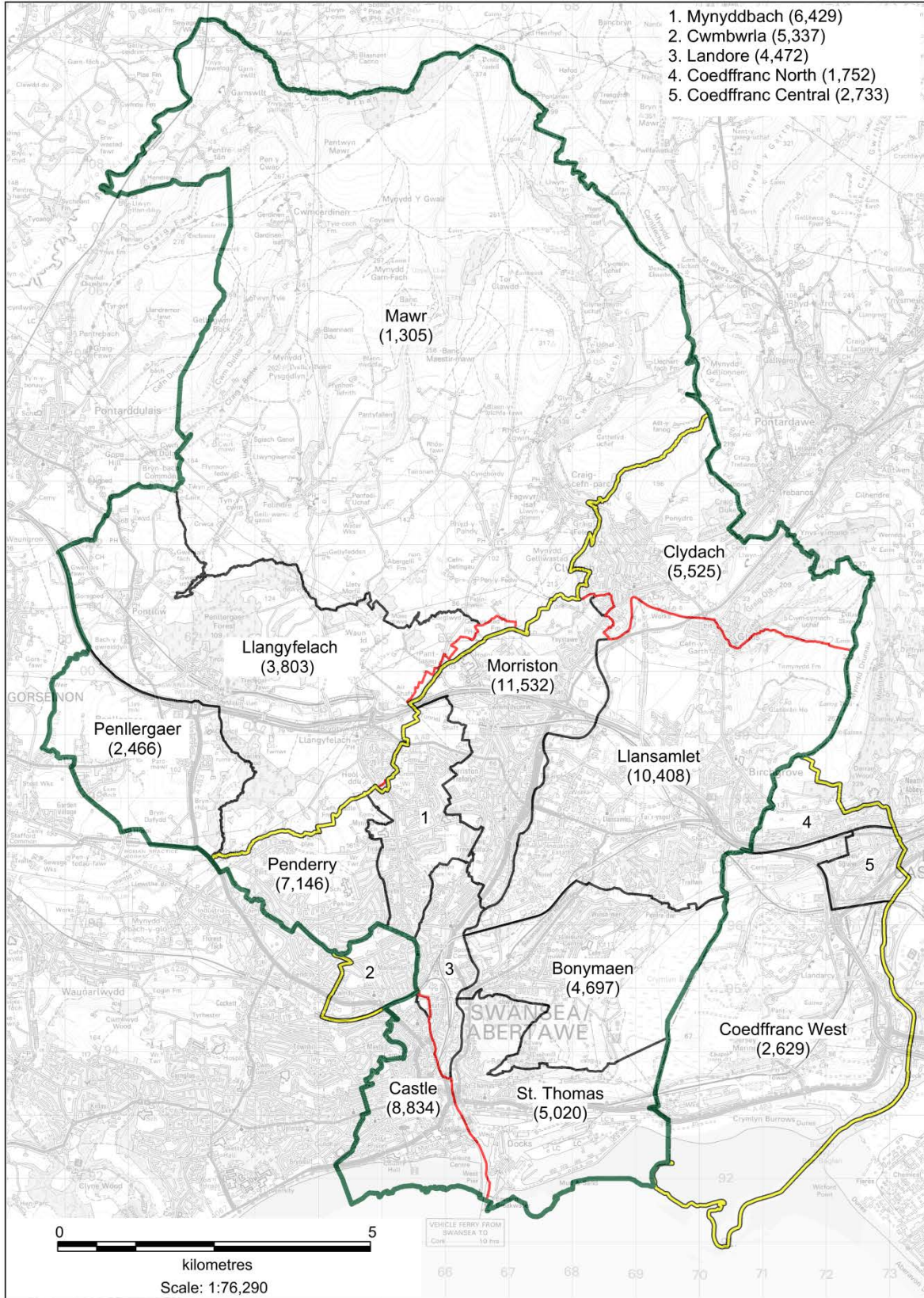
included within the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency. The Commission recognises that the Kingsbridge ward is part of the existing Gower constituency. The Kingsbridge electoral ward is part of the community of Llchwyr (which also includes the wards of Lower Loughor and Upper Loughor). The alternative proposals would divide the wards in this community between two proposed constituencies (the proposed Gower and Swansea West and Llanelli constituencies). Community boundaries in Wales are local government boundaries. The inclusion of the three wards within one community also reflects the existing ties between the wards. Dividing the community, by including the Kingsbridge ward in one proposed constituency and other wards in another proposed constituency, would therefore, be less compliant with Rules 5 1.b and d of Schedule 2 to the Act (see section 2.2). The alternative proposals would also involve breaking ties between Kingsbridge and the wards of Gorseinon, and Penyrheol as discussed in relation to the proposed Llanelli constituency at paragraph 26.8 of section 5. The Commission considered that the electoral wards of Townhill, and Uplands are within the existing Swansea West constituency and the majority of the wards of that constituency would be included within the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency under the Commission's proposals. The Commission considers that the inclusion of these two wards within the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency is more appropriate than their inclusion within the proposed Swansea East constituency. The Commission concluded that, while the wards of Clydach, Llangyfelach, Mawr, and Penllergaer are within the existing Gower constituency, they are appropriately included within the proposed Swansea East constituency, as the Assistant Commissioners recommended, given that their ties are with wards in that constituency. In all these circumstances, a ward needs to be included within the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency to ensure that the electorate of that constituency falls within the statutory electorate range. The Commission remains of the view that the electoral ward of Cwmbwrla is appropriately included within the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency rather than this proposed constituency. The Commission concluded that the recommended Swansea East constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in the area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

- 24.16 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Swansea East. The recommended alternative name is Dwyrain Abertawe.
- 24.17 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Swansea East (Dwyrain Abertawe).



**Swansea East (Dwyrain Abertawe)**



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## 25 Gower and Swansea West (Gŵyr a Gorllewin Abertawe)

### Recommendation

- 25.1 **The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:**
- 25.1.a **The electoral wards within the existing Gower CC and City and County of Swansea of Bishopston (2,610), Fairwood (2,218), Gower (2,828), Gowerton (3,862), Newton (2,687), Oystermouth (3,151), Penclawdd (2,852), Pennard (2,175) and West Cross (5,023);**
  - 25.1.b **the electoral ward within the existing Swansea East BC and City and County of Swansea of Cwmbwrla (5,337); and,**
  - 25.1.c **the electoral wards within the existing Swansea West BC and City and County of Swansea of Cockett (10,125), Duvant (3,353), Killay North (1,892), Killay South (1,846), Mayals (2,060), Sketty (10,294), Townhill (5,617) and Uplands (8,155).**
- 25.2 **This constituency would have 76,085 electors which is 1.8% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**
- 25.3 **The Commission recommends that the proposed constituency should be named Gower and Swansea West. The recommended alternative name is Gŵyr a Gorllewin Abertawe.**
- 25.4 **The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:**
- 25.4.a **The existing Gower CC has a total of 59,478 electors which is 20% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 16% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
  - 25.4.b **The existing Swansea East BC has a total of 55,392 electors which is 26% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 22% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**
  - 25.4.c **The existing Swansea West BC has a total of 51,952 electors which is 31% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 27% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**

### Background

- 25.5 **In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:**
- 25.5.a **The electoral wards within the existing Gower CC and City and County of Swansea of Bishopston (2,610), Fairwood (2,218), Gower (2,828), Gowerton (3,862), Kingsbridge**

(3,299), Lower Loughor (1,734), Newton (2,687), Oystermouth (3,151), Penclawdd (2,852), Pennard (2,175), Upper Loughor (2,092) and West Cross (5,023); and,

- 25.5.b the electoral wards within the existing Swansea West BC and City and County of Swansea of Cockett (10,125), Dunvant (3,353), Killay North (1,892), Killay South (1,846), Mayals (2,060), Sketty (10,294), Townhill (5,617) and Uplands (8,155).
- 25.6 This constituency would have 77,873 electors which is 4.2% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Gower and Swansea West. The suggested alternative name was Gŵyr a Gorllewin Abertawe.
- 25.7 The Commission received written representations, as well as oral representations at the public hearings, stating that the electoral wards of Kingsbridge, Lower Loughor, and Upper Loughor should be included within the same constituency as Gorseinon, and Penyrheol, suggesting that a Llanelli constituency, rather than the Gower and Swansea West constituency, was the most appropriate constituency for these wards. This suggestion was supported by the Member of Parliament for the existing Llanelli constituency who stated that the people from these areas have a long tradition of working, shopping and spending leisure time in Llanelli due to their location just over the Loughor Bridge. The Commission also received representations that did not agree with this approach and representations were received that supported the inclusion of these three wards within the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency, as proposed by the Commission in its initial proposals. These representations however, also expressed the opinion that the electoral wards of Gorseinon, and Penllergaer should also be included within this proposed constituency. There was also some support amongst the representations that these wards should all be included within the proposed Swansea East constituency.
- 25.8 Other representations suggested the inclusion of the Cwmbwrla electoral ward within this proposed constituency rather than within the proposed Swansea East constituency. The representations expressed the view that the Cwmbwrla ward has greater affinity with wards in this proposed constituency and is, essentially, separated geographically from the remainder of the existing Swansea East constituency of which it currently forms part. Another representation from a former Assembly Member repeated these arguments and supported the inclusion of the Cwmbwrla ward within the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency.
- 25.9 The Assistant Commissioners considered the written representations and those made at the public hearings and concluded that the electoral wards of Kingsbridge, Lower Loughor and Upper Loughor had ties with the electoral wards of Gorseinon, and Penyrheol and placing the wards in two different proposed constituencies would break those ties. The Assistant Commissioners recommended that these five wards be included within the same proposed constituency and recommended that they were appropriately included within the proposed Llanelli and Lliw constituency not the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency. They recommended that the electoral ward of Cwmbwrla be included within this proposed constituency, as it has ties with wards in this constituency, rather the proposed Swansea East constituency.

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25.10 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners' report, the Commission accepted the Assistant Commissioners' recommendations and proposed that the electoral wards of Kingsbridge, Lower Loughor and Upper Loughor should be included in the proposed Llanelli constituency rather than this proposed constituency. That would enable those wards to be included with a constituency that included Gorseinon, and Penyrheol and that would avoid breaking the ties that exist between the five wards. The Commission also agreed with the Assistant Commissioners' recommendation that the Cwmbwrla ward was appropriately included within this proposed constituency, given its ties with wards in this proposed constituency. That would also ensure that the electorate of the proposed constituency fell within the statutory electorate range.

25.11 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:

25.11.a The electoral wards within the existing Gower CC and City and County of Swansea of Bishopston (2,610), Fairwood (2,218), Gower (2,828), Gowerton (3,862), Newton (2,687), Oystermouth (3,151), Penclawdd (2,852), Pennard (2,175) and West Cross (5,023);

25.11.b the electoral ward within the existing Swansea East BC and City and County of Swansea of Cwmbwrla (5,337); and,

25.11.c the electoral wards within the existing Swansea West BC and City and County of Swansea of Cockett (10,125), Dunvant (3,353), Killay North (1,892), Killay South (1,846), Mayals (2,060), Sketty (10,294), Townhill (5,617) and Uplands (8,155).

25.12 This constituency would have 76,085 electors which is 1.8% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.

25.13 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations regarding the three proposed constituencies in the Swansea and Llanelli area. Many of the representations received supported the arrangements which included the electoral wards of Clydach, Llangyfelach, Mawr, and Penllergaer and the electoral ward of Kingsbridge within this proposed constituency rather than within the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency. The representations referred to the fact that these wards are within the existing Gower constituency. The representations referred to the fact that wards within the Gower constituency have formed ties with wards within the existing constituency. The representations proposed including the electoral wards of Cwmbwrla, Townhill, and Uplands within the proposed Swansea East constituency, rather than within this constituency, in order to achieve the statutory electorate range for these proposed constituencies. The Commission received representations that argued that the electoral wards that formed the community of Llŵchwr (the electoral wards of Kingsbridge, Lower Loughor, and Upper Loughor) and the electoral ward of Gorseinon should all be included within a Swansea constituency and objected to their inclusion within a proposed Llanelli constituency. The representations suggested that the River Loughor was a divide between

Swansea and Llanelli and that the wards have historically formed part of Swansea. The Commission also received representations, however, that supported the inclusion of those wards within the proposed Llanelli constituency. A representation from Llchwyr Town Council states that it was opposed to the reduction in the number of constituencies in Wales and would prefer to retain the existing arrangements; however, if that were not possible, the best option would be for the area of the town council and adjacent areas to be included within the Llanelli constituency.

25.14 The Commission considered the representations and the alternative arrangements proposed. The Commission concluded that the electoral ward of Kingsbridge was appropriately included within the proposed Llanelli constituency and should not be included within the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency. The Commission recognises that the Kingsbridge ward is part of the existing Gower constituency. The Kingsbridge electoral ward is part of the community of Llchwyr (which also includes the wards of Lower Loughor, and Upper Loughor). The alternative proposals would divide the wards in this community between two proposed constituencies (the proposed Gower and Swansea West and Llanelli constituencies). Community boundaries in Wales are local government boundaries. The inclusion of the three wards within one community reflects the existing ties between these wards. Dividing the community and including the Kingsbridge ward in one proposed constituency and other wards in another proposed constituency would therefore be less compliant with Rules 5 1.b and d of Schedule 2 to the Act (see section 2.2). The proposals also involve breaking ties between Kingsbridge and the wards of Gorseinon, and Penyrheol as also discussed in relation to the proposed Llanelli constituency at paragraph 26.8 of section 5.

25.15 The Commission noted that the electoral wards of Townhill, and Uplands are within the existing Swansea West constituency and the majority of wards of that existing constituency would be included within the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency under the Commission's proposals. The Commission considers that the inclusion of these two wards within the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency is more appropriate than their inclusion within the proposed Swansea East constituency. The Commission concluded that, while the wards of Clydach, Llangyfelach, Mawr, and Penllergaer are within the existing Gower constituency, they are appropriately included within the proposed Swansea East constituency, as the Assistant Commissioners recommended, given that their ties are with wards in that constituency. In all these circumstances, a ward needs to be included within the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency to ensure that the electorate of that proposed constituency falls within the statutory electorate range. The Commission remains of the view that the electoral ward of Cwmbwrla is appropriately included within this proposed constituency. The Commission concluded that the recommended Gower and Swansea West constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in this area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

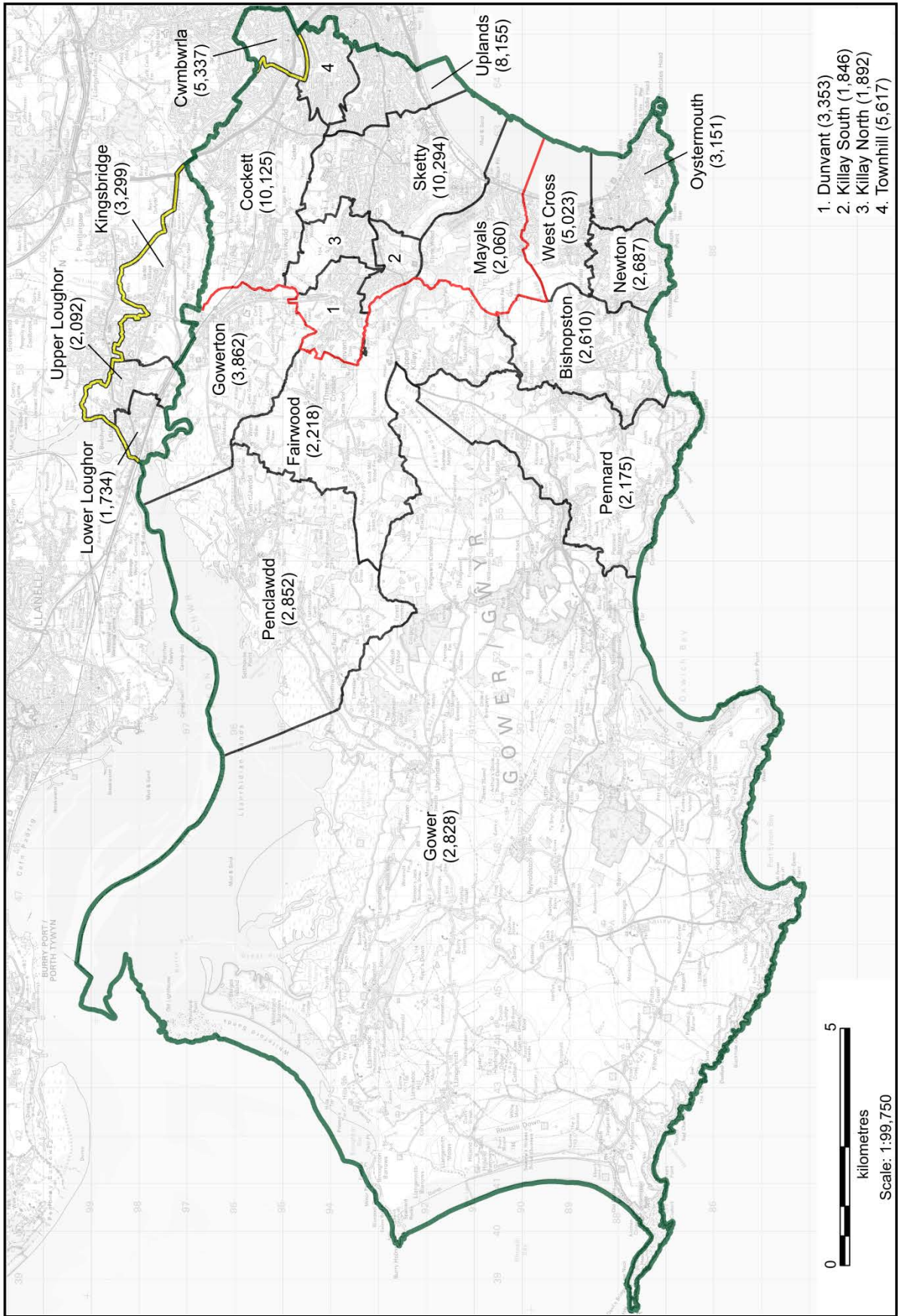
### Name

25.16 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Gower and Swansea West. The recommended alternative name is Gŵyr a Gorllewin Abertawe.

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25.17 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Gower and Swansea West (Gŵyr a Gorllewin Abertawe).

**Gower and Swansea West (Gŵyr a Gorllewin Abertawe)**



## 26 Llanelli

### Recommendation

26.1 **The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:**

26.1.a **The electoral wards within the existing Llanelli CC and the County of Carmarthenshire of Bigyn (4,439), Burry Port (3,200), Bynea (2,985), Dafen (2,368), Elli (2,216), Felinfoel (1,343), Glanymor (3,833), Glyn (1,630), Hendy (2,381), Hengoed (2,798), Kidwelly (2,705), Llangennech (3,699), Llannon (3,817), Lliedi (3,625), Llwynhendy (2,974), Pembrey (3,232), Pontyberem (2,074), Swiss Valley (2,041), Trimsaran (1,828), Tycroes (1,756) and Tyisha (2,258); and,**

26.1.b **the electoral wards within the existing Gower CC and City and County of Swansea of Gorseinon (3,228), Kingsbridge (3,299), Lower Loughor (1,734), Penyrheol (4,131), Pontardulais (4,616) and Upper Loughor (2,092).**

26.2 **This constituency would have 76,302 electors which is 2.1% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**

26.3 **The Commission recommends that the proposed constituency should be named Llanelli.**

26.4 The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:

26.4.a The existing Llanelli CC has a total of 57,202 electors which is 23% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 19% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.

26.4.b The existing Gower CC has a total of 59,478 electors which is 20% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 16% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.

### Background

26.5 In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:

26.5.a The whole of the existing Llanelli CC; and,

26.5.b the electoral wards within the existing Gower CC and City and County of Swansea of Gorseinon (3,228), Llangyfelach (3,803), Mawr (1,305), Penllergaer (2,466), Penyrheol (4,131) and Pontardulais (4,616).

26.6 This constituency would have 76,751 electors which is 2.7% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Llanelli and Lliw. The proposed alternative name was Llanelli a Lliw.



- 26.7 The Commission received a number of representations which suggested that the proposed constituency should include the electoral wards of Kingsbridge, Lower Loughor and Upper Loughor as discussed at paragraph 25.7 of section 5. The Commission received representations from Carmarthen East and Dinefwr Plaid Cymru which indicated that school catchment areas and local shopping patterns exist around Tycroes and the Amman Valley, and that the electoral ward of Tycroes should be included in the proposed Carmarthenshire constituency. An alternative arrangement suggested that Kidwelly ought to be included within a proposed Carmarthen constituency.
- 26.8 The Assistant Commissioners considered the representations which discussed the electoral wards of Gorseinon, Kingsbridge, Lower Loughor, Penyrheol and Upper Loughor and concluded that, *“The evidence that we have received is that these five electoral wards form one community within a single urban area and that there are transport links between Loughor, and Kingsbridge and Gorseinon, and Penyrheol. By placing two of these electoral wards in the proposed Llanelli and Lliw constituency and three in the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency, the Initial proposals are breaking existing local ties between these five electoral wards. We recommend, therefore, that the electoral wards of Lower Loughor, Upper Loughor, and Kingsbridge should be included within the proposed Llanelli constituency together with the electoral wards of Gorseinon and Penyrheol.”*
- 26.9 The Assistant Commissioners considered that it was appropriate to include the electoral wards of Kidwelly and Tycroes in the proposed Caerfyrddin constituency rather than the proposed Llanelli constituency. Representations asserted that Tycroes identifies itself with the Carmarthen constituency but no such links were asserted or demonstrated to exist in relation to Kidwelly.
- 26.10 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners’ report, the Commission accepted the Assistant Commissioners’ representations that the electoral wards of Kingsbridge, Lower Loughor and Upper Loughor (forming the community of Llŵchwr) and Gorseinon and Penyrheol, should be included within the same constituency, and these five wards were appropriately included within the proposed Llanelli constituency as discussed at paragraph 25.14 of section 5. The Commission did not agree that the wards of Kidwelly and Tycroes should be included within the proposed Caerfyrddin constituency rather than this proposed constituency. The Commission noted that both the electoral wards of Kidwelly and Tycroes are within the existing Llanelli constituency. They noted that there was insufficient evidence to suggest that including the two wards within the proposed Llanelli constituency would break ties to any, or any significant, degree. The Commission considered that the inclusion of all five wards within the proposed Llanelli constituency would better reflect the statutory criteria overall.
- 26.11 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:
- 26.11.a The whole of the existing Llanelli CC; and,
- 26.11.b the electoral wards within the existing Gower CC and City and County of Swansea of Gorseinon (3,228), Kingsbridge (3,299), Lower Loughor (1,734), Penyrheol (4,131), Pontardulais (4,616) and Upper Loughor (2,092).

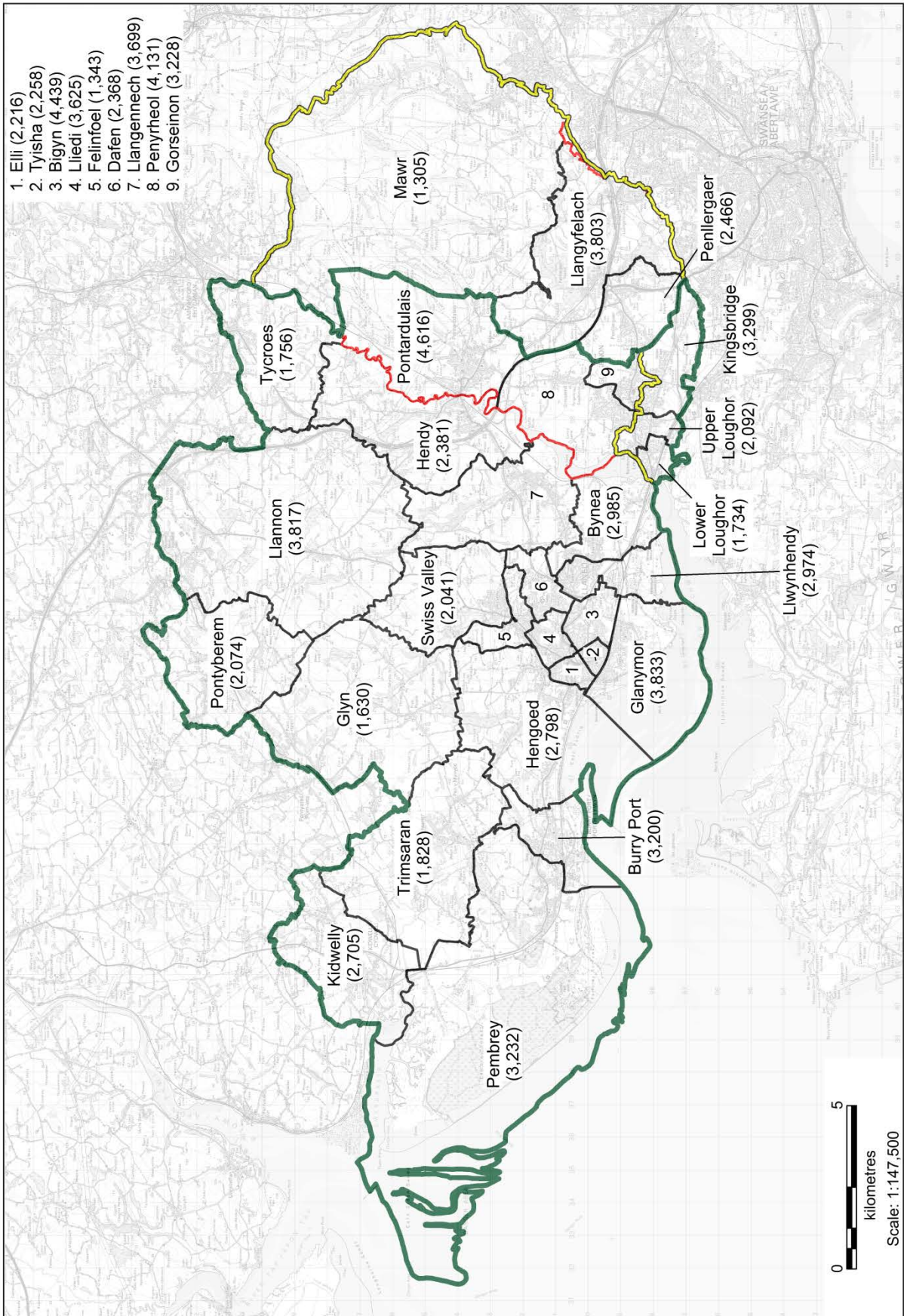
## BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES

- 26.12 This constituency would have 76,302 electors which is 2.1% above the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 26.13 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations regarding the three proposed constituencies in the Swansea and Llanelli area as discussed at paragraph 25.13 of section 5. Among the representations received were representations that the electoral ward of Kingsbridge should be included within the proposed Gower and Swansea West constituency rather than this proposed constituency. Other representations proposed that the electoral wards that formed the community of Llŵchwr (the electoral wards of Kingsbridge, Lower Loughor, and Upper Loughor) and the electoral ward of Gorseinon should all be included within a Swansea constituency and objected to their inclusion within a proposed Llanelli constituency. The representations suggested that the River Loughor was a divide between Swansea and Llanelli and that the wards have historically formed part of Swansea. The Commission also received representations, however, that supported the inclusion of those wards within the proposed Llanelli constituency. A representation from Llŵchwr Town Council states that it was opposed to the reduction in the number of constituencies in Wales and would prefer to retain the existing arrangements; however, if that were not possible, the best option would be for the area of the town council and adjacent areas to be included within the Llanelli constituency.
- 26.14 The Commission considered the representations and the alternative arrangements proposed. The Commission remain of the view that the electoral wards of Kingsbridge, Lower Loughor, and Upper Loughor (forming the community of Llŵchr), together with the electoral wards of Gorseinon, and Penyrheol should be included in the recommended Llanelli constituency, as discussed at paragraph 25.14 of section 5. The Commission concluded that the recommended Llanelli constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in the area best meet the statutory criteria, overall.

### Name

- 26.15 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Llanelli. Llanelli is recognisable in both languages and therefore no alternative name is suggested.
- 26.16 The Commission initially proposed the name Llanelli and Lliw. The Commission considered that the changes to the initial proposals meant that the single name of Llanelli would more appropriately reflect the area included within the proposed constituency.
- 26.17 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Llanelli.

Llanelli



## 27 Caerfyrddin (Carmarthen)

### Recommendation

27.1 The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:

27.1.a The electoral wards within the existing Carmarthen East and Dinefwr CC and County of Carmarthenshire of Abergwili (1,799), Ammanford (1,861), Betws (1,730), Cilycwm (1,145), Cynwyl Gaeo (1,260), Garnant (1,486), Glanamman (1,720), Gorslas (3,384), Llanddarog (1,570), Llandeilo (2,234), Llandovery (1,980), Llandybie (3,107), Llanegwad (1,887), Llanfihangel Aberbythych (1,417), Llanfihangel-ar-Arth (2,098), Llangadog (1,544), Llangunnor (2,049), Llangyndeyrn (2,550), Llanybydder (1,922), Manordeilo and Salem (1,709), Penygroes (2,143), Pontamman (2,047), Quarter Bach (2,108), St. Ishmael (2,097) and Saron (3,028); and,

27.1.b the electoral wards within the existing Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire CC and County of Carmarthenshire of Carmarthen Town North (3,606), Carmarthen Town South (2,537), Carmarthen Town West (3,196), Cynwyl Elfed (2,444), Laugharne Township (2,085), Llanboidy (1,582), Llansteffan (1,621), St. Clears (2,300), Trelech (1,659) and Whitland (1,664).

27.2 This constituency would have 72,569 electors which is 3% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.

27.3 The Commission recommends that the name for the proposed constituency should be Caerfyrddin. The recommended alternative name is Carmarthen.

27.4 The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:

27.4.a The existing Carmarthen East and Dinefwr CC has a total of 53,991 electors which is 28% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 24% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.

27.4.b The existing Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire CC has a total of 55,118 electors which is 26% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 22% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.

### Background

27.5 In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:

27.5.a The electoral wards within the existing Carmarthen East and Dinefwr CC and County of Carmarthenshire of Abergwili (1,799), Ammanford (1,861), Betws (1,730), Cilycwm (1,145), Cynwyl Gaeo (1,260), Garnant (1,486), Glanamman (1,720), Gorslas (3,384), Llanddarog (1,570), Llandeilo (2,234), Llandovery (1,980),

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Llandybie (3,107), Llanegwad (1,887), Llanfihangel Aberbythych (1,417), Llanfihangel-ar-Arth (2,098), Llangadog (1,544), Llangunnor (2,049), Llangyndeyrn (2,550), Llanybydder (1,922), Manordeilo and Salem (1,709), Penygroes (2,143), Pontamman (2,047), Quarter Bach (2,108), St. Ishmael (2,097) and Saron (3,028); and,

- 27.5.b the electoral wards within the existing Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire CC and County of Carmarthenshire of Carmarthen Town North (3,606), Carmarthen Town South (2,537), Carmarthen Town West (3,196), Cynwyl Elfed (2,444), Laugharne Township (2,085), Llanboidy (1,582), Llansteffan (1,621), St. Clears (2,300), Trelech (1,659) and Whitland (1,664).
- 27.6 This constituency would have 72,569 electors which is 3% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Caerfyrddin. The suggested alternative name was Carmarthenshire.
- 27.7 The Commission received few representations with regard to this constituency although, as discussed at paragraph 26.7 of section 5, the Commission did receive some representations proposing alternative arrangements. These would have included the electoral wards of Kidwelly and Tycroes within this proposed constituency.
- 27.8 The Assistant Commissioners recommended that the electoral wards of Kidwelly be included within this proposed constituency and noted that, *"...we recommend that to avoid breaking those local links Tycroes should be included in that proposed Caerfyrddin constituency rather than in the Llanelli and Lliw constituency in accordance with the Initial Proposals."* Similarly, *"...the Kidwelly ward has close local ties with the proposed Caerfyrddin constituency rather than with electoral wards within the proposed Llanelli and Lliw constituency...."*
- 27.9 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners' report, the Commission concluded that there was insufficient evidence to justify making those changes recommended by the Assistant Commissioners to the initial proposals. The Commission noted that both the electoral wards of Kidwelly and Tycroes were within the existing Llanelli constituency. The Commission noted that there was insufficient evidence to suggest that including the two wards within the proposed Llanelli constituency would break ties to any, or any significant, degree with areas in the proposed Caerfyrddin constituency. The Commission considered that including these two wards within the proposed Llanelli constituency better reflected the statutory criteria than the alternative arrangements proposed.
- 27.10 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:
- 27.10.a The electoral wards within the existing Carmarthen East and Dinefwr CC and County of Carmarthenshire of Abergwili (1,799), Ammanford (1,861), Betws (1,730), Cilycwm (1,145), Cynwyl Gaeo (1,260), Garnant (1,486), Glanamman (1,720), Gorslas (3,384), Llanddarog (1,570), Llandeilo (2,234), Llandovery (1,980), Llandybie (3,107), Llanegwad (1,887), Llanfihangel Aberbythych (1,417),

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Llanfihangel-ar-Arth (2,098), Llangadog (1,544), Llangunnor (2,049), Llangyndeyrn (2,550), Llanybydder (1,922), Manordeilo and Salem (1,709), Penygroes (2,143), Pontamman (2,047), Quarter Bach (2,108) St. Ishmael (2,097), and Saron (3,028); and,

27.10.b the electoral wards within the existing Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire CC and County of Carmarthenshire of Carmarthen Town North (3,606), Carmarthen Town South (2,537), Carmarthen Town West (3,196), Cynwyl Elfed (2,444), Laugharne Township (2,085), Llanboidy (1,582), Llansteffan (1,621), St. Clears (2,300), Trelech (1,659) and Whitland (1,664).

27.11 This constituency would have 72,569 electors which is 3% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.

27.12 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations that proposed that the electoral wards of Cenarth and Llangeler should form part of the proposed Caerfyrddin constituency rather than the proposed Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro constituency. The alternative arrangements proposed including the electoral wards of Llanrhian, St. David's, and Solva within the proposed Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro constituency, rather than the proposed Mid and South Pembrokeshire constituency, to ensure that the electorate of the proposed Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro constituency fell within the statutory electorate. As those changes meant that the electorate of the proposed Mid and South Pembrokeshire would fall below the statutory electorate range, the alternative arrangements proposed including the electoral ward of Whitland within the proposed Mid and South Pembrokeshire constituency rather than within the proposed Caerfyrddin constituency.

27.13 The Commission considered all the representations made and the proposed alternative arrangements. The Commission did not consider that there was any merit in the proposed alterations affecting the electoral wards of Llanrhian, St. David's, Solva, or Whitland. The Commission was satisfied that, in the circumstances, the electoral wards of Cenarth, and Llangeler were appropriately included within the proposed Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro constituency. The Commission concluded that the recommended Caerfyrddin constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in this area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

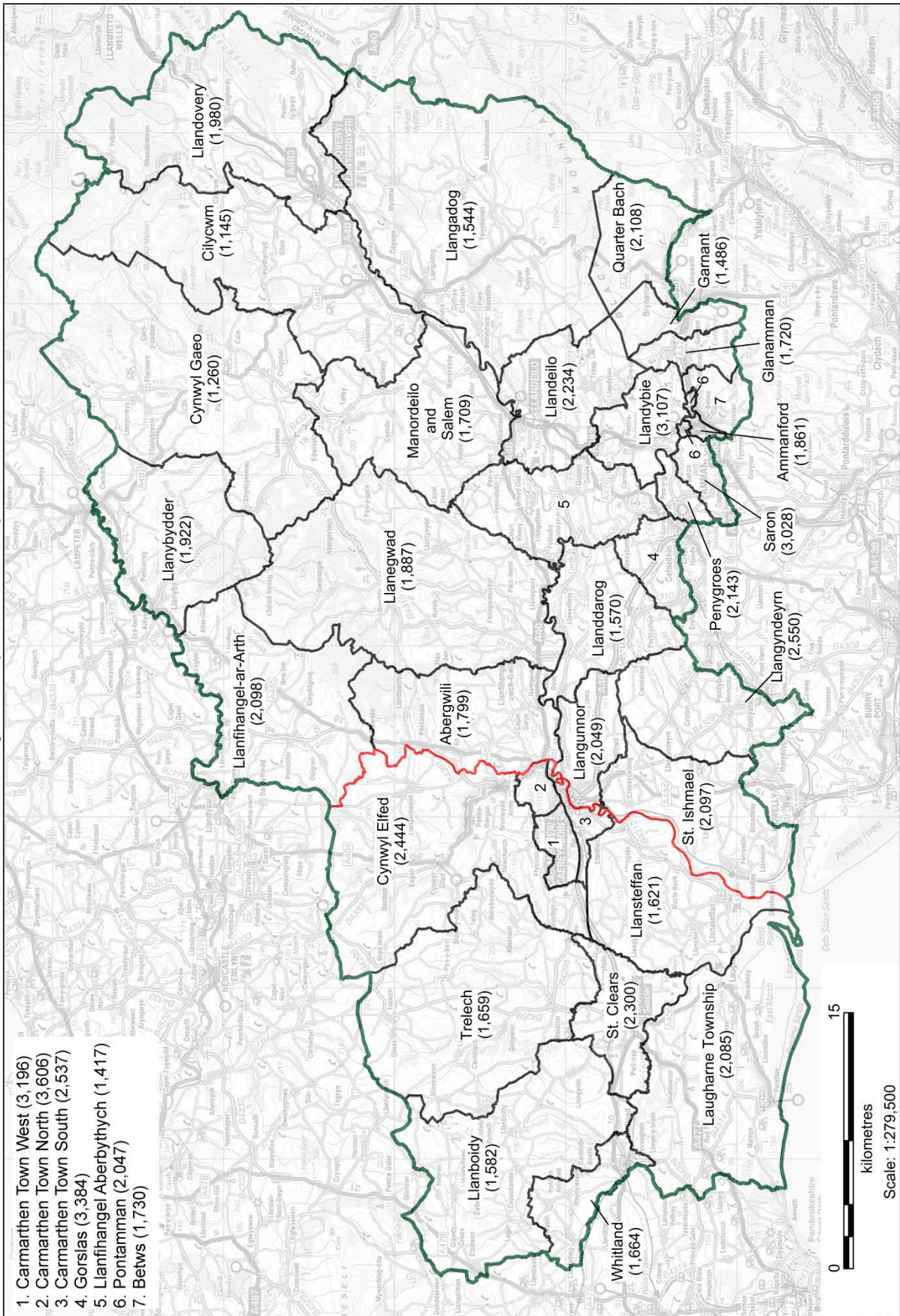
### Name

27.14 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Caerfyrddin. The recommended alternative name is Carmarthen.

27.15 The Commission initially proposed Caerfyrddin but proposed that an alternative name of Carmarthenshire. The Commission received representations that stated that the appropriate English language version corresponding to Caerfyrddin was Carmarthen not Carmarthenshire. The Commission proposed changing the alternative name to reflect that.

27.16 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Caerfyrddin (Carmarthen).

Caerfyrddin (Carmarthen)



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## 28 Mid and South Pembrokeshire (Canol a De Sir Benfro)

### Recommendation

28.1 The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:

28.1.a The electoral wards within the existing Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire CC and the County of Pembrokeshire of Amroth (909), Carew (1,106), East Williamston (1,816), Hundleton (1,346), Kilgetty/Begelly (1,563), Lampeter Velfrey (1,211), Lamphey (1,318), Manorbier (1,568), Martletwy (1,510), Narberth (1,483), Narberth Rural (1,143), Pembroke Dock: Central (1,007), Pembroke Dock: Llanion (1,853), Pembroke Dock: Market (1,216), Pembroke Dock: Pennar (2,257), Pembroke: Monkton (962), Pembroke: St. Mary North (1,380), Pembroke: St. Mary South (946), Pembroke: St. Michael (1,998), Penally (1,188), Saundersfoot (1,867), Tenby: North (1,574) and Tenby: South (1,661); and,

28.1.b the electoral wards within the existing Preseli Pembrokeshire CC and the County of Pembrokeshire of Burton (1,401), Camrose (1,992), Haverfordwest: Castle (1,466), Haverfordwest: Garth (1,539), Haverfordwest: Portfield (1,642), Haverfordwest: Prendergast (1,467), Haverfordwest: Priory (1,731), Johnston (1,867), Letterston (1,706), Llangwm (1,724), Llanrhian (1,155), Maenclochog (2,248), Merlin's Bridge (1,478), Milford: Central (1,389), Milford: East (1,436), Milford: Hakin (1,672), Milford: Hubberston (1,738), Milford: North (1,854), Milford: West (1,441), Neyland: East (1,697), Neyland: West (1,511), Rudbaxton (816), St. David's (1,413), St. Ishmael's (1,049), Solva (1,144), The Havens (1,118) and Wiston (1,494).

28.2 This constituency would have 74,070 electors which is 0.9% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.

28.3 The Commission recommended that the name for the proposed constituency should be Mid and South Pembrokeshire. The recommended alternative name is Canol a De Sir Benfro

28.4 The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:

28.4.a The existing Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire CC has a total of 55,118 electors which is 26% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 22% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.

28.4.b The existing Preseli Pembrokeshire CC has a total of 54,638 electors which is 27% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 23% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.

## BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES

### Background

28.5 In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:

28.5.a The electoral wards within the existing Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire CC and the County of Pembrokeshire of Amroth (909), Carew (1,106), East Williamston (1,816), Hundleton (1,346), Kilgetty/Begelly (1,563), Lampeter Velfrey (1,211), Lamphey (1,318), Manorbier (1,568), Martletwy (1,510), Narberth (1,483), Narberth Rural (1,143), Pembroke Dock: Central (1,007), Pembroke Dock: Llanion (1,853), Pembroke Dock: Market (1,216), Pembroke Dock: Pennar (2,257), Pembroke: Monkton (962), Pembroke: St. Mary North (1,380), Pembroke: St. Mary South (946), Pembroke: St. Michael (1,998), Penally (1,188), Saundersfoot (1,867), Tenby: North (1,574) and Tenby: South (1,661); and,

28.5.b the electoral wards within the existing Preseli Pembrokeshire CC and the County of Pembrokeshire of Burton (1,401), Camrose (1,992), Haverfordwest: Castle (1,466), Haverfordwest: Garth (1,539), Haverfordwest: Portfield (1,642), Haverfordwest: Prendergast (1,467), Haverfordwest: Priors (1,731), Johnston (1,867), Letterston (1,706), Llangwm (1,724), Llanrhian (1,155), Maenclochog (2,248), Merlin's Bridge (1,478), Milford: Central (1,389), Milford: East (1,436), Milford: Hakin (1,672), Milford: Hubberston (1,738), Milford: North (1,854), Milford: West (1,441), Neyland: East (1,697), Neyland: West (1,511), Rudbaxton (816), St. David's (1,413), St. Ishmael's (1,049), Solva (1,144), The Havens (1,118) and Wiston (1,494).

28.6 This constituency would have 74,070 electors which is 0.9% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was South Pembrokeshire. The suggested alternative name was De Sir Benfro.

28.7 The Commission received very few representations with regard to this proposed constituency. The Assistant Commissioners did not recommend any changes to the initial proposals. The Commission, having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners' report, decided to propose a constituency as described in the initial proposals.

28.8 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:

28.8.a The electoral wards within the existing Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire CC and the County of Pembrokeshire of Amroth (909), Carew (1,106), East Williamston (1,816), Hundleton (1,346), Kilgetty/Begelly (1,563), Lampeter Velfrey (1,211), Lamphey (1,318), Manorbier (1,568), Martletwy (1,510), Narberth (1,483), Narberth Rural (1,143), Pembroke Dock: Central (1,007), Pembroke Dock: Llanion (1,853), Pembroke Dock: Market (1,216), Pembroke Dock: Pennar (2,257), Pembroke: Monkton (962), Pembroke: St. Mary North (1,380), Pembroke: St. Mary South (946),

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Pembroke: St. Michael (1,998), Penally (1,188), Saundersfoot (1,867), Tenby: North (1,574) and Tenby: South (1,661); and,

28.8.b the electoral wards within the existing Preseli Pembrokeshire CC and the County of Pembrokeshire of Burton (1,401), Camrose (1,992), Haverfordwest: Castle (1,466), Haverfordwest: Garth (1,539), Haverfordwest: Portfield (1,642), Haverfordwest: Prendergast (1,467), Haverfordwest: Priory (1,731), Johnston (1,867), Letterston (1,706), Llangwm (1,724), Llanrhian (1,155), Maenclochog (2,248), Merlin's Bridge (1,478), Milford: Central (1,389), Milford: East (1,436), Milford: Hakin (1,672), Milford: Hubberston (1,738), Milford: North (1,854), Milford: West (1,441), Neyland: East (1,697), Neyland: West (1,511), Rudbaxton (816), St. David's (1,413), St. Ishmael's (1,049), Solva (1,144), The Havens (1,118) and Wiston (1,494).

28.9 This constituency would have 74,070 electors which is 0.9% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.

28.10 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations regarding the geographical composition of this proposed constituency. The representations stated that the new constituency should encompass the whole of the Pembrokeshire local authority area and suggested that the town of Fishguard shared no ties with areas of Ceredigion or Carmarthen and should be included within this proposed constituency. The Commission also received representations that suggested alternative arrangements for a number of proposed constituencies including this proposed constituency. The alternative arrangements proposed that the electoral wards of Cenarth and Llangeler be included within the proposed Caerfyrddin constituency rather than the proposed Ceredigion and North Pembrokeshire constituency as discussed at paragraph 27.12 of section 5. The alternative arrangements proposed changes which affected this proposed constituency. These included the electoral wards of Llanrhian, St. David's, and Solva within the proposed Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro constituency, rather than within this proposed constituency, to ensure that the electorate of the proposed Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro constituency fell within the statutory electorate. As those changes meant that the electorate of this proposed constituency would fall below the statutory electorate range, the alternative arrangements proposed including the electoral ward of Whitland within this proposed constituency rather than within the proposed Caerfyrddin constituency. The Commission also received representation that expressed concern about the geographical size of the proposed constituency. The Commission noted that whilst the proposed constituency is large compared with others within Wales, it is significantly smaller than the maximum size permitted under the Act.

28.11 The Commission considered all of the representations. The Commission would not be able to include the whole of the local authority of Pembrokeshire within this proposed constituency as the electorate would then exceed the statutory electorate range. The Commission did not consider that there was any merit in the proposed alterations affecting the electoral wards of Fishguard North East, Fishguard North West, Llanrhian, Solva, St. David's or Whitland. The Commission concluded that the recommended Mid and South

## BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES

Pembrokeshire constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in the area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

28.12 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Mid and South Pembrokeshire. The recommended alternative name is Canol a De Sir Benfro.

28.13 The Commission initially proposed South Pembrokeshire. The Commission received representations that stated that the name did not reflect the geographical composition of the whole area included within the proposed constituency. The Commission changed the name in its revised proposal to reflect this.

28.14 The Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Mid and South Pembrokeshire (Canol a De Sir Benfro).



## **29 Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro (Ceredigion and North Pembrokeshire)**

### **Recommendation**

**29.1 The Commission recommends a county constituency be created from:**

**29.1.a The electoral wards of the existing Ceredigion CC and of the County of Ceredigion electoral wards of Aberaeron (1,030), Aberporth (1,685), Aberteifi/Cardigan-Mwldan (1,463), Aberteifi/Cardigan-Rhyd-y-Fuwch (815), Aberteifi/Cardigan-Teifi (688), Aberystwyth Bronglais (894), Aberystwyth Canol/Central (1,106), Aberystwyth Gogledd/North (1,064), Aberystwyth Penparcau (2,067), Aberystwyth Rheidol (1,414), Beulah (1,268), Borth (1,513), Capel Dewi (1,003), Ceulanamaesmawr (1,443), Ciliau Aeron (1,468), Faenor (1,332), Lampeter (1,555), Llanarth (1,076), Llanbadarn Fawr-Padarn (721), Llanbadarn Fawr-Sulien (790), Llandyfriog (1,319), Llandysilio-gogo (1,430), Llandysul Town (942), Llanfarian (1,090), Llanfihangel Ystrad (1,504), Llangeitho (1,064), Llangybi (1,104), Llanrhystyd (1,208), Llansantffraed (1,832), Llanwenog (1,336), Lledrod (1,659), Melindwr (1,478), New Quay (782), Penbryn (1,612), Pen-parc (1,773), Tirymynach (1,276), Trefeurig (1,291), Tregaron (847), Troedyrour (1,006) and Ystwyth (1,484);**

**29.1.b the electoral wards within the existing Carmarthen East and Dinefwr CC and the County of Carmarthenshire of Cenarth (1,570) and Llangeler (2,546);**

**29.1.c the electoral wards within the existing Montgomeryshire CC and County of Powys of Glantwymyn (1,558), Llanbryn-mair (742) and Machynlleth (1,627); and,**

**29.1.d the electoral wards within the existing Preseli Pembrokeshire CC and County of Pembrokeshire of Cilgerran (1,396), Clydau (1,105), Crymych (1,918), Dinas Cross (1,210), Fishguard North East (1,399), Fishguard North West (1,094), Goodwick (1,335), Newport (812), Scleddau (1,076) and St. Dogmaels (1,647).**

**29.2 This constituency would have 71,467 electors which is 4.4% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.**

**29.3 The Commission recommends that the proposed constituency should be named Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro. The recommended alternative name is Ceredigion and North Pembrokeshire.**

**29.4 The existing constituencies affected by the recommended constituency are the following:**

**29.4.a The existing Carmarthen East and Dinefwr CC has a total of 53,991 electors which is 28% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 24% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.**

- 29.4.b The existing Ceredigion CC has a total of 50,432 electors which is 33% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 29% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.
- 29.4.c The existing Montgomeryshire CC has a total of 46,989 electors which is 37% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 34% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.
- 29.4.d The existing Preseli Pembrokeshire CC has a total of 54,638 electors which is 27% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency and 23% below the minimum of the statutory electorate range of 71,031 electors per constituency.

### Background

- 29.5 In the Commission's initial proposals, it was proposed that a county constituency be created from:
  - 29.5.a The whole of the existing Ceredigion CC;
  - 29.5.b the electoral wards within the existing Carmarthen East and Dinefwr CC and the County of Carmarthenshire of Cenarth (1,570) and Llangeler (2,546);
  - 29.5.c the electoral wards within the existing Montgomeryshire CC and County of Powys of Blaen Hafren (1,782) and Llanidloes (2,070); and,
  - 29.5.d the electoral wards within the existing Preseli Pembrokeshire CC and County of Pembrokeshire of Cilgerran (1,396), Clydau (1,105), Crymych (1,918), Dinas Cross (1,210), Fishguard North East (1,399), Fishguard North West (1,094), Goodwick (1,335), Newport (812), Scleddau (1,076) and St. Dogmaels (1,647).
- 29.6 This constituency would have 71,392 electors which is 4.5% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency. The suggested name for the constituency was Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro. The suggested alternative name was Ceredigion and North Pembrokeshire.
- 29.7 The Commission received a large number of representations stating that the electoral wards of Llanidloes and Blaen Hafren have local community ties with Newtown and that the wards should be included in the proposed Brecon, Radnor, and Montgomery constituency rather than within this proposed constituency. There was broad agreement among the representations, and the political parties that made representations, that the Glantwymyn, Llanbrynmair and Machynlleth wards should be included in this proposed constituency rather than the proposed De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn constituency. This is discussed at paragraph 7.7 of section 5. This would also ensure that this proposed constituency fell within the statutory electorate range.
- 29.8 The Assistant Commissioners concluded that the electoral wards of Blaen Hafren and Llanidloes should be removed from this proposed constituency due to the links between Llanidloes and Newtown, as highlighted throughout the representations received by the

## BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES

Commission, and should be included within the proposed Brecon, Radnor, and Montgomery constituency. The Assistant Commissioners proposed to include the wards of Glantwymyn, Llanbryn-mair and Machynlleth within this proposed constituency (rather than including them within the proposed De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn constituency). This amendment to the initial proposals was also recommended by many representations received by the Commission.

- 29.9 Having considered the representations and the Assistant Commissioners' report, the Commission accepted the Assistant Commissioners' recommendations. There was a significant number of representations supporting the inclusion of Glantwymyn, Llanbryn-mair and Machynlleth within this proposed constituency and the inclusion of Blaen Hafren and Llanidloes in the proposed Brecon, Radnor, and Montgomery constituency to avoid breaking local ties.
- 29.10 The Commission therefore proposed to create a county constituency from:
- 29.10.a The whole of the existing Ceredigion CC;
  - 29.10.b the electoral wards within the existing Carmarthen East and Dinefwr CC and the County of Carmarthenshire of Cenarth (1,570) and Llangeler (2,546);
  - 29.10.c the electoral wards within the existing Montgomeryshire CC and County of Powys of Glantwymyn (1,558), Llanbryn-mair (742) and Machynlleth (1,627); and,
  - 29.10.d the electoral wards within the existing Preseli Pembrokeshire CC and County of Pembrokeshire of Cilgerran (1,396), Clydau (1,105), Crymych (1,918), Dinas Cross (1,210), Fishguard North East (1,399), Fishguard North West (1,094), Goodwick (1,335), Newport (812), Scloddau (1,076) and St. Dogmaels (1,647).
- 29.11 This constituency would have 71,467 electors which is 4.4% below the UKEQ of 74,769 electors per constituency.
- 29.12 During the revised proposals consultation period the Commission received representations regarding the geographic composition of this proposed constituency. The Commission noted that whilst the proposed constituency is large compared with others within Wales, it is significantly smaller than the maximum size permitted under the Act. The representation from Ceredigion County Council supported the revised proposal and stated that although their preference would be for the proposed constituency to be co-terminous with local authority boundaries, they recognised that changes would need to be made to ensure that constituencies fell within the statutory electorate range. On that basis, the Council supported the revised proposal as the proposed constituency reflected existing natural links. However, the Commission also received representations that suggested that the electoral wards of Cenarth and Llangeler should be included within the proposed Caerfyrddin constituency rather than this proposed constituency and proposed further changes intended to achieve this. These changes would, amongst others, include the electoral wards of Llanrhian, St. David's, and Solva within this constituency rather than within the proposed Mid and South Pembrokeshire constituency, to ensure that the



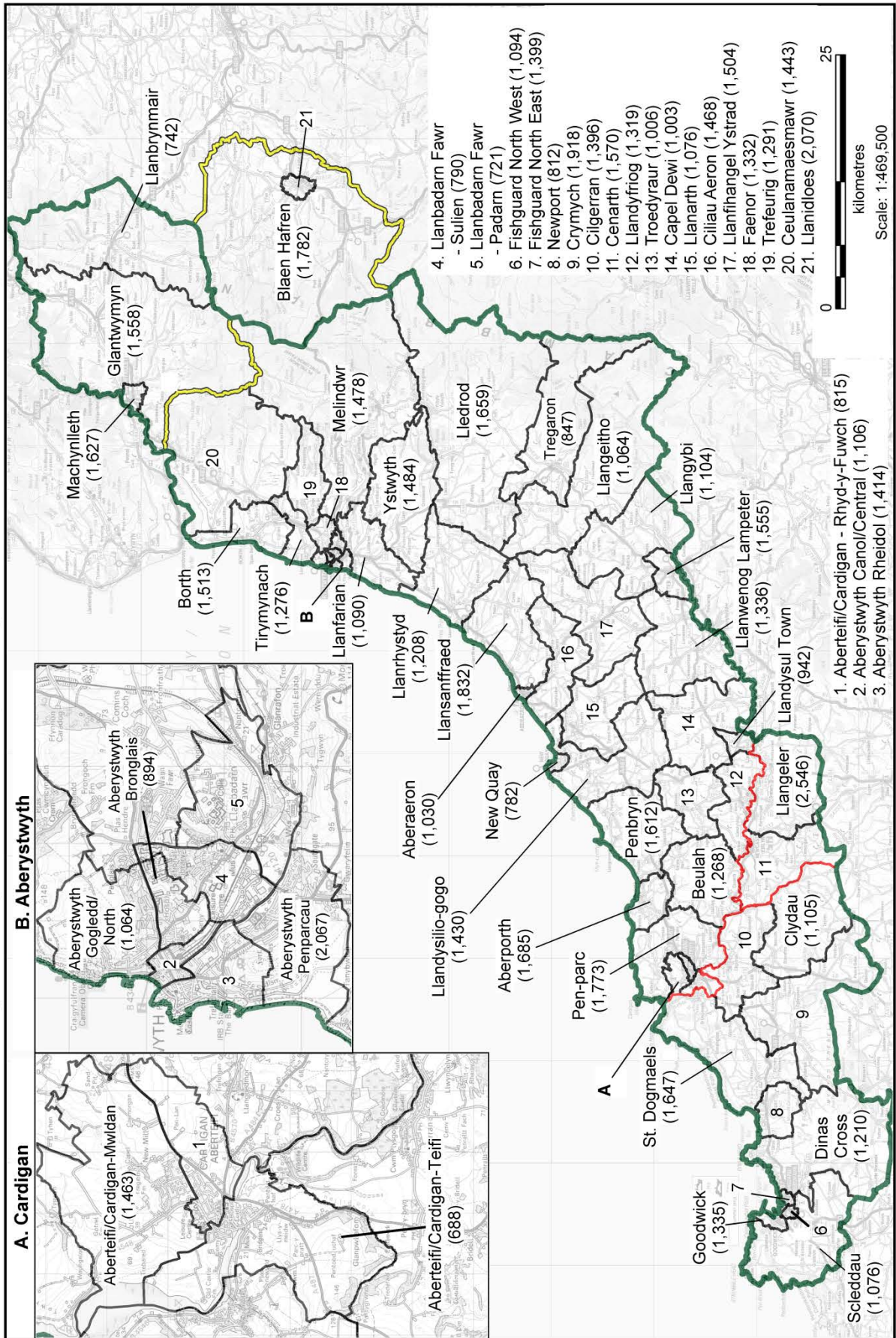
electorate of this proposed constituency fell within the statutory electorate as discussed at paragraph 28.10 of section 5. The Commission received representations that the whole of the Pembrokeshire local authority area should be included within one proposed constituency and suggested that the town of Fishguard shared no ties with areas of Ceredigion or Carmarthen.

- 29.13 The Commission considered all of the representations. The Commission would not be able to include the whole of the local authority area of Pembrokeshire within one proposed constituency as the electorate of such a constituency would exceed the statutory electorate range. The Commission did not consider that there was any merit in the proposed alterations affecting the electoral wards of Fishguard North East, Fishguard North West, Llanrhian, Solva, St. David's, Whitland or Machynlleth. The Commission considered the electoral wards of Cenarth and Llangeler and are satisfied that they were appropriately included within this proposed constituency. The Commission concluded that the recommended Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro constituency, and also the other recommended constituencies in the area, best meet the statutory criteria overall.

### Name

- 29.14 The name the Commission recommends for this constituency is Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro. The recommended alternative name is Ceredigion and North Pembrokeshire. The Assistant Commissioners recommended the name Bae Ceredigion (Cardigan Bay).
- 29.15 However the Commission has considered all the representations made and has concluded that the most appropriate name which best reflects the geographical composition of the proposed constituency and is likely to have greater affinity with electors is Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro (Ceredigion and North Pembrokeshire).

Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro (Ceredigion and North Pembrokeshire)



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## Appendix 1 Recommended Constituencies

Constituency Name	Alternative Name	Electors	Variance from UKEQ
Alyn and Deeside	Alun a Glannau Dyfrdwy	77,032	3%
Blaenau Gwent	Blaenau Gwent	75,664	1.2%
Brecon, Radnor and Montgomery	Aberhonddu, Maesyfed a Threfaldwyn	74,903	0.2%
Bridgend and Vale of Glamorgan West	Pen-y-bont a Gorllewin Bro Morgannwg	74,092	-0.9%
Caerfyrddin	Carmarthen	72,569	-3%
Caerphilly	Caerffili	76,323	2.1%
Cardiff North	Gogledd Caerdydd	78,187	4.6%
Cardiff South and East	De a Dwyrain Caerdydd	74,128	-0.9%
Cardiff West	Gorllewin Caerdydd	78,321	4.8%
Ceredigion a Gogledd Sir Benfro	Ceredigion and North Pembrokeshire	71,467	-4.4%
Conwy and Colwyn	Conwy a Cholwyn	77,613	3.8%
Cynon Valley and Pontypridd	Cwm Cynon a Phontypridd	78,005	4.3%
De Clwyd a Gogledd Maldwyn	South Clwyd and North Montgomeryshire	71,570	-4.3%
Gower and Swansea West	Gŵyr a Gorllewin Abertawe	76,085	1.8%
Gwynedd	Gwynedd	76,260	2%
Llanelli	Llanelli	76,302	2.1%
Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney	Merthyr Tudful a Rhymni	77,770	4%
Mid and South Pembrokeshire	Canol a De Sir Benfro	74,070	-0.9%
Monmouthshire	Sir Fynwy	74,532	-0.3%
Neath	Castell-nedd	74,621	-0.2%
Newport	Casnewydd	75,986	1.6%
Ogmore and Aberavon	Ogwr ac Aberafan	78,365	4.8%
Rhondda and Llantrisant	Rhondda a Llantrisant	77,905	4.2%
Rhuddlan and Flint	Rhuddlan ac Y Fflint	75,548	1%
Swansea East	Dwyrain Abertawe	71,637	-4.2%
Torfaen	Torfaen	72,367	-3.2%
Vale of Glamorgan East	Dwyrain Bro Morgannwg	76,984	3%
Wrexham	Wrecsam	72,137	-3.5%
Ynys Môn a Bangor	Anglesey and Bangor	71,398	-4.5%

## Appendix 2 Index of Existing Constituencies

Existing Constituency	Electorate	Page Number
Aberavon	48,346	92,115, 119, 125
Aberconwy	44,153	18,23,29
Alyn and Deeside	60,550	38
Arfon	37,739	18,23
Blaenau Gwent	49,661	72
Brecon and Radnorshire	52,273	55
Bridgend	58,932	114, 119
Caerphilly	61,158	76, 80
Cardiff Central	49,403	100, 105
Cardiff North	63,574	100, 105
Cardiff South and Penarth	72,392	105, 110
Cardiff West	63,892	95
Carmarthen East and Dinefwr	53,991	145, 154
Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire	55,118	145, 149
Ceredigion	50,432	154
Clwyd South	53,094	42,47
Clwyd West	56,862	23, 29, 47
Cynon Valley	49,405	85
Delyn	52,388	34, 38
Dwyfor Meirionnydd	42,353	23, 47
Gower	59,478	130, 135, 141
Islwyn	53,306	73, 76, 80
Llanelli	57,202	141
Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney	53,166	76
Monmouth	62,729	60, 68
Montgomeryshire	46,989	47, 55
Neath	54,691	125
Newport East	53,959	60, 64, 68
Newport West	60,101	64, 68, 80
Ogmore	54,614	90, 114, 119
Pontypridd	56,525	85, 90, 95
Preseli Pembrokeshire	54,638	149, 154
Rhondda	49,161	90
Swansea East	55,392	130, 135
Swansea West	51,952	130, 135
Torfaen	58,562	68
Vale of Clwyd	55,839	23, 29, 34, 47
Vale of Glamorgan	69,673	110, 114
Wrexham	48,861	42
Ynys Môn	49,287	18

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## COUNTY COUNCIL

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October
<b>Report Subject</b>	Annual Performance Report 2017/18
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Executive

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Annual Performance Report for 2017/18 reviews our progress against the Council Priorities as detailed in the Council Plan 2017/18.

The report reflects the overall progress that has been made against our priorities and the level of confidence we have in achieving the desired outcomes. It also shows the position against our 46 risks, with 12 remaining at a high level at year end.

Performance against the Council Plan measures was positive with 83% of agreed key activities being assessed as making good progress and likely to achieve the desired outcome. In addition, 58% of the performance indicators met or exceeded target for the year, whilst 68% showed improvement or remained stable. Risks are also being successfully managed with the majority being assessed as moderate (61%) or minor/insignificant (13%).

Comparison nationally using the Public Accountability Measures (PAMs) revealed 67% of indicators showed improved or sustained performance.

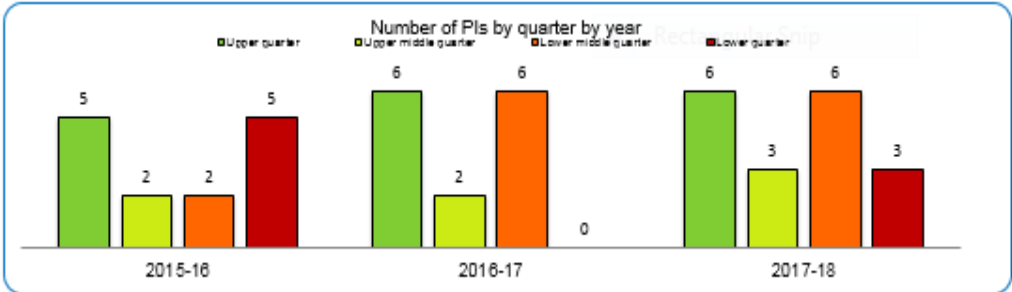
## RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To adopt the 2017/18 Annual Performance Report for publication.
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## REPORT DETAILS

<b>1.00</b>	<b>EXPLAINING THE CONTENT OF THE REPORT</b>
1.01	The Annual Performance Report (the Report) meets the statutory requirement to publish an Improvement Plan as required by the Local Government (Wales) Measure (2009) (the Measure). The report must be published by 31 <sup>st</sup> October each year. The purpose of the report is to account for the organisation's previous year's performance against its Council Priorities.
1.02	The requirements of the Measure are met through the "forward looking" document; the Council Plan 2017/18. This sets out the vision and priorities for the Council. The second statutory requirement of the Measure is met by this Annual Performance Report, which reviews progress on commitments made in the previous year.
1.03	The Annual Performance Report must be adopted by the full Council prior to publication.
1.04	The Annual Performance Report for 2017/18 reviews our progress against the Council Priorities as detailed in the Council Plan 2017/18. This assessment takes into consideration assessments of our performance for each of the Improvement Priorities through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Progress against key actions and projects</li><li>• Progress against identified risks and challenges</li><li>• Performance indicator outturns (target and trend analysis)</li><li>• Regulatory, audit and inspection activity</li></ul>
1.05	<b><u>Progress against Key Activities</u></b> Overall good progress has been made against the 2017/18 Council Plan priorities and there is a high level of confidence in the achievement of desired outcomes. The Report summaries progress against the key activities supporting the priorities as follows: <b>Progress:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We are making good progress in 83% (48).</li><li>• We are making satisfactory progress in 17% (10)</li></ul> <b>Outcome:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We have a high level of confidence in the achievement of 74% (43).</li><li>• We have a medium level of confidence in the achievement of 26% (15).</li></ul>



1.06	<p><b><u>Progress against Risks and Challenges</u></b></p> <p>Good progress was made in managing our risks. Analysis of the year end risk levels for the 46 strategic risks identified in the Council Plan is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 69.6% (32) risks remained the same.</li> <li>• 21.7% (10) risks reduced in significance</li> <li>• 8.7% (4) risks increased in significance</li> </ul>																				
1.07	<p><b><u>Performance Indicator Outturns</u></b></p> <p>The Report summaries our performance against the Council Plan measures and also nationally using the Public Accountability Measures (PAMs).</p> <p><b>Council Plan Measures</b></p> <p>Assessment of actual performance against target:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 58% (64) of performance measures achieved target or better.</li> <li>• 34% (37) of performance measures missed target within an acceptable margin</li> <li>• 8% (9) of performance measures significantly missed target.</li> </ul> <p>Analysis of trend was undertaken. This is a comparison of current year performance with that of the previous year.</p> <p>Where trend analysis could be undertaken: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 68% (55) of performance measures showed improved performance;</li> <li>• 23% (19) showed performance had downturned when compared with the previous year; and</li> <li>• 9% (7) had maintained the same level of performance</li> </ul> <p><b>Public Accountability Measures</b></p> <p>67% of these national measures maintained or improved performance against 2016/17.</p> <p>Our quartile profile over previous years is as follows:</p>  <table border="1"> <caption>Number of PIs by quarter by year</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Upper quartile</th> <th>Upper middle quartile</th> <th>Lower middle quartile</th> <th>Lower quartile</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2015-16</td> <td>5</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016-17</td> <td>6</td> <td>2</td> <td>6</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2017-18</td> <td>6</td> <td>3</td> <td>6</td> <td>3</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Upper quartile	Upper middle quartile	Lower middle quartile	Lower quartile	2015-16	5	2	2	5	2016-17	6	2	6	0	2017-18	6	3	6	3
Year	Upper quartile	Upper middle quartile	Lower middle quartile	Lower quartile																	
2015-16	5	2	2	5																	
2016-17	6	2	6	0																	
2017-18	6	3	6	3																	

1.08	<p><b><u>Regulation, Audit and Inspection Activity</u></b></p> <p>The Wales Audit Office publishes an Annual Improvement Report (AIR) each year on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales. The AIR published in September 2018 for Flintshire summarised the findings and recommendations from the various reports that have been produced.</p> <p>Overall the Auditor General concluded that:</p> <p><i>“The Council is meeting its statutory requirements in relation to continuous improvement.”</i></p>
1.09	The statutory requirements of the Measure are met through a concentration on the Council’s ‘Improvement’ Priorities.
1.10	The Report will be available via the Council’s website. Paper copies can be generated as required and the supporting documents which provide the more detailed information will be available as ‘hyperlinked’ documents. A graphical summary of the Report will be publicised electronically.
<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	There are no specific resource implications within this report.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
3.01	The Annual Performance Report must be approved by the full Council before publication.
3.02	<p>Consultation is undertaken throughout the year by Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Committees reviewing the quarterly performance reports.</p> <p>A report on the full year’s progress against the Council Plan 2017/18 was presented to Cabinet in June 2018.</p>

<b>4.00</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
4.01	An assessment of the risks identified in the Council Plan for 2017/18 have been made within the Annual Performance Report.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	<p>Appendix A – Annual Performance Report 2017/18</p> <p>Appendix B – Council Plan 2017/18 Risk Register</p> <p>Appendix C – National Indicators Measures Data Table</p> <p>Appendix D – Public Accountability Measures 2017/18</p> <p>Appendix E – Flintshire County Council’s Wellbeing Objectives alignment to the national Well-Being Goals</p> <p>Appendix F – Glossary of Terms</p>

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	Council Plan 2017/18  <b>Contact Office: Corporate Business and Communications Team</b> <b>Telephone: 01352 701457</b> <b>E-mail: corporatebusiness @flintshire.gov.uk</b>

<b>7.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
7.01	<b>Annual Performance Report:</b> accounts for the organisation’s previous year’s performance against its ‘Improvement’ priorities. It must be published by 31st October each year.
7.02	<b>Council Plan:</b> the document which sets out the annual priorities of the Council. It is a requirement of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to set Improvement Objectives and publish an Improvement Plan.
7.03	<b>Local Government (Wales) Measure (2009):</b> A measure of the National Assembly for Wales to make provision about arrangements by local authorities and other authorities in Wales to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of their functions; to make provision for community strategies; and for connected purposes.
7.04	<b>Public Accountability Measures (PAMs):</b> a set of national “outcome focussed” performance indicators that reflect those aspects of local authority work which local authorities agree are considered to be important in terms of public accountability, e.g. recycling, educational attainment, etc.
7.05	<b>Performance Indicator (PI):</b> a type of performance measurement used to evaluate the success of an organisation or of a particular activity in which it engages.
7.06	<b>PI Outturn:</b> the actual performance achieved for a performance indicator.
7.07	<b>PI Target Analysis:</b> comparison of actual performance compared with the target.
7.08	<b>PI Trend Analysis:</b> comparison of actual performance for the year with the previous year(s) performance.
7.09	<b>Council Plan Measures:</b> the performance indicators or milestones used to evaluate the success of activities in the Council Plan.
7.10	<b>Wales Audit Office (WAO):</b> works to support the Auditor General as the public sector watchdog for Wales. They aim to ensure that the people of Wales know whether public money is being managed wisely and that public bodies in Wales understand how to improve outcomes.
7.11	<b>Audit General for Wales:</b> Appointed by the Queen and independent of government the <a href="#">Auditor General for Wales</a> is the statutory external auditor of most of the Welsh public sector.

7.12	<b>Annual Improvement Report (AIR):</b> is publicised by the Wales Audit Office (WAO) on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales. It brings together, with the co-ordination of other inspectorates such as Estyn and the Care and Social Services Inspectorate for Wales (CSSIW), a picture of the Council's delivery and evaluation of services and it's planning of improvement for the coming year.
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## Introduction

The Annual Performance Report (APR) gives an overview of the performance of the Council during 2017/18 against the priorities we set. It also covers progress against our Well-being Objectives.

The report covers: -

- Progress against key actions and projects.
- Actual and comparative performance information against local and nationally set performance indicators.
- An assessment of how well the Council is managing the strategic risks and challenges it faces.
- The outcomes of external regulatory work and the Council's response to improve governance and public services as a result.

The publication of this Annual Performance Report meets the statutory requirement to publish an annual 'backward looking' report on our Council Plan as part of the Local Government (Wales) Measure (2009). The Council Plan, our 'forward looking' publication, meets the other statutory requirement. In meeting these requirements the Council demonstrates a sound system of internal control which supports the effective discharge of its functions.

### Setting Priorities

The Council has competing pressures and priorities. Some priorities are 'self-selecting' to meet national government social policy objectives such as housing and education. Others are set more locally.

The priorities have been shaped by councillors across our Cabinet and the Overview and Scrutiny functions to ensure continuity of analysis for past, present and future performance against which the Council can be judged. There is widespread ownership of the priorities within the Council and with our key partners in the public, private and voluntary sectors.

This set of six priorities supported by a series of sub-priorities (seen overleaf in Table 1) has helped the Council to concentrate on the things where attention was most needed during 2017/18. The remaining priorities from previous years have been managed as more routine business outside of the Plan.

The Council acts as a representative democratic body and sets its priorities based on the evidence it has gathered from many sources. Our elected members are in touch with local views through:-

- Democratic representation.
- Partnership Forums.
- Statutory consultation.
- Direct community/user consultation.

Table 1: Council Priorities 2017/18

Priority	Sub Priority	Impact
<b>Supportive Council</b>	Appropriate and Affordable Homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring the supply of affordable and quality housing of all tenures</li> </ul>
	Modern, Efficient and Adapted Homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring the supply of affordable and quality housing of all tenures</li> </ul>
	Protecting people from poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protecting people from poverty by maximising their income and employability</li> </ul>
	Independent Living	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Making early interventions to support healthy and independent living.</li> <li>Sustaining a local market of high quality and affordable service provision for those who are highly dependent on care support.</li> </ul>
	Integrated Community Social and Health Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enabling more people to live independently and well at home.</li> <li>Giving equal opportunity to all to fulfil their lives.</li> <li>Providing joined-up services with public and third sector partners which support quality of life in communities and for individuals and families.</li> </ul>
<b>Ambitious Council</b>	Safeguarding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protecting people from the risk of any form of abuse.</li> <li>Making communities safe places by working with partners to prevent crime, repeat crime and anti-social behaviour.</li> </ul>
	Business Sector Growth and Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sustaining economic growth through local and regional business development, employment and training sites.</li> <li>Developing the transport infrastructure and employment sites and transport services, widening access to employment and training sites.</li> <li>Creating a supply of diverse and quality training and employment opportunities.</li> </ul>



<b>Learning Council</b>	High Performing Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing high quality learning opportunities and learning environments for learners of all ages.</li> <li>• Supporting children and younger people to achieve their potential.</li> <li>• Supporting learners from 3 to 18 years of age to aspire to high levels of educational attainment and achievement.</li> </ul>
<b>Green Council</b>	Sustainable Development and Environmental Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhancing the natural environment and promoting access to open and green spaces.</li> <li>• Reducing energy consumption and using and developing alternative/renewable energy production.</li> <li>• Maximising the recovery and recycling of waste.</li> </ul>
	Safe and sustainable travel services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing the transport infrastructure and employment sites, and transport services, widening access to employment and training sites.</li> </ul>
<b>Connected Council</b>	Resilient Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting local communities to be resilient and self-supporting.</li> <li>• Committing to resilient service models to sustain local public services.</li> <li>• Widening digital access to public services.</li> </ul>
<b>Serving Council</b>	Effective Resource Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuing to be a high performing and innovative public sector organisation with social values.</li> <li>• Providing high quality, accessible, responsive and cost effective public services.</li> </ul>

Note: The colour scheme used in this table is used throughout the document for ease of recognition.

## Consultation

Consultation and engagement with our customers and communities takes place on a number of different levels: representative democracy through our elected members, structured engagement through, for example, our County Forum (with Town and Community Councils), formal needs assessments through our strategic partnerships, surveys and feedback, and workshops and roadshows. Different methods are used according to circumstances, the type of audience, and the reach of coverage sought.

Between April 2017 and March 2018 we undertook a range of consultations with impacted stakeholders. Examples of these are:

- Local Development Plan for Flintshire (November 2017 – December 2017)
- Public Engagement Events around the Flintshire County Council's Budget (October 2017 - November 2017)
- Public Engagement Events and various consultation exercises around the draft priorities of the Well-being Plan (September 2017 – February 2018)
- Active Travel Draft Integrated Network Map (July 2017 – September 2017)
- School Modernisation: Brynford and Lixwm Area School Review

### Examples include:

#### **Local Development Plan – Preferred strategy**

The Preferred Strategy consultation followed on from previous consultations particularly relating to Strategic Growth and Spatial Options. The consultation presented the preferred approach on how much the County will grow by and how development will be broadly distributed across the County. It gave the public the opportunity to comment on the Council's preliminary assessment as to whether the candidate sites broadly fit in with the Preferred Strategy and put forward new or 'alternative' sites for consideration as part of the consultation exercise.

**Active Travel Consultation** - The Active Travel Act provides an opportunity to make Wales an active travel nation. Flintshire mapped out its proposals for improving walking and cycling infrastructure over a 15 year plan period. These draft proposals went out for consultation with the general public inviting them to help shape the Integrated Network Map before its submission to Welsh Ministers in November for approval.

**School Modernisation: Brynford and Lixwm Area School Review** - The consultation, run in compliance with the statutory School Organisation Code, was extensive. The schools network needed to remain viable and a sustainable model of primary education within the two communities. Cabinet agreed to proceed to statutory consultation on school organisational change on the proposal to amalgamate Brynford and Lixwm Community Primary Schools to create a single area school.

## Section 1: Assessment of our Performance against Council Priorities for 2017/18

For 2017/18 the Council had six Priorities as detailed in its Council Plan.

Table 2 below shows a summary of the year end “progress” and confidence in meeting “outcome” assessment for each priority based on the following red, amber, green (RAG) status key.

All activities in the Report have been graded as described in the ‘key’ below. These are (RAG) graded for progress and/or performance. An analysis is made of the number of activities in each RAG category to provide a collective grade for each priority and sub-priority heading. Where there is an equal number of two gradings, then the lower one is always used.

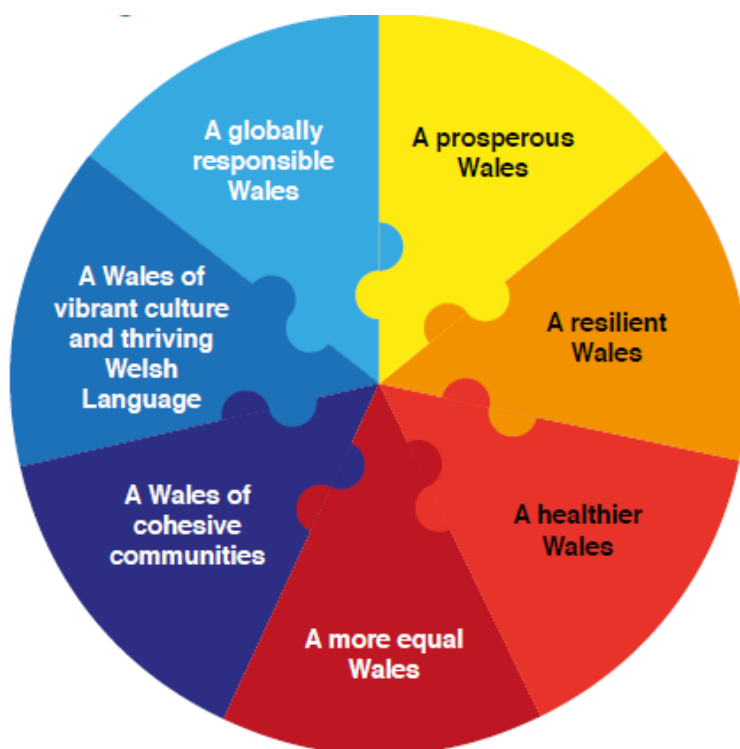
The Outcome RAG status below was assessed as part of the end of year reports in June and is based on our confidence in contributing positively towards the Outcome during the year.

<b><u>PROGRESS RAG Status Key</u></b>		<b><u>OUTCOME RAG Status Key</u></b>	
<b>R</b>	<b>Limited Progress</b> - delay in scheduled activity; not on track	<b>R</b>	<b>Low</b> - lower level of confidence in the achievement of outcome(s)
<b>A</b>	<b>Satisfactory Progress</b> - some delay in scheduled activity, but broadly on track	<b>A</b>	<b>Medium</b> - uncertain level of confidence in the achievement of the outcome(s)
<b>G</b>	<b>Good Progress</b> - activities completed on schedule, on track	<b>G</b>	<b>High</b> - full confidence in the achievement of the outcome(s)

## Well-being Objectives

The Council set its Well-being Objectives in June 2017. These are the Council's commitments to comply with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Designated public bodies are required to work individually and collectively to improve wellbeing in Wales. The seven well-being goals and the five ways of working set a general purpose for public bodies. They also aim to ensure better decisions by:

- considering the long-term
- prevention
- integrated working
- working collaboratively
- and being inclusive of people of all ages.



Our Well-being Objectives reflect the 'Impacts' we intend to make through the actions and activities within each priority. An assessment of the progress against each Objective is made as part of the overall performance for each priority. We are expected to report on our contribution to the principles of the Act, and information about a number of these activities can be found in the report.

For the purpose of this report, since we are reflecting on 2017/18, we have reported against the Well-being Objectives adopted for that year.

**Appendix D** examines the way our Well-being Objectives align with achieving the aims of the national well-being goals.

Table 2: Summary of 2017/18 Priority Performance

Priority	Sub Priority	Progress	Outcome
<b>Supportive Council</b>	Appropriate and Affordable Homes	G	G
	Modern, Efficient and Adapted Homes	G	G
	Protecting people from poverty	G	G
	Independent Living	G	G
	Integrated Community Social and Health Services	G	G
	Safeguarding	G	G
<b>Ambitious Council</b>	Business Sector Growth and Regeneration	G	G
<b>Learning Council</b>	High Performing Education	G	G
<b>Green Council</b>	Sustainable Development and Environmental Management	G	G
	Safe and sustainable travel services	G	G
<b>Connected Council</b>	Resilient Communities	G	A
<b>Serving Council</b>	Effective Resource Management	G	A

Section 2 of this report (page 15) gives a more detailed assessment for the “progress” against each of the sub-priorities which support the six Priorities.

## Risk Management

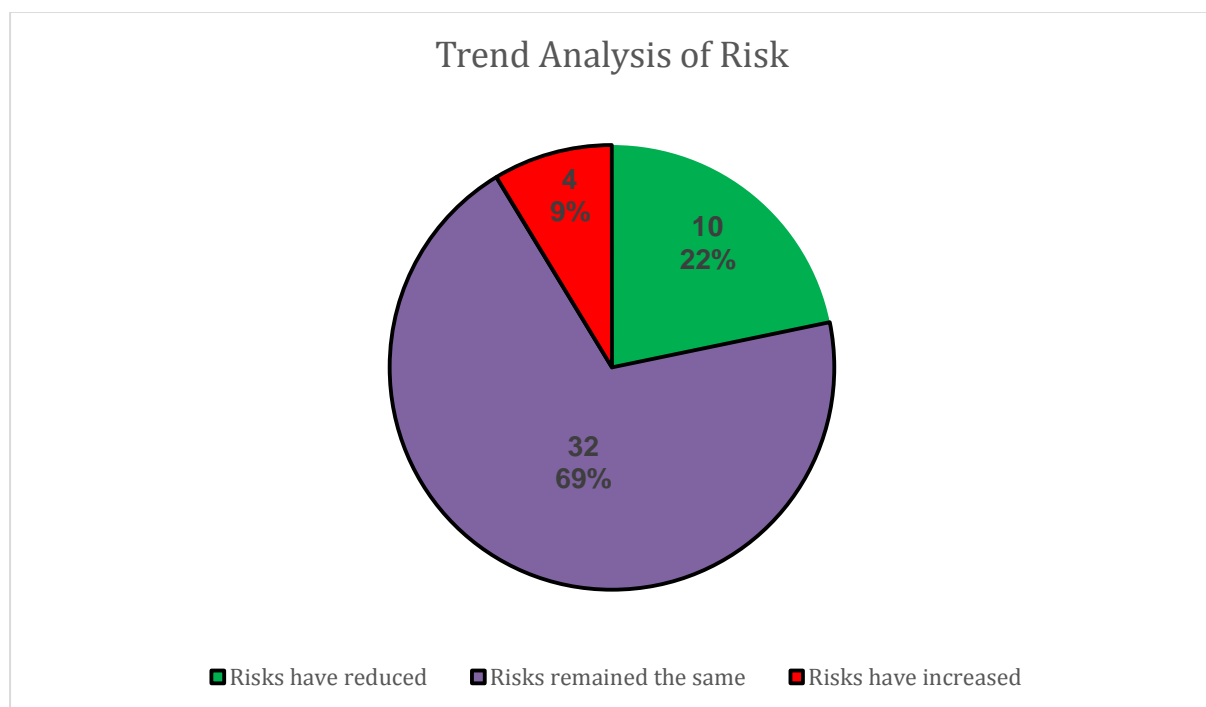
The Council adopted the Council Plan for 2017/18 in July 2017. The Council Plan's strategic risks are contained within the priorities of the Plan and are monitored throughout the year.

Analysis of the year end risk levels for the 46 strategic risks identified in the Council Plan is as follows: -

- 2 (4.5%) are low (green)
- 4 (8.5%) are minor (yellow)
- 28 (61%) are medium (amber)
- 12 (26%) are high (red)

Trend analysis was also undertaken, comparing risk levels at the end of the year with those at the start of the year. The analysis showed that: -

- 10 (21.7%) risks had reduced
- 32 (69.6%) risks remained the same
- 4 (8.7%) risks had increased



A summary table of the risks at year end 2017/18 is shown at Appendix A.

## Performance Data Summary

### National Performance Summary (All Wales Position)

The Welsh Government and the Local Government Data Unit released 2017/18 performance data for all local authorities in Wales (and Public Accountability Measures) in September 2018. This was accompanied by an overview of national trends as in previous years.

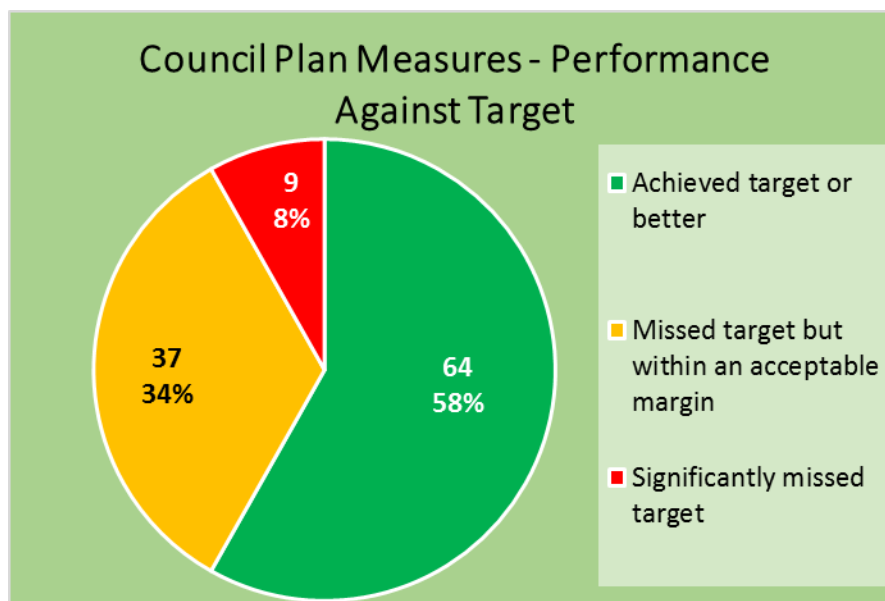
### Improving Our Performance

Performance for 2017/18 against our Council Plan Measures is summarised in an outturn performance indicator table (Chart 1a). 58% of indicators achieved target or better compared to 63% in 2016/17. Only 8% of indicators significantly missed targets compared to 7% during 2016/17.

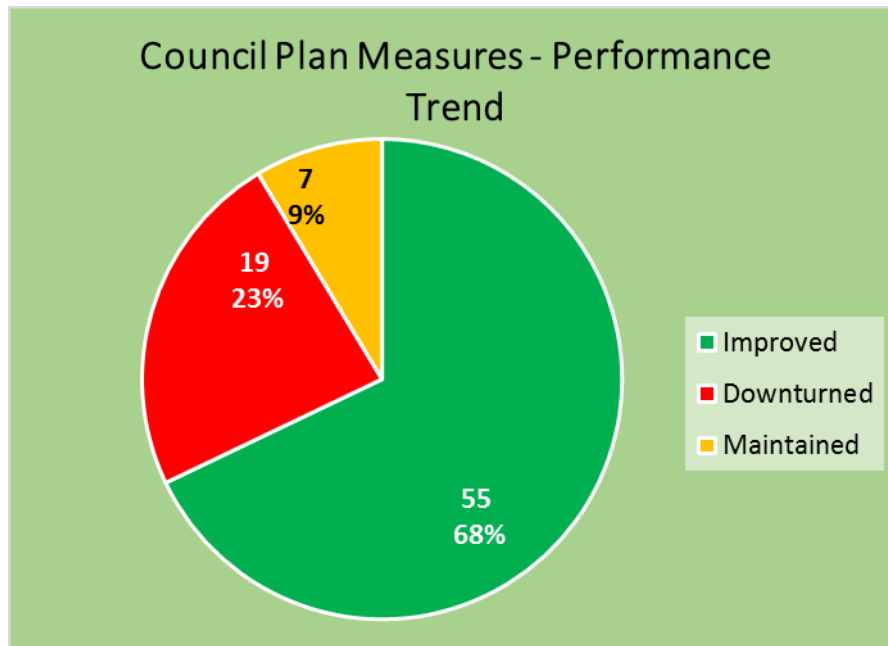
Year on year improvements are summarised in Chart 1b. This shows 77% of indicators either improving or maintaining good levels of performance.

Analysis of year end levels of performance identified: -

**Chart 1a: How we performed against our 2017/18 target measures**

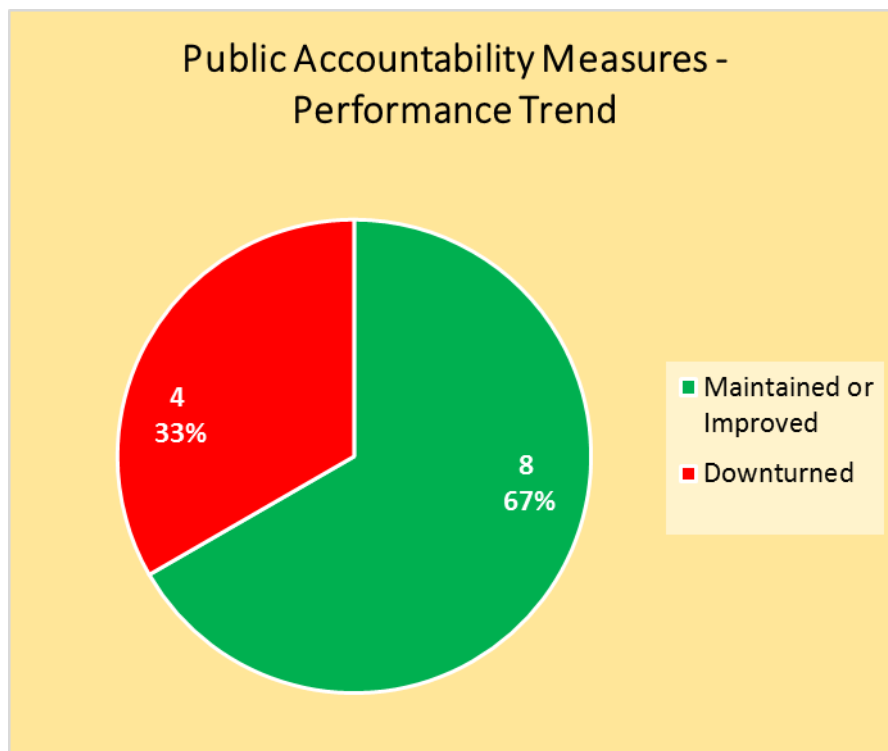


**Chart 1b: Performance trend for our Council Plan measures**



**Chart 2: Performance trend for the national statutory measures**

Analysis of the number of indicators where trend was relevant and performance had improved, been maintained or downturned.

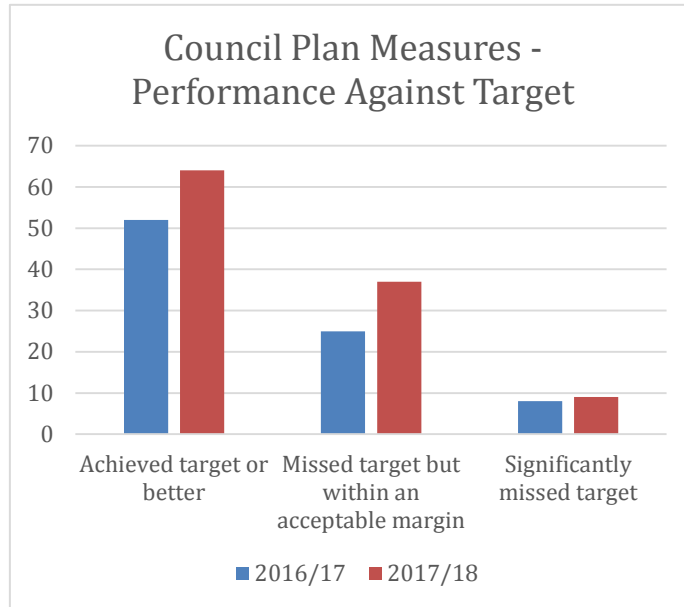




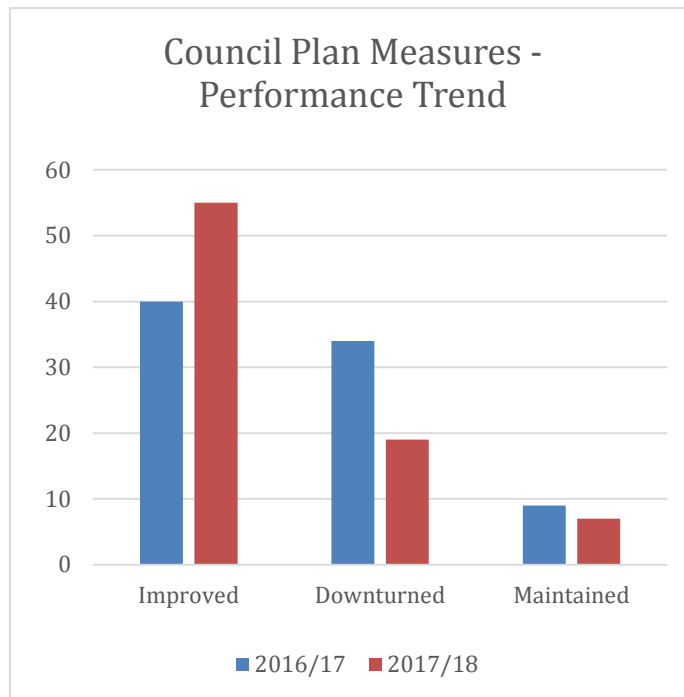
## Performance Data Comparison

The tables below show a comparison of performance data between 2016/17 and 2017/18. Each table shows positive progress being made in comparison to the previous year.

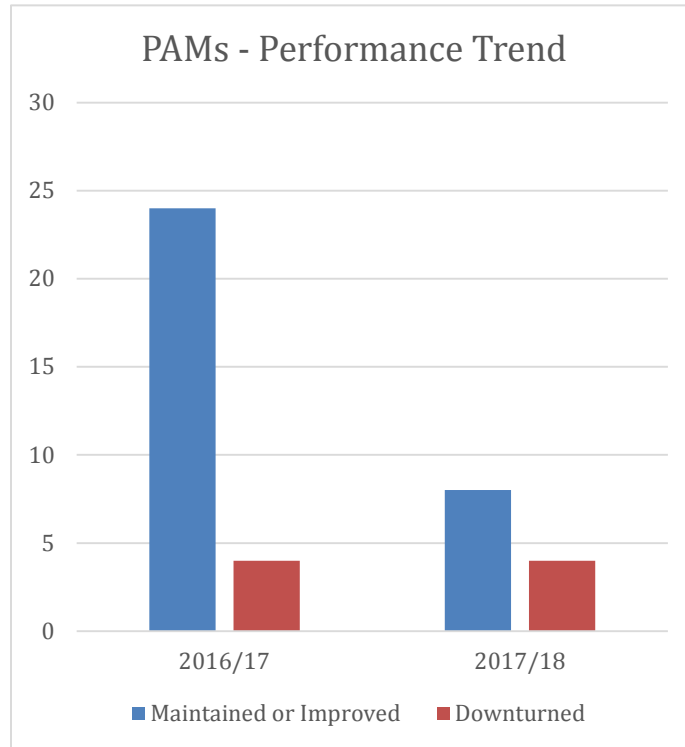
**Chart 3a: Council Plan Measures comparison of Performance Against Target for 2016/17 and 2017/18**



**Chart 3b: Council Plan Measures comparison of Performance Trend for 2016/17 and 2017/18**



**Chart 3c: Council Plan Measures comparison of PAMs Performance Trend for 2016/17 and 2017/18**



There are a reduced number of PAMs in 2017/18 reported against (no.12) compared with 2016/17 (no. 28). Some performance data is still to be confirmed – such as from waste and social services.

## Section 2: Detailed Priority Reporting

### Priority: Supportive Council

Progress: **G** Outcome: **G**

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#### Sub Priority: Appropriate and Affordable Homes

Impact / Well-being Objective: Ensuring the supply of affordable and quality housing of all tenures

Progress: **GREEN** Outcome: **GREEN**

#### During 2017/18 we said we would:

1. Provide new social and affordable homes by:
  - Building 79 new Council and 62 new affordable homes through the Strategic Housing and Regeneration Programme (SHARP); and
  - Increasing the number of properties managed by NEW Homes to 144 in 2017/18
  - Delivering options for new, innovative low rent housing schemes for under 35's.

#### What we did:

- ✓ During 2017/18 the Council's Strategic Housing and Regeneration Programme (SHARP) has built 95 social and affordable homes in Connah's Quay, Leeswood, Mold and Flint with a further 31 units completed and occupied during April 2018. This sees the completion of Phases 1 and 2 of SHARP which has delivered 138 units comprising 62 affordable homes, managed by North East Wales Homes (NEW) Homes Ltd and 76 council homes.
2. Achieve the Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) investment plan targets by:
    - Completing WHQS work schemes in line with the Housing Asset Management Strategy provided through the Social Housing Grant (SHG) programme.

#### What we did:

- ✓ Positive work achieved in the first 2 years of the programme has continued into year three. The WHQS Capital Programme is still on target to be completed by 2020. New workstreams comprising of roofing works, window and door replacements along with wider community works such as car parking and communal footpaths have been introduced.
3. Develop solutions to the increasing frequency of unauthorised Gypsy and Traveller encampments by:
    - Agreeing options appraisal identifying a range of measures to address this.

**What we did:**

- ✓ Suitable locations for a transit site are being explored. Unauthorised Gypsy Traveller encampments on council land have effective and responsive processes in place; immediate action is being taken for their removal in line with legal requirements.

**Sub Priority: Modern, Efficient and Adapted Homes**

**Impact / Well-being Objective: Ensuring the supply of affordable and quality housing of all tenures**

**Progress: GREEN Outcome: GREEN**

**During 2017/18 we said we would:**

1. Improve standards within the private rented sector by:
  - Working proactively with landlords and tenants to improve the quality of private rented sector properties; and
  - Ensuring landlords and letting agents comply with the Rent Smart Code of Practice.

**What we did:**

- ✓ During 2017/18, the Council;
  - Investigated 67 service requests in relation to complaints about living conditions. All of which were investigated and appropriate action taken
  - Proactively encouraged landlords and letting agents to register with Rent Smart Wales - 80.35% are now registered and compliant with the Rent Smart Code of Practice.

**2. Deliver the council's housing growth needs by:**

- Increasing the number of new affordable homes agreed through the planning system by 50 during 2017/18,
- Delivering social and affordable homes through Welsh Government funding programmes; and
- Increasing the number of new homes created as a result of bringing empty properties back into use.

**What we did:**

- ✓ During 2017/18 the Council;
  - Approved 186 planning applications for affordable homes

- Created 293 homes new homes as a result of bringing empty homes back into use
- Agreed the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) 30 year Business Plan (2018 - 2048) with plans to deliver 50 new build council properties per year to meet social housing needs and;
- Started to develop a NEW Homes Business Plan which setting ambitions to deliver affordable rented properties.

3. Meeting the housing needs of vulnerable groups by:

- Reducing the average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG),
- Increasing the numbers of Extra Care homes and individual units by:
  - Constructing Flint Extra Care (Llys Raddington) providing 70 new units
  - Confirming and agreeing plans for Holywell Extra Care providing 55 new units; and
- Working strategically to address housing needs of adults with learning disabilities and other vulnerable individuals.

**What we did:**

!! Due to the high level of demand for Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) the Council instigated tight budget controls to manage expenditure which slowed progress in delivering some less urgent DFG works.

The Council has now implemented a more comprehensive monitoring programme for Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) to identify and, wherever possible, address blockages in the system to include a faster approach to commissioning work.

- ✓ Llys Raddington will provide 73 units for Extra Care. Due to delays on site, the facility is expected to be open in September 2018.
- ✓ Plans for the Holywell Extra Care scheme providing 55 new units has been approved.

**Sub Priority: Protecting people from poverty**

**Impact / Well-being Objective: Protecting people from poverty by maximising their income and employability**

**Progress: GREEN Outcome: GREEN**

**During 2017/18 we said we would:**

1. Support Flintshire residents to better manage their financial commitments by:
  - Assisting people with Welfare Reform changes through the effective application of the Council's Discretionary Housing Payment Policy,
  - Providing advice and support services to help people manage their income, including supporting people to access affordable credit and local Credit Unions,
  - Timely processing of Housing Benefit claims; and
  - Assisting Flintshire residents to claim additional income to which they are entitled.
2. Manage local impact of the full service Universal Credit (UC) roll out by:
  - Achieving the Homeless prevention target
  - Delivering the UC Operational board action plan; and
  - Delivering Personal Budgeting and Digital Support Services.

**What we did:**

- ✓ During 2017/18;
  - All services who provide support and advice were aligned where possible. Personal budgeting support for UC claims and support and advice was provided to assist tenants to manage their finances to maintain their commitments to rent and council tax
  - Over 2,100 people on UC received digital support against a target of 640
  - There was a reduction in both the number of days to process new housing benefit claims (17 days from 20) and to process change of circumstances for housing benefit from 2016/17 (from 32 to 24 days)
  - Additional income paid to Flintshire residents as a result of the work undertaken by the Council was over £1.4 million, which is comparable to previous years without taking into account loss of a Macmillan contract

!! There were 70.47% of households successfully prevented from becoming homeless a reduction in over 11% points during the year.

!! 424 people in Flintshire on Universal Credit received personal budgeting support against a target of 590.

3. Develop and deliver programmes that improve employability and help people to gain employment by:

- Developing an employability proposal as part of the Regional Economic Growth Bid to seek long term investment via a simple and cost effective programme of support,
- Developing an enhanced careers and guidance service for North Wales to match young people to the labour market; and
- Increasing the number of local people who, following attendance on a programme report that they are closer to work or becoming ready to enter work.

**What we did:**

- ✓ During 2017/18 the Council refocused the Communities First programme to ensure that all activities contributed towards improving employability
- ✓ 628 people completed programmes commissioned by the Council to deliver better job and training outcomes; an increase of 305 from 2016/17
- ✓ An intensive two week programme for long term unemployed people has resulted in nine people ready for recruitment within the Council's Streetscene service.

4. Develop and deliver programmes to improve domestic energy efficiency to reduce Co2 emissions and fuel poverty by:

- Reducing the overall annual fuel bill for residents benefiting from energy efficient programmes
- Providing advice and support to residents to enable them to switch to a lower cost energy tariff
- Increasing the number of private sector and Council homes receiving energy efficiency measures
- Securing Welsh Government ARBED 3 Programme Funding by March 2018.

**What we did:**

- ✓ During 2017/18:
  - 124 residents have been supported to lower their energy tariff
  - 108 people are receiving the warm home discount
  - 547 people received a full healthy homes healthy people / Housing Health and Safety Rating System (HHSRS) home visit and tailored service
- ✓ Gas infill projects in Penyffordd and Wepre Court are nearing completion.
- !! External funding to support households reduced, as the Welsh Government funding bid was unsuccessful and the start date for the Warm Homes Fund was delayed by two months; all had an impact upon targets set for 2017/18.

5. Develop a strategy to address food poverty by:

- Developing programmes in partnership with the social and third sector to work towards addressing food poverty; and

- Undertaking feasibility work for the development of a food-based social enterprise by December 2017.

**What we did:**

- ✓ A Food Poverty Strategy was drafted linking the community resilience work, the Community Benefits Strategy, and aligning closely with the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) draft Strategy. A steering group has been established and an Action Plan in line with the objectives set out in the strategy is being developed
- ✓ Successful pilot of a ground-breaking Holiday Hunger Programme.

6. Assist residents of Flintshire to access affordable credit by:

- Develop effective partnerships with local Credit Unions to enable residents to access banking services and affordable credit.

**What we did:**

- ✓ The Council worked with the two credit unions in Flintshire to actively promote the products and services that are on offer and both credit unions agreed to be part of The Tackling Poverty Partnership group.

**Sub Priority: Independent Living**

**Impacts / Well-being Objectives:**

- 1) Making early interventions to support healthy and independent living.
- 2) Sustaining a local market of high quality and affordable service provision for those who are highly dependent on care support.

**Progress: GREEN Outcome: GREEN**

**During 2017/18 we said we would:**

1. Ensure care home provision within Flintshire enables people to live well and have a good quality of life by:

- Agreeing the business model to increase direct provision of residential care and sustain domiciliary care roles to support the wider market
- Supporting care home providers to ensure service sustainability and delivering Progress for Providers
- Delivering dementia awareness training to the care homes workforce
- Working with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) to develop an action plan to support the quality and breadth of nursing provision; and
- Delivering a strategy for independent sector domiciliary care agencies to support service sustainability



**What we did:**

- ✓ During 2017/18 the Council has;
  - Completed the Regional Domiciliary Framework and new provider contracts have been dispatched. We are expecting this to bring at least three new domiciliary providers into the County. The roll out of "Progress for Providers" to promote person centred care in residential homes continues.
  - Been nominated for a Social Care Accolade for the 'Progress for Providers' Programme\*\* - 20 care homes enrolled to implement the 'Progress for Providers' Programme with 10 of these achieving the bronze standard
  - Sustained existing care home provision (26 care homes)
  - Made good progress around the extension of Marleyfield Care Home. A feasibility study has been undertaken and various options are being considered. Approval for Integrated Care Fund capital funding has been allocated for the expansion over the next three years (£415K per year).
  - Secured funding from Cadwyn Clwyd to carry out a feasibility study on microcare services, which involve small teams of people providing domiciliary care.

\*\* 'Progress for Providers' enables care homes to assess themselves against the Flintshire bronze, silver and gold standards in person-centred care.

2. Support greater independence for individuals with a frailty and / or disability, including those at risk of isolation by:

- Adults who are satisfied with their care and support
- Implementation of a joint Community Resource Team (CRT) with BCUHB which is able to offer advice and support through the Single Point of Access (SPOA); and
- Ensuring that the workforce are equipped to provide person centred care in line with the requirements of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014

**What we did:**

- ✓ This year our Ageing Well Plan has focused on the development of age friendly and dementia friendly communities, the prevention of falls, opportunities for learning and employment for older people and support for those in the community who feel lonely and isolated
  - ✓ A staged replacement of double staffed packages of care is being managed, in a targeted approach with care providers
  - ✓ In parallel with this the Council has invested in new single handling equipment which is less intrusive in the home. We are now collecting case studies to show how well this is working for people receiving care and support.
3. Improve outcomes for looked after children by:
- Supporting children in stable, local placements; and
  - Strengthening partnership working with BCUHB to ensure timely access to health assessments including Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS).

**What we did:**

- ✓ Developed a Corporate Parenting Strategy in consultation with Looked After Children and young people which sets out our commitments to Looked After Children
- ✓ A pledge for care leavers has been developed. Finding suitable placements for Looked After Children can be challenging. There is a national shortage of foster care and residential provision and work has commenced on a regional footprint to look at potential medium term solutions
- ✓ Three work streams develop a more detailed insight into: i) current and future placement need ii) options for support/placements and iii) the associated costs. This will be used to inform and develop our strategic approach to securing permanent, stable homes for Looked After Children.

**Sub Priority: Integrated Community Social and Health Services****Impacts / Well-being Objectives:**

- 1) **Enabling more people to live independently and well at home.**
- 2) **Giving equal opportunity to all to fulfil their lives.**
- 3) **Providing joined-up services with public and third sector partners which support quality of life in communities and for individuals and families.**

**Progress: GREEN Outcome: GREEN**

**During 2017/18 we said we would:**

1. Ensure that effective services to support carers are in place as part of collaborative social and health services by:
  - Increasing the number of Carers identified through the Single Point of Access (SPOA)
  - Increasing the number of Carers that feel supported
  - Evidencing improved outcomes for Carers; and
  - Developing the Carers' Action Plan.

**What we did:**

- ✓ The external review of Carers services showed that services across Flintshire are meeting the needs of Carers in Flintshire well and that the funding services ensures that the needs of Carers are robustly met. The review identified a few areas where collaborative work could further improve services, and from April 2018, service contracts for the services were amended to reflect the agreed outcomes of the review
- ✓ Feedback from carers continues to be positive and Flintshire is now amending monitoring tools to better evidence the way in which services meet the outcomes of individuals
- ✓ The Young Carers service in Flintshire has recently contributed to a regional piece of work where all Young Carers services across North Wales now use an

agreed assessment form which incorporates the 'What Matters' conversation tool. This will ensure that Young Carers across the region are meeting their personal outcomes and that services are consistent in their approach to assessment.

2. Further develop the use of Integrated Care Fund (ICF) to support effective discharge from hospital and ensure a smoother transition between Health and Social Care Services by:

- Creating essential additional services such as Step Up/Step Down beds providing choice when leaving hospital; and
- Maintaining the rate of delayed transfers of care for social care reasons.

**What we did:**

- ✓ 219 admissions were made into Step Up/Step Down beds. Of the 203 people discharged in the year, 93 people were able to return home or to a relative's home
- ✓ Single Point of Access has extended the time the service is available in the mornings and evenings
- ✓ Integrated Care Fund capital funding has been aligned with our capital programme. Welsh Government have confirmed the ongoing use of ICF revenue funding for existing projects.

3. Establish an Early Help Hub, involving all statutory partners and the third sector by:

- Establishing the Early Help Hub to provide effective and timely support to families; and
- Reducing referrals that result in "no further action".

**What we did:**

- ✓ The Early Help Hub now accepts direct referrals from partner agencies and professionals
- ✓ Since opening in July 2017, 595 families who would not otherwise have met thresholds for statutory services have been referred to the Early Help Hub
- ✓ Children's referrals where "No Further Action" was taken indicates that our rate of child protection referrals resulting in 'no further action' has reduced from 55% to 30%
- ✓ Initial evaluation of the Hub has been positive. A full evaluation of resources and outcomes will be undertaken in 2019.

4. Further develop dementia awareness across the county by:

- The number of dementia friendly cafes in Flintshire; and
- Increasing number of dementia friendly communities in Flintshire.

**What we did:**

- ✓ Flintshire has ten Dementia Cafes and four accredited Dementia Friendly Communities. We have 56 accredited Dementia Friendly Businesses, and additional organisations are achieving accreditation in the area; currently Aura

Leisure and Libraries and Theatr Clwyd are applying with support from Flintshire Social Services

- ✓ The Intergeneration Project with learners and people living with dementia has been completed in seven schools. The Creative Conversation research study has improved skills in 18 Care Homes in creatively communicating with people living with dementia using the arts. The Older People's Commissioner for Wales praised the Creative Conversation research study in her recent response to our requirement for action in the 'A Place to call Home' report.

### Sub Priority: Safeguarding

#### Impacts / Well-being Objectives:

- 1) **Protecting people from the risk of any form of abuse.**
- 2) **Making communities safe places by working with partners to prevent crime, repeat crime and anti-social behaviour.**

**Progress: GREEN Outcome: GREEN**

#### During 2017/18 we said we would:

1. Strengthen arrangements within all Council portfolios to have clear responsibilities to address safeguarding by:
  - Increasing referral rates from within Council services other than Social Services
  - Completion of the online child and adult safeguarding module
  - Council employees completing safeguarding awareness training
  - Embedding processes and best practice across the Council
  - Reviewing corporate service policies and procedures to identify breadth and depth of safeguarding coverage; and
  - Implement the Safeguarding Policy across all Council services.

#### What we did:

- ✓ The number of referrals from within Council services other than social services has increased from 6 in 2016/17 to 14 in 2017/18. This represents a 57% increase from previous year
  - ✓ Initial work programme has been completed by the Corporate Safeguarding Panel and the future work programme has been agreed
  - ✓ The Corporate Safeguarding policy is in place and is being implemented. All actions identified in the Internal Audit report have been completed or are in progress.
2. Ensure that our response rates to referrals remain within statutory targets by:
    - Meeting statutory procedural targets for child and adult protection.

**What we did:**

- ✓ Following a realignment of resources in the Safeguarding Unit, 84% of Adult Safeguarding referrals are now being processed within the 7 day timescale. Those referrals processed outside the timescale are of a complex nature which are awaiting further information from a practitioner or agency
- ✓ 91% of initial child protection conferences were completed within timescales; this was below our annual target of 95% but well above last year's performance of 74%, reflecting the efforts of the Safeguarding Unit to schedule conferences within the timescales wherever possible.

3. Preventative approach towards Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) by:

- Developing a Corporate Plan linked to regional work to combat CSE; and
- Cascading of North Wales Police (NWP) CSE videos to all portfolios.

**What we did:**

- ✓ North Wales Police Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) videos have been shared at Senior Management Team meetings and at the Corporate Safeguarding Panel. CSE awareness is also on the agenda for general safeguarding training to be delivered to all Scrutiny Committee members.

4. Identify and address the signs and symptoms of domestic abuse and sexual violence by:

- Delivering the level 1 training programme for all Council employees
- Implementing training for Council employees to meet the requirements of the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (DASV) National Training Framework; and
- The number of incidents of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence reported.

**What we did:**

- ✓ Internal presentations have been delivered across the Council on the training requirements. Chief Officers and Service Managers have supported the roll-out throughout the organisation
- ✓ 2017/18 has seen an increase in the reporting levels of domestic abuse and sexual violence. Greater numbers of victims are coming forward to report current and historic incidents, which demonstrates an increased confidence in the statutory agencies.

5. Strengthen regional community safety through collaboration and partnership arrangements by:

- Adopting and achieving the priorities of the North Wales Safer Communities Board Plan through formulation of a local delivery plan, which also includes locally identified priorities, and overseen by the Public Services Board.

**What we did:**

- ✓ The North Wales Safer Communities' Board Plan has been approved setting out the priorities and work plan for the statutory partners for the next three year period. Flintshire continues to take an active role in this forum, and on a local level has adopted the regional priorities through the work of the Flintshire Public Services Board.

6. Ensure we meet the requirements of the North Wales Contest Board by:
- Developing a plan to identify and monitor progress of the Prevent Duties as outlined within Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

**What we did:**

- ✓ The self assessment measuring the Council's progress against the 'Prevent' duties has been undertaken. Progress is reviewed on a regular basis at the Corporate Safeguarding Panel. The Panel continues to work on the areas of weakness highlighted in the self-assessment, and respond to any requests from the North Wales Contest Board, as and when required.

## Priority: Ambitious Council

Progress: **G** Outcome: **G**

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### Sub Priority: Business Sector Growth and Regeneration

#### Impacts / Well-being Objectives:

- 1) Sustaining economic growth through local and regional business development, employment and training sites.
- 2) Developing the transport infrastructure and employment sites and transport services, widening access to employment and training sites.
- 3) Creating a supply of diverse and quality training and employment opportunities.

Progress: **GREEN** Outcome: **GREEN**

#### During 2017/18 we said we would:

- 1) Submit the Regional Economic Growth Deal will to UK and Welsh Governments and will set out the main priorities for economic development across North Wales by:
  - Contributing to the development of a new governance framework for the North Wales Economic Ambition Board
  - The success of the region in achieving a Regional Growth Deal Bid for Government Investment in the regional economy
  - Developing a strategy for delivery of the parts of the Regional Growth Deal which will directly benefit Flintshire
  - Developing the Local Development Plan (LDP) economic strategy; and
  - Supporting the development of the Wales Advanced Manufacturing Institute by Welsh Government with a successful planning application

#### What we did:

- ✓ The Council continues to play a major role in the development of the Growth Deal for North Wales. The Economic Ambition Board has established working groups to develop each element of the bid including; skills and employment, infrastructure and housing, business growth and transport improvements. Outline business cases for all projects were prepared for submission to both Governments in April 2018.

- 2) Guide the development of the Deeside Enterprise Zone (DEZ) and Northern Gateway mixed use development site. Ensure that the developments maximise

economic and social value for the County and that they deliver the commitments made in the Regional Economic Growth Deal by:

- Providing clear and responsive guidance to potential developers within the DEZ and Northern Gateway
- Seeking a revised strategic framework from the Northern Gateway developers
- Completing Phase 1 enabling works by Welsh Government; and
- Securing Welsh Government agreement for Phase 2 and / or Phase 3 enabling works.

**What we did:**

- ✓ The Council is represented on the Deeside Enterprise Zone Board and has provided a responsive supporting function to the Board as required and to businesses in the Enterprise Zone
- ✓ The Council has actively worked with the two landowners for the Northern Gateway site to encourage development to come forward and to steer development towards those investments which offer the greatest value to the economy of Flintshire
- ✓ Welsh Government has announced investment of £20m in the development of the North Wales Advanced Manufacturing Institute which will be located on two campuses in Deeside.

3) Develop long term strategic approach to Council's economic estate and land by:

- Completing a review of the Council's economic estate and land.

**What we did:**

- ✓ A strategic review of our industrial and commercial estate was needed to ensure it is fit for purpose, provides key economic drivers, supports the aspirations of the Council and supports local business. A draft report was concluded with a final report issued at the end of May 2018.

4) Expand the scale and quality of apprenticeships both regionally and locally and make best use of the Apprenticeship Training Levy (ATL) by:

- Ensuring apprenticeships feature in the Regional Economic Growth Deal proposal.

**What we did:**

- ✓ The Council produced and distributed a film which encourages people to consider an apprenticeship in a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) field. This has been distributed widely within the county to reach as many young people as possible and has been viewed over 1,791 times via the online link
- ✓ To promote apprenticeships in the construction industry, the Council has been working closely with Wates, the Strategic Housing and Regeneration Programme (SHARP) development partner. The Council is engaged with the local college over the provision of learning attached to apprenticeships.



- 5) Develop a new approach to supporting town centre vitality and regeneration that maximises their role as shop windows for the County by:
- Developing and agreeing a multi-agency plan
  - Developing solutions for the productive use of land in town centres for retail, commercial, housing and complementary uses; and
  - Plan to identify options to diversify land use in town centres whilst maintaining their primary role as retail centres.

**What we did:**

- ✓ Initial scoping work was completed to look at options for the town centres in Flintshire including learning from other areas. This has continued into 2018/19 in more detailed development work.

- 6) Ensure the development of regional and local transport strategy and initiatives maximises the potential for economic benefits and improve access to employment and tourism destinations by:
- Ensuring that transport infrastructure features in the Regional Economic Growth Deal proposal
  - Plan the development of transport connections from the North East Wales Metro scheme to support wider economic development across Flintshire
  - Implementing the Deeside Plan for transport access to the principal employment sites
  - Inclusion of local transport priorities in the North Wales Economic Strategy and the North Wales Growth Deal Bid
  - The performance of the local and sub-regional economy with public sector interventions in investment.

**What we did:**

- ✓ The Deeside Plan was developed in early in 2017 and sets out ambitions for a transport infrastructure to maximise the potential for economic growth
- ✓ The viability of different options to improve the infrastructure for cars, rail passengers and cyclists is being assessed
- ✓ Welsh Government announced investment in the transport infrastructure in Deeside to improve the public transport infrastructure and to develop a new strategic route to link the A494 to the A55.

## Priority: Learning Council

Progress: **G** Outcome: **G**

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### Sub Priority: High Performing Education

#### Impacts / Well-being Objectives:

- 1) Providing high quality learning opportunities and learning environments for learners of all ages.
- 2) Supporting children and younger people to achieve their potential.
- 3) Supporting learners from 3 to 18 years of age to aspire to high levels of educational attainment and achievement.

Progress: **GREEN** Outcome: **GREEN**

#### During 2017/18 we said we would:

- 1) Develop Education and Integrated Youth Services by:
  - Continuing to work with the Regional School Improvement Service (GwE)
  - Maintain relative performance in Mathematics, English/Welsh first Language and Core Subject Indicators at Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3
  - Improving outcomes in Foundation Phase
  - Improving outcomes in Key Stage 4
  - Raising standards achieved by learners who are entitled to free school meals
  - Developing strategies to support broader well-being needs of children and young people
  - Improving attendance
  - Developing an effective local approach to national inclusion reforms
  - Implementing proposed reforms for the portfolio Pupil Referral Unit provision including relocation onto a single site to improve quality provision
  - Developing a sustainable strategy for the Flintshire Music Service; and
  - Embedding Welsh in the Education Strategic Plan
  - Maintaining levels of 16 year olds in education, employment and training above benchmark position; and
    - Further developing the Youth Engagement and Progression work programme for learners in danger of disengaging
  - Create a vibrant Youth Council to provide meaningful input from Flintshire young people to our democratic process
  - Developing and implementing a plan for the next phase of Schools Modernisation, through the 21st Century School programme
  - Maintaining a schedule of repairs and maintenance of school buildings

**What we did:**

- ✓ The Education and Youth Portfolio continued to work in partnership with the Regional School Improvement Service (GwE) to achieve the best possible educational outcomes for all learners
- ✓ Collaboration with the GwE Core Leads for Primary, Special and Secondary schools has provided targeted support for schools. Priorities have been focused on improving wellbeing and standards by developing curriculum and assessment, improving teaching and learning and building leadership capacity
- ✓ Flintshire schools have had access to an increased professional development offer through GwE which includes a regional offer for the development of digital competency
- ✓ 94% of Flintshire pupils aged 15 achieved Level .
- ✓ 65.8% of Flintshire pupils aged 15 achieved Level 2, 57% of these achieved Level 2 including English, Welsh and Maths
- ✓ 66.9% of Flintshire pupils aged 15 achieved A\* - C in English or Welsh as a first language

## 2) Enhance skills to improve employment opportunities by:

- Working with the public, private and voluntary sectors to maximise the number of apprenticeships, traineeships and work experience opportunities
- Increasing training and apprenticeship opportunities through the Future works Flintshire Apprenticeship Academy and major capital programmes
- Strengthening and cultivating attractive routes into education for the workforce
- Embedding regional skills strategy for Science, Technology, English and Maths (STEM); and
- Securing schools' active participation in events and activities to promote the development of young people's work-related skills.

**What we did:**

- ✓ Welsh Government has developed a Digital Competency Framework and a working group has been established to support improved outcomes for more able and talented pupils. The group has focused on skill development and offers sessions to support the improvement and development of areas such as communication skills
- ✓ A suite of vocational options has been offered to Key Stage 4 pupils across Flintshire schools. These offer accredited courses along with qualifications in Teamwork, Personal Development in the Community and Employability Skills
- ✓ Welsh Government are promoting an initiative called the Junior Apprenticeship. This enables young people in Key Stage 4 to access a full vocational programme with a view to continuing onto a formal apprenticeship in the field of study
- ✓ Flintshire schools have also engaged in a range of free vocational workshops through the 'Have a Go' initiative. These provide the opportunity for learners to engage in a range of practical activities
- ✓ Coleg Cambria are running a Construction Academy which offers young people between the ages of 16 and 18 a chance to gain skills and experience in the

construction industry. Local construction companies are engaged in this initiative and will provide work experience.

3) Implementing the Welsh Government pilot of the 30 hour childcare offer by:

- Implementation of the Childcare Pilot project plan
- The number of registered settings and the numbers of children accessing the offer.

**What we did:**

- ✓ The initial Early Implementation Schedule was completed. There are three grants; Administration, Childcare Settings, and Special Educational Needs. The application process is electronic and can only be accessed if the child is living at an address in an eligible area
- ✓ Since September 2017 payments to Settings have been processed in a timely manner. Expansion has been made into other areas. Welsh Government have acknowledged Flintshire's effective implementation of this pilot.

4) Families First Collaborative Programme by:

- Implementation of a Collaborative Families First strategy from 2017 - 2020
- Number of young people accessing the 'offer'.

**What we did:**

- ✓ For 2017/18 the aim was to achieve Welsh Government Funding to enable the Council to re-commission a full Families First Programme. The funding (approx. £1.6 million) was granted and fully commissioned for an April 2018 start in line with Welsh Government's agreed transition time
- ✓ The third sector has been key to delivery and has been engaged in all development and provision. This includes utilising third sector buildings and producing efficiencies for the Council. The programme has ensured that the new provision is a resource for the Early Help Hub, an innovative multi-agency approach. The programme will add value to other provision and will offer early intervention and targeted support.

## Priority: Green Council

Progress: **G** Outcome: **G**

### Sub Priority: Sustainable Development and Environmental Management

#### Impacts / Well-being Objectives:

- 1) Enhancing the natural environment and promoting access to open and green spaces.
- 2) Reducing energy consumption and using and developing alternative/renewable energy production.
- 3) Maximising the recovery and recycling of waste.

Progress: **GREEN** Outcome: **GREEN**

#### During 2017/18 we said we would:

- 1) Improve, protect and enhance the built environment by:
  - Adoption of a Local Heritage Strategy.

#### What we did:

!! The Draft Flintshire Built Heritage Strategy was presented to the Planning Strategy Group in March 2018 where it was endorsed and agreed for further development to prepare for wider stakeholder and public consultation.

- 2) Manage our natural environment and accessible green-space networks to deliver health, well-being and resilience goals by:
  - Reviewing the rights of way improvement plan; and
  - Delivering projects set out within the ESD grant application.

#### What we did:

- ✓ All projects set out within the Environment and Sustainable Development grant application, including flood defence, biodiversity duty and green-space enhancement were completed
  - ✓ The allocation of the grant is also being used to deliver Flintshire's Greenspace Strategy, improve green-space facilities to encourage access, enjoyment and well-being and to facilitate engagement through arts in the community.
- 3) Maximising the potential of Council assets for energy efficiency: Control/reduction of Council energy consumption and thereby cost by:
    - Delivery of the renewable energy plan for the Council's estates and assets which was adopted in 2015
    - Reducing Council energy consumption
    - Increasing usage of environmentally efficient vehicles; and
    - Reducing our carbon footprint across our Council buildings (non-housing).

**What we did:**

- ✓ The battery storage system at Ysgol Abermorddu was due to be completed by the end of April 2018 and was operational for the peak generation period across the summer. Potential for battery storage at Brookhill and Standard solar farms/landfills is being explored.
- ✓ Lighting upgrades to seven schools and Wepre Park Visitors Centre were commissioned. The lighting project at Westwood Primary School was completed and has been converted to LED.
- ✓ To facilitate better control of heating and hot water a number of sites can now gain remote access to the heating systems. This also allows Officers to check that heating systems are turned off during school holidays. Heating control systems have been upgraded in Bryn Garth CP, Northop Hall CP and Westwood CP Schools and the Aston Family Centre.
- ✓ The business case and financial modelling for solar PV at Flint Landfill and Crumps Yard was progressed for decisions to be made in June 2018.

- 4) Maximise the recovery and recycling of waste with a view to reducing the reliance on landfill by:
- Improving recycling performance
  - Recycling rates per Household Recycling Centre (HRC); and
  - Modernisation of the HRC site network.

**What we did:**

- ✓ Ongoing recycling awareness campaigns and an interim residual waste treatment contract have ensured that Council remains committed to maximising recovery opportunities and diversion from landfill where possible.

- 5) Strengthen regional air quality collaboration to help promote better health and well-being outcomes by:
- Developing a regional strategic approach to the collation of air quality data.

**What we did:**

- ✓ A regional air quality assessment on behalf of the North Wales local authorities has been undertaken. The need to develop a local strategy was highlighted by the Public Services Board, and work is underway to identify how Flintshire can further improve air quality. The Environment theme has now been adopted as a priority for the Public Services Board and included in the Flintshire Well-being Plan.

- 6) Identification of the Local Development Plan preferred strategy by:
- Adopting the Local Development Plan to support Sustainable Development and Environmental Management

**What we did:**

- ✓ The preferred strategy for the Local Development Plan (LDP) was approved and published for consultation for a six week period between November and December 2017. Consultation responses were presented to the Planning Strategy Group in February 2018 and minor amendments were approved. The Preferred Strategy provides a firm basis for more detailed work which will feed into the Deposit LDP.

**Sub Priority: Safe and sustainable travel services**

**Impact / Well-being Objective: Developing the transport infrastructure and employment sites, and transport services, widening access to employment and training sites.**

**Progress: GREEN Outcome: GREEN**

**During 2017/18 we said we would:**

- 1) Access and use available grant funding to support Council priorities for accessing employment, health, leisure and education by:
  - Successfully delivering projects and services through national grant funded schemes
    - Local Transport Fund
    - Rural Communities and Development Fund
    - Road Safety
    - Safe Routes
    - Bus Service Support Grant
    - Active Travel integrated network map; and
  - Development of sub-regional and Metro inter-modal transport projects.

**What we did:**

- ✓ All work for 2017/18 has been completed in line with grant funding awarded for the Local Transport Fund and Local Transport Network Fund. These include: active travel scheme designs (cycling/walking); traffic modelling, business case development and outline scheme designs for B5129 bus corridor; Quality Bus Partnership workshops and development; public transport infrastructure and vehicle procurement in Deeside
  - !! Additional funding is required for 2018/19 to undertake additional schemes and complete work on existing schemes.
- 2) Prioritise the Council's road infrastructure for repairs and maintenance and implement programmes of work within available funding in order to improve the resilience, efficiency and reliability of the transport network by:
    - Monitoring the condition of the highways infrastructure
    - Undertaking inspections to ensure reinstatements meet the required standards and raise the standard of works undertaken on Flintshire's network; and
    - Delivery of the Highways Asset Management Plan.

**What we did:**

- ✓ The highway network has been reviewed and assessed for investment need and repairs. The capital programme for preventative maintenance has been developed, tendered and implemented across the network.

3) Work closely with the communities to develop innovative and sustainable community based transport schemes by:

- Development of community based transport schemes within available funding; and
- Developing and supporting community based transport schemes to complement the core network of bus services.

**What we did:**

- ✓ Pilot schemes are underway in Higher Kinnerton-Broughton; Penyffordd-Buckley; Northop Hall-Connah's Quay and Treuddyn-Llanfynydd. Work is ongoing with the Town/Community Councils in Holywell, Trelawnyd, Carmel, and Whitford to develop the remaining pilot schemes. Next steps to develop the strategic core bus network and longer term local transport arrangements to be agreed during 2018/19.

4) Deliver a compliant, safe and integrated transport service by:

- Increasing the number of financially compliant contracts
- Increasing the number of safety compliant checks; and
- Ensure safety compliant checks for transport services are maintained.

**What we did:**

- ✓ A transformational review of the Council's passenger transport services over the last 2 years to ensure that all routes are compliant has been completed. The service has moved to a new method of procurement known as a Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS), allowing new suppliers to apply to join at any point during its lifetime.
- ✓ Work is underway with Procurement team to develop Proactis system as a contract management tool to monitor contractor performance, health and safety compliance, risk assessments, driver DBS (criminal records) checks, and insurance checks
- !! Further work is required during 2018/19 for re-procurement of college transport routes (Coleg Cambria) and mandatory training for operators, drivers, and passenger assistants.



## Priority: Connected Council

Progress: **G** Outcome: **A**

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### Sub Priority: Resilient Communities

#### Impacts / Well-being Objectives:

- 1) Supporting local communities to be resilient and self-supporting.
- 2) Committing to resilient service models to sustain local public services.
- 3) Widening digital access to public services.

Progress: **GREEN** Outcome: **AMBER**

#### During 2017/18 we said we would:

1. Build stronger social enterprises with the sector itself leading development of the sector by:
  - Developing a strategy to grow existing social enterprises.

#### What we did:

- ✓ To help grow the sector and sustain itself specific contracts and community benefits work was targeted at the sector. The development of a range of tools such as Community Shares is underway that enable existing social enterprises to grow and develop. Projects that are applicable for Community Shares have been identified and a business case format for these has been developed
  - ✓ Social enterprises attended the Flintshire Business awards and for the first time won a significant award
  - ✓ Wider plans for developing tools for the social enterprise sector have been shared with the Public Services Board and is forming part of their Community Resilience Action Plan. Funding has been secured for extending the post of the Social Enterprise Officer and work is currently taking place to develop an action plan for the next 12 months
2. Grow the capacity of the social enterprise sector and Alternative Delivery Models (ADMs) to become more self-sustaining by:
    - Monitoring the level of efficiencies ADMs have supported
    - Establishing two new social enterprises operating in Flintshire through the ADM and Community Asset Transfer Programme; and
    - Monitoring community benefits delivered by Community Asset Transfers.

#### What we did:

- ✓ Work has taken place with key social enterprises to strengthen their business plans. This includes establishing two new social enterprises of a significant scale operating in Flintshire through the Alternative Delivery Models (ADMs) and Community Asset Transfer Programme
- ✓ With the establishment of the Home Farms Trust contract (HFT) which began on 1st February 2018, three Alternative Delivery Models (ADM's) have been

established to operate council services in the past 12 months. These are Aura Leisure and Libraries (operated from 1 September 2017) and NEWydd Catering and Cleaning (operated from 1 April 2018)

- ✓ To ensure the organisations become more sustaining, regular review meetings take place including formal partnership boards. A number of meetings and reviews have now been completed with the remainder to be completed by the summer
- ✓ Meetings have been held with organisations who had asset transfers between 2015 -2017 and first year reports have been provided on community benefits. Second Year Review Meetings were held in March 2018.

3. Implement the Digital Strategy and resources to meet future customer needs by:

- Developing an action plan to improve community access to digital services and to raise skill levels; and
- Reviewing the Charter between Welsh Government and the Council for digital business to maximise the value of WG support to businesses in the County.

**What we did:**

- ✓ The first year of the five year Digital Strategy programme of work has concluded. Progress remains steady across all six work streams to identify those projects that can and should be progressed as a matter of priority, and a number have already identified their priorities for inclusion in the action plan
- ✓ The Digital Customer work stream, is to be the primary focus for the Digital Strategy due to the opportunities it brings to the public and potential for savings to be made.

4. Ensuring and delivering community benefits by:

- Establishing a Community Benefits Board with an action plan
- Work with the third sector to increase its capacity to successfully bid for and undertake contracts on behalf of the Council
- Monitoring the percentage of community benefit clauses included in new procurement contracts.

**What we did:**

- ✓ The Council developed a new Community Benefits Strategy approved in October 2017
- ✓ A Community Benefits Delivery Plan template has been developed which will assist the service commissioners to identify and target relevant Community Benefits. A new Commissioning Form has also been developed which requires Commissioners to complete for all contracts above £25,000 and the completed form is scrutinised by the Corporate Procurement Service for Community Benefits inclusion
- ✓ During Quarter 4, 14 projects under £1m were procured of which 5 projects included Community Benefits which represents 36% of the total contracts

procured under £1m. Due to reporting difficulties we are not able to quantify figures prior to Quarter 4

- ✓ Considerable progress has been made in delivering social value for contracts below £1m and we expect this momentum to continue in the 2018/19 financial year as the use of the Delivery Plan template is used more widely.

5. Enabling the third sector to maximise their contribution by:

- Increasing the number of volunteering placements

**What we did:**

- ✓ Community Benefits Strategy developed with specific social objectives that enable the social sector to show their unique delivery and value against
- ✓ Flintshire Local Voluntary Council (FLVC) and the Communities First Social Enterprise Officer delivered specific support to the sector including supporting the establishment of community asset transfers
- ✓ As part of the Resilience theme for the Public Services Board, work involving key organisations in the areas of Holywell, Shotton, and Flint is being prioritised and showcased. Work is continuing to enable commissioners to procure to the third sector.

6. Ensure our Armed Forces Community and their families are not disadvantaged when accessing Council Services by:

- Revising portfolio policies to reflect the ambitions of the Armed Forces Covenant
- Achieving Silver status for our Employee Recognition Scheme; and
- Optimising the value of the regional grant monies to support a two year programme.

**What we did:**

- ✓ The partnership group driving the work of Flintshire's Armed Forces Covenant forward has made good progress over the year
- ✓ The silver award for the Employee Recognition Scheme was awarded, marginally missing the gold award
- ✓ Within the Council improvements to policy and practise include; a new policy for Reservists in the Council supported with an additional two weeks annual leave to attend services-related training; revision of the Council's Recruitment Policy to include a guaranteed interview to all veterans meeting the essential criteria. In addition, an agreement is now in place to capture data from schools about pupils from serving or veteran families in order to understand the scale of support needed and to plan support, including funding, co-ordination and support of Covenant funding applications within local communities
- ✓ North Wales Fire and Rescue Services signed up to Flintshire's Covenant in 2017/18 and the first Annual report was endorsed by full County Council
- ✓ The two Armed Forces Liaison Officers appointed for regional co-ordination of the 6 County Covenants have positively impacted on the good progress made.

!! The outcomes of the progress made this year have still to be determined, hence the Amber 'Outcome' rating.

7. Getting Flintshire active through partnership objectives via the Public Services Board by:

- Increasing participation in activities that contribute to physical and mental well-being including libraries, theatre and countryside
- Increasing community assets
- Identity and equality of participation.

**What we did:**

✓ The Public Services Board's (PSB) Well-being Plan has five priority areas of work: Community Resilience, Healthy and Independent Living, Environment, Community Safety, and Economy and Skills.

!! The Community Resilience priority has a number of work-streams, one of which is 'Getting Flintshire moving'. This priority area is led by Public Health Wales with two specific activities around reducing sedentary behaviour; one of which is focused on the scale of impact that could be made across the public sector as a major employer and within specific community areas (as pilots). A list of key drivers to support this activity has been developed and will be worked through with Public Services Board (PSB) partners. This is a longer term project which has not shown immediate impact in-year, hence the amber rating for outcome.

## Priority: Serving Council

Progress: **G** Outcome: **A**

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### Sub Priority: Effective Resource Management

#### Impacts / Well-being Objectives:

- 1) Continuing to be a high performing and innovative public sector organisation with social values.
- 2) Providing high quality, accessible, responsive and cost effective public services.

Progress: **GREEN** Outcome: **AMBER**

#### During 2017/18 we said we would:

1. Develop and implement a renewed five year financial plan that reflects anticipated funding, costs and efficiencies to support strategic decision making over the life of the new council by:
  - Increasing achievement rate of the budgeted efficiency targets to 95%
  - Revising our plan to meet the relevant funding gap for 2017 / 2022
  - Matching our priorities with revenue and capital investment
  - Ensure sustainable business plans for service portfolios; and
  - Develop a range of operational financial performance indicators.

#### What we did:

- ✓ The financial forecast for 2018/19 was completed and the budget set. Although it is challenging to provide a Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) for a 5 year period with such uncertainty over future national funding levels a strategy for 2019/20 to 2021/22 is currently in development. The medium term forecast is being reviewed and concentration is on 2019/20. A report on the initial forecast was considered by Cabinet in April 2018.
2. Through the People Strategy we aim to operate effectively as a smaller organisation by:
    - Improving attendance
    - Increasing the number of managers and employees attending and accessing stress related / management programmes
    - Percentage of employees who have secured employment following completion of apprenticeship training
    - A single consolidated workforce plan and supporting action plan
    - Attainment of appraisal targets.

#### What we did:

- ✓ Good progress in delivering the key priority areas of the People Strategy has been made

- ✓ Our employees continue to face significant change as a result of further funding cuts, service reviews and the loss of 82 colleagues as a result of both voluntary and compulsory redundancies
  - ✓ The sickness absence out-turn for 2017/18 is 8.89 days per Full Time Employee (FTE) which exceeds our target of 9.00 days per FTE. The top three reasons for absence are stress / depression / anxiety, infections and musculoskeletal. We have taken a pro-active approach to helping managers and staff identify stress/anxiety in themselves and others and how to access the various options of support provided by the Council
  - ✓ Our learning and development offer has been reviewed and enhanced. At its heart is the development of coaching principles to support the introduction of a coaching management style and culture to improve performance management and build resilience across the management hierarch
  - ✓ Supporting the transition into alternative delivery models remains a priority, as does the continued development of the following work streams; Reward, Recognition and Well-being. A number of initiatives under this theme have been delivered, most notably the introduction of an Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) via CareFirst which provides access to professionally qualified Counsellors and Information Specialists, experienced in helping people to deal with all kinds of practical and emotional issues such as well-being, family matters, relationships, debt management, workplace issues 24/7, 365 days a year.
3. Maximise benefits from spending power through optimised purchasing efficiencies by exploiting technology and making efficient use of local, regional and national procurement arrangements by:
- Percentage of goods, services and works procured through purchasing arrangements established by the National Procurement Service (NPS)
  - Percentage of Council spend with Welsh businesses
  - Percentage of Council spend with Flintshire businesses; and
  - Percentage of Council spend with businesses within the Mersey Dee Alliance.

#### **What we did:**

- ✓ The joint procurement service between Flintshire and Denbighshire continues to identify opportunities for collaborative working to maximise economies of scale. Currently 10 collaborative projects have been procured jointly across both Councils, with another 10 projects identified
- ✓ Use of national collaborative arrangements through the National Procurement Service has meant that a total spend of £4.8m was utilised across the Council and Flintshire Schools resulting in £114,000 of actual and cost avoidance efficiency savings
- !! The take up of framework agreements and efficiency savings arising from the National Procurement Service is lower than anticipated due to the fact that the framework agreements that have been awarded do not always provide value

for money and occasionally their use would be detrimental to local supply chains

- ✓ Welsh Government commissioned a review of the National Procurement Service with the aim of developing a new Target Delivery Model. The review is scheduled to be completed by September 2018
- ✓ The PROACTIS electronic tendering and contract management system continues to be rolled out across the Council, with 200 officers having now been trained to use the system. The system is expected to provide process efficiencies as part of the tendering process, reducing timescales and ensuring compliance with the regulatory procurement framework. This in turn will negate the risk of receiving any supplier legal challenges due to potential procurement procedures not being followed.

4. Develop and deliver a programme of activity to support local businesses, increasing their capacity and competency to respond to Council contracts by:

- Developing a programme to support local businesses
- Developing and delivering training and support to improve the inclusion of community benefits in Council contracts; and
- Developing a system to record and monitor community benefits centrally.

#### **What we did:**

- ✓ Extensive research has been undertaken to identify best practice recommendations across multiple government and industry reports to make procurement processes more supplier friendly
- ✓ A total of 62 best practice recommendations were identified from the research of which 39 recommendations (100%) have been completed in Year 1 as part of a 3 year Local Supplier Development Implementation Action Plan
- ✓ Partnership working across the Council has facilitated more support for local suppliers to compete for Council contracts. Joint initiatives commenced such as reviewing the amount of procurement spend outside Flintshire and North Wales, which could potentially be sourced from local suppliers
- ✓ Joint Procurement Taster Session workshops have been held in conjunction with Flintshire Local Voluntary Council (FLVC) to provide advice and guidance to the local Third Sector on various procurement policies as well as assessing the support needed for the Third Sector to compete for Council and public sector contracts
- ✓ Regular dialogue / meetings with Business Wales to provide tendering support to suppliers on individual tender projects has been well received by suppliers and contractors. Local suppliers have been provided with the opportunity to access support on the PROACTIS e-tendering portal and access direct support from Business Wales consultants in updating or developing various policy documents required as part of the tender process
- ✓ Streamlining our current procurement processes to make it easier for suppliers to bid is part of a comprehensive review. The revised approach will ease the administrative burden on suppliers when responding to tender opportunities.

5. Delivery of key annualised objectives from the Digital Strategy and Customer Strategies by:

- Increasing the number of services available online and via the Flintshire App
- Increasing the number of completed transactions using online services
- Responding to customer feedback ensuring information is accessed at first point of contact online
- Development of action plans to deliver the Digital Strategy
- Deliver agreed actions from the Digital Strategy for 2017/18
- Improved digital infrastructure access for homes and business across the County.

**What we did:**

- ✓ The Council agreed a strategic approach to developing Customer Services and enhancing our use of digital technology in March 2017
- ✓ Work has been undertaken to review how customers contact the Council now, and opportunities to enhance access in the future
- ✓ The Customer Service and Digital Flintshire strategies are being managed as a transformation programme and a report was approved by Cabinet on 20 February, 2018 that outlined how the Customer Service (and Digital Flintshire) strategy will be delivered
- ✓ Delivery of our objectives is an on-going transformation programme; an action plan has been approved to deliver in three phases. A significant milestone was the launch of a Customer Account in March 2018 which will be extended to members of the public in June following a period of review internally. The merge of two Contact Centres in January 2018 also demonstrates our commitment to improving the way telephone contact is managed.

6. Delivery of key annualised objectives from the Capital and Asset Management Strategy by:

- Continuation with the programme of asset rationalisation, ensuring that assets retained are effective, efficient and sustainable to deliver services
- Identify and consider options available to fund capital expenditure that minimises ongoing revenue implications of new and existing investments
- Establish effective arrangements for managing capital projects including assessment of outcomes and achievement of value for money

**What we did:**

- ✓ The refresh of the Capital and Asset Management Strategy has been placed on hold pending release of guidance from CIPFA which will need to be reflected in any revised strategy document. There are no risks or issues to the Council in adopting this approach as the contents of the current strategy are still relevant.

## Section 3



## Equality

The Council takes seriously its duty to promote equality, eliminate discrimination and foster good relations through all its activities. The Council published an updated Strategic Equality Plan in 2017; this is being incorporated into CAMMS (Performance management system) to ensure that progress and achievements can be monitored more effectively and regular updates provided.

## Welsh Language Standards (WLS)

The Council is committed to meeting the Welsh Language Standards ensuring that we can provide high quality services in both English and Welsh. The Welsh Language Promotion Strategy has been drafted and subject to consultation.

## Partnership and Collaboration Activity

Flintshire has a longstanding and proud track record of partnership working. The communities it serves expect the statutory and third sector partners to work together, to work to shared priorities and, through collective effort, to get things done. The Public Services Board, is at the heart of promoting a positive culture of working together and concentrates energy, effort and resources on some of the big social issues of today.

The Flintshire Public Services Board was established on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 as a result of the “Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act” coming into effect. The Flintshire PSB is made up of senior leaders from a number of public and voluntary organisations: Flintshire County Council, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, Natural Resources Wales, North Wales Fire & Rescue Services (statutory members), North Wales Police, Public Health Wales, Flintshire Local Voluntary Council, Coleg Cambria, Glyndwr University, Wales Community Rehabilitation, National Probation Services Wales, Police & Crime Commissioner and Welsh Government (invited PSB members). Together these organisations are responsible for developing and implementing the Well-being Plan for Flintshire published in May 2018.

Whilst the PSB realise there is much that could be done to add value to public services and to the communities of Flintshire and have identified a number of priorities for 2017/18 that support the seven goals of the “Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act”.

## Regulation, Audit and Inspection

The Council is regulated by a number of organisations throughout the year. These include, amongst others the Wales Audit Office (WAO), Estyn for Education and the Care and Social Services Inspectorate (CSSIW).

The WAO publish an annual report on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales called the Annual Improvement Report. This report summarises the outcomes of all work that the WAO have undertaken during the year.

## Corporate Health and Safety

The Council is committed to its duties and responsibilities as an employer for health and safety. The management of workplaces that are safe to the health of all Council employees, sub-contractors, stakeholders and members of the public is one of our main priorities. To meet this priority we plan to meet the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and other associated legislation as far as is reasonably practicable.

## Appendices

Appendix A – Council Plan 2017/18 Risk Register

Appendix B – National Indicators Data Table

Appendix C – Flintshire County Council's Well-being Objectives alignment to the national Well-being Goals

Appendix D – Glossary of Terms

## Feedback and how to Obtain Further Information

There are a number of related documents which support this Annual Performance Report. These can be obtained through the following links:

- Flintshire County Council Plan 2017/18
- Flintshire Social Services Annual Performance Report 2017/18
- Annual Strategic Equality Plan Report 2017/18
- Welsh Language Monitoring Report 2017/18

## Thank you for reading our Annual Performance Report for 2017/18

A public summary of this report will be published before December and will be available on the Council's website and via electronic promotion.

Your views and suggestions about how we might improve the content and layout of the Annual Performance Report for future years are welcome.

In addition, should you wish to know more about our priorities for this year onwards please read our Council Plan 2018/19. Again, your views about future priorities, plan content and layout are welcome.

**Please contact us on:**

Tel: 01352 701457

Email: [corporatebusiness@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:corporatebusiness@flintshire.gov.uk)

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**Integrated Risk Manager**

A CAMMS SOLUTION

# Risk Report 2017/18

Flintshire County Council

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


**Risk Summary**

**Strategic Risks**

*Print Date: 24-Aug-2018*

Strategic Risks




1 Supportive Council

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST164	Annual allocation of the Integrated Care Fund (ICF) - Short term funding may undermine medium term service delivery	Strategic Risk	Susie Lunt - Senior Manager, Integrated Services and Lead Adults	Jacque Slee - Team Manager Performance				Open

**Potential Effects:** Insufficient funding to sustain medium term service delivery.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** The re-phasing of agreed Integrated Care Fund (ICF) capital funding has been agreed to fit with our capital programme. Welsh Government have confirmed the ongoing use of ICF revenue funding for existing projects. The Chair of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board and the Chief Executive of the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) have created an agreement around the allocation of funds to support delivery of medium term services.




Last Updated: 12-Jul-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST157	Availability of sufficient funding to resource key priorities	Strategic Risk	Niall Waller - Service Manager - Enterprise and Regeneration	Melville Evans - Senior Manager - Housing Programmes				Open

**Potential Effects:** Should resources prove to be insufficient then the Council will be able to process further applications for adaptations leading to delays in the process. This in turn will lead to reputational damage to the Council.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** All budgets are monitored monthly to ensure there is sufficient availability for funding key priorities. However, as demography and expectations change with reduced resources the Council is continually reviewing opportunities to meet requirements. The Council was forced to delay the least urgent Disabled facilities Grant (DFG) cases in the latter part of 2017/18 due to demand on the service.




Last Updated: 23-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST155	Capital borrowing limits for council housing	Strategic Risk	Melville Evans - Senior Manager - Housing Programmes	Denise Naylor - Housing Programmes Support Manager				Open

**Potential Effects:** i) reduction in construction and delivery of Council houses

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Discussions are in progress between the Council and Welsh Government to secure additional borrowing approval. Welsh Government has unallocated borrowing head room for council owned properties. There has been a Welsh Government consultation on the approach to lifting the borrowing cap. Further information will be available in the Summer 2018. For affordable rental properties the NEW Homes Business Plan will explore funding opportunities.




Last Updated: 18-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST156	Customer expectations for the timeliness of adaptations undertaken through Disabled Facilities Grants (DFGs) may not be met due to competing demands on resources	Strategic Risk	Niall Waller - Service Manager - Enterprise and Regeneration					Open

**Potential Effects:** There will be a reputational risk to the Council if adaptations fail to meet the expectations of customers. This is increased because of the national ranking of performance by Welsh Government.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** The performance on DFG timescales has been an area of challenge over time. There are projects underway to improve performance including rolling out use of the new adaptations procurement framework and further process improvements. However, demand upon the DFG budget required a slow down of the least urgent cases in the latter part of 2017/2018 which will impact upon average time scales for DFGs.




Last Updated: 16-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST160	Debt levels will rise if tenants are unable to afford to pay their rent or council tax	Strategic Risk	Jen Griffiths - Benefits Manager	Sheila Martin - Income Team Leader				Open

**Potential Effects:** With the introduction of universal credit and reduction in benefits being paid it is anticipated that tenants will struggle to maintain their payments increasing the level of debts owed to the Council for Rent and Council Tax.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** The first year of Universal Credit full service has resulted in an increase in rent arrears for our tenants. Council Tax collection rates, however, appear to be unaffected at this stage. Work will continue in 2018/19 to target early intervention for tenants claiming Universal Credit to tackle rent arrears and to encourage payment of rent to avoid new or escalating arrears in order to ensure that homelessness is prevented wherever possible and rent collection is maximised.

Last Updated: 20-Apr-2018




Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST159	Demand for advice and support services will not be met	Strategic Risk	Jen Griffiths - Benefits Manager	Suzanne Mazzone - Commissioning Officer				Open

**Potential Effects:** The impact of Welfare Reform on Flintshire households increasing the demand for advice and support to levels beyond what resource can handle in a timely manner.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** During 2017/18 demand has continued to increase for advice and support services within the County. The development of the Welfare Response Team has assisted with the implementation of Universal Credit. Referrals to wider support services increased during the year and increasing numbers of residents are presenting with underlying debt issues. Managers across Customer Services, Neighbourhood Housing and Revenues and Benefits are continuing to work together to develop early intervention strategies.

Last Updated: 13-Apr-2018



Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST163	Demand outstrips supply for residential and nursing home care bed availability	Strategic Risk	Jane M Davies - Senior Manager, Safeguarding & Commissioning	Jacque Slee - Team Manager Performance				Open

**Potential Effects:** Increase in hospital admissions and delayed transfers. Increased pressure on primary care services leading to deteriorating relationship with local partners.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** The expansion of Marleyfield to support the medium term development of the nursing sector continues under the direction of Programme Board.  
The re-phasing of ICF capital to fit in with our capital programme, as been agreed by WG.

The Strategic Opportunity Review was completed and a report was presented to Cabinet in October. There are several active workstreams, including the development of resources to support the sector, diagnostic reviews from providers and a Care Conference which was held in February hosted by Business Wales. A ministerial visit took place in May '18.

The care@flintshire portal has been populated with useful information to support providers. Approval has been received for a feasibility study into Microcare, with funding from Cadwyn Clwyd Last Updated: 12-Jul-2018




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Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST153	Department for Works and Pensions Welfare Reform Programme, including Universal Credit full service implementation which would place increasing demand on the Council for affordable and social housing	Strategic Risk	Jenni Griffith - Flintshire Connects Manager	Denise Naylor - Housing Programmes Support Manager, Suzanne Mazzone - Commissioning Officer				Open

**Potential Effects:** Welfare reforms may potentially impact the Council's ability to offer affordable housing to those affected. Examples of the types of reforms that will have may impact include: LHA Cap - Residents affected by the LHA cap who are already excluded from the private rented sector due to affordability may not be able to afford social rents  
 Bedroom Tax - This has been in place for some time for those residents that are under occupying properties and in receipt of housing benefit and will continue under Universal Credit role out.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Applicants who are affected by bedroom tax are given urgent priority for rehousing to more affordable accommodation. The proposed property for the shared housing pilot received full planning permission and work has been undertaken to establish demand. Due to Government changes and the withdrawal of plans to introduce shared room rate for under 35s the demand in social housing for shared accommodation has lessened. Applicants contacted expressed a preference for self contained properties and we were unable to establish demand for the shared housing pilot. This will of course have an effect on the demand for affordable one bedroom properties.

Last Updated: 30-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST167	Deprivation of Liberty Safeguarding (DoLS) assessment waiting list increases	Strategic Risk	Jane M Davies - Senior Manager, Safeguarding & Commissioning	Jacque Slee - Team Manager Performance				Open

**Potential Effects:** Increased waiting times for DoLS assessments and impact on reputation of the Council.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Actions taken to realign the responsibilities of the teams to meet the demands of the increase in adult safeguarding enquiries may have the unwanted effect of increasing the waiting list for DoLS assessments. Work has recently been undertaken to review the individuals awaiting a DoLS assessment. In addition, work is being undertaken to review community DoLS applications and incorporate these within the existing waiting list, and DoLS for children needs to be considered. In due course this will have an impact on the number of cases on the waiting list. The waiting list continues to be actively managed, with urgent and review authorisations being prioritised.

Last Updated: 12-Jul-2018




Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST169	Failure to implement safeguarding training may impact on cases not being recognised at an early stage.	Strategic Risk	Fiona Mocko - Strategic Policies Advisor	Jane M Davies Senior Manager Safeguarding & Commissioning				Open

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**Potential Effects:** Employees will not identify potential safeguarding issues. Referrals will not be made through the right channels which may delay investigation or result in evidence being contaminated. Adults and children will not be safeguarded

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Safeguarding is included in the corporate induction ensuring all new employees have a basic understanding of safeguarding. Safeguarding training is provided regularly ensuring employees have the opportunity to access appropriate training. Types of safeguarding training provided and attendance by Portfolio are monitored at the Corporate Safeguarding Panel.




Last Updated: 19-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST151	Homelessness will remain a growing area of demand due to the current economic climate	Strategic Risk	Katie Clubb - Community Support Services Manager	Suzanne Malone Commissioning Officer				Open

**Potential Effects:** Homelessness remains an area of risk. The lack of suitable, settled accommodation for those on welfare benefits has caused delays in being able to achieve positive outcomes for customers.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Homelessness remains a risk as a result of a number of factors. The introduction of welfare reforms and Universal Credit has created additional barriers to being able to successfully discharge duties to customers. The number of people presenting to the authority for help has increased during each quarter. Vacant posts in the team have been filled and new staff have been fully trained within their roles. This should see more outcomes achieved. Additional funding has been granted to develop Landlord incentives within the private rented sector and also to consider a Housing First pilot.




Last Updated: 23-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST168	Knowledge and awareness of safeguarding not sufficiently developed in all portfolios	Strategic Risk	Fiona Mocko - Strategic Policies Advisor	Jane M Davies - Senior Manager, Safeguarding & Commissioning				Open

**Potential Effects:** Employees will not recognise when adults and children are at risk and will not take appropriate action.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Safeguarding is included within the corporate induction procedures, ensuring new employees can recognise the signs and know how to make a report. Safeguarding awareness workshops were delivered during National Safeguarding Week in November 2017 and further training was delivered in January 2018. A safeguarding page is available on the intranet providing resources to support employees and managers.



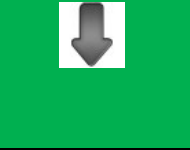
Last Updated: 12-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST166	Rate of increase of adult safeguarding referrals will outstrip current resources	Strategic Risk	Jane M Davies - Senior Manager, Safeguarding & Commissioning	Jacque Slee Team Manager Performance				Open

**Potential Effects:** Employees will not recognise when adults and children are at risk and will not take appropriate action.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Safeguarding is included within the corporate induction procedures, ensuring new employees can recognise the signs and know how to make a report. Safeguarding awareness workshops were delivered during National Safeguarding Week in November 2017 and further training was delivered in January 2018. A safeguarding page is available on the intranet providing resources to support employees and managers.




Last Updated: 12-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST154	Reduction of land supply for council housing construction	Strategic Risk	Melville Evans - Senior Manager - Housing Programmes	Denise Naylor - Housing Programmes Support Manager				Closed

**Potential Effects:** Reduction in number of units delivered

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Potential land for development of housing through the Strategic Housing and Regeneration Programme (SHARP) has been identified which, if viable, could reach the target of 500 new social and affordable houses by 2021.




Last Updated: 20-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST161	The local economy will suffer if residents have less income to spend	Strategic Risk	Jen Griffiths - Benefits Manager	Suzanne Mazzone - Commissioning Officer				Open

**Potential Effects:** The local economy will see a decline if residents are not able to spend at current levels

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Welfare Rights and Supporting People teams worked with residents during the year to explore areas of income maximisation for residents of the county. Last Updated: 13-Apr-2018




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Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST152	The supply of affordable housing will continue to be insufficient to meet community needs	Strategic Risk	Melville Evans - Senior Manager - Housing Programmes	Denise Naylor - Housing Programmes Support Manager				Open

**Potential Effects:** i) Increase in homelessness ii) Increased pressure on the Housing Options Team iii) Increase in people sleeping rough

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** The Housing Strategy Manager works in partnership with the RSLs (Registered Social Landlords), the SHARP (Strategic Housing and Regeneration Programme) team and developers to inform the type and tenure of any: new build; acquisitions and ultimately identify gaps for future investment. This is achieved through a process of pulling together information from the SARTH (Single Access Route to Housing), the affordable housing register and the Homelessness team, ensuring the demand informs supply. There is a shortfall in affordable housing as identified in the Local Housing Market Assessment, but the housing which is being provided is focused on meeting the needs of those in urgent housing need.

Last Updated: 18-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST158	Universal Credit Full Service roll out - negative impact upon Council services	Strategic Risk	Jen Griffiths - Benefits Manager	Dawn Barnes - Training Officer				Open

**Potential Effects:** The impact of Welfare Reform on Flintshire households increasing the demand for advice and support to levels beyond what resource can handle in a timely manner. Potential increased in rent arrears and decrease of Council Tax collection. Potential increased risk of homelessness and need for accommodation. Increased demand in existing support services

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** During 2017/18 rent arrears increased and there is work on-going to identify the reason for this. During 2018/19 focus will be on early identification and intervention to prevent the problem from escalating. Council Tax Collection has been under pressure, however, collection rates in 2017/18 have not been impacted. Work will continue to closely monitor Universal Credit impacts on Council Services.

Last Updated: 20-Apr-2018

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**2 Ambitious Council**

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST170	Infrastructure investment does not keep pace with needs and business is lost to the economy	Strategic Risk	Andrew Farrow - Chief Officer - Planning, Environment and Economy	Niall Waller - Service Manager - Enterprise and Regeneration				Open

**Potential Effects:** infrastructure is essential to facilitating economic growth in Flintshire. If infrastructure is not improved then investment opportunities will be jeopardised and new jobs will not be created. Overloaded infrastructure will also increase the likelihood of business investment being lost to better serviced areas.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** The North Wales Growth Deal will include a package of strategic infrastructure investment projects. At the local level the Deeside Plan sets out a strategy for transport investment to maximise the benefit of economic growth. Welsh Government has already announced major investment in strategic road infrastructure and in public transport to help deliver this strategy.




Last Updated: 23-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST171	Support for businesses in Flintshire doesn't meet their needs and fails to encourage investment	Strategic Risk	Andrew Farrow - Chief Officer - Planning, Environment and Economy	Niall Waller - Service Manager - Enterprise and Regeneration				Open

**Potential Effects:** Businesses feedback that they highly value the service provided by the Council to help them to navigate wider support and overcome barriers to growth. Business networking activity delivered by the Council also assist businesses to work and trade together. Reduction of this support may make the County less successful as a location for business.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** The business development service in Flintshire remains responsive to business needs. The Council works closely alongside Welsh Government and other agencies to provide a co-ordinated service.




Last Updated: 17-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST173	The region having a sufficient voice at Welsh Government and UK Government levels to protect its interests	Strategic Risk	Andrew Farrow - Chief Officer - Planning, Environment and Economy	Niall Waller - Service Manager - Enterprise and Regeneration				Open

**Potential Effects:** Decisions are taken on national and regional economic issues, infrastructure investment or other programmes which do not meet the needs of the Flintshire economy.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** The Council has a lead role in developing the role and functions of the North Wales Economic Ambition Board and is closely involved in the work of the Mersey Dee Alliance. The Council also represents the region on the Rail Task Force and supports the All Party Parliamentary Group on transport. The Council is closely involved in the development of the outline projects for the regional Growth Deal and both the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive play a leading role in the development of the new shadow Joint Committee for North Wales.

Last Updated: 23-Apr-2018




Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST172	The stability of local and sub regional economies	Strategic Risk	Andrew Farrow - Chief Officer - Planning, Environment and Economy	Niall Waller - Service Manager - Enterprise and Regeneration				Open

**Potential Effects:** Instability in the local and regional economies would lead to reduced business investment and significant job losses.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** The Council continues to monitor changes and trends in the UK and regional economies that may have an impact on Flintshire's economy. The main area of uncertainty, Brexit, remains difficult to predict and quantify whilst the negotiated settlement with the European Union remains unknown.

Last Updated: 17-Apr-2018

### 3 Learning Council

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST176	Impact of Additional Learning Needs reforms	Strategic Risk	Jeanette Rock - Senior Manager - Inclusion and Progression	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems				Open

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**Potential Effects:** The proposed legislation provides an increased level of legal protection to children and young people with additional learning needs. There is a risk that schools and the Local Authority may be unprepared ahead of the implementation of the Bill and therefore unable to meet the requirements placed on them by the Bill. This may result in schools not being able to meet needs effectively and a potential increase in the requests for centrally funded intervention and provision. This is likely to present the Local Authority with an additional financial pressure.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** The sustainability of grant funding remains a major and live risk with further cuts to grant funding anticipated in 2019/20. Concern during 2017/18 about the future year’s funding from 2018/19 onwards was demonstrated by a total reduction in Education Improvement Grant (EIG) of 7.69% which was a cash reduction in grant funding of £525k. A significant element (£175k) of this reduction was the removal of Minority Ethnic Achievement Grant (MEAG) funding from the EIG. Following high levels of concern raised with Welsh Government by all authorities about the removal of MEAG, Welsh Government issued additional grant funding in July to allow Authorities time to develop a sustainable model for delivery of MEAG services with partner local authorities – Flintshire received £117k. The distribution of the remaining ‘cut’ £350k (5.3%) in EIG was agreed by the GWE Management Board as the primary recipient of the grant. As over 80% of the grant is delegated to schools the reduction has impacted schools directly.

Withdrawal of grants without notification and late notification of new grant income streams by Welsh Government create challenges and risks for the local authority.

Last Updated: 23-Apr-2018




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Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST175	Leadership capacity does not match school needs	Strategic Risk	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	Jeanette Rock - Senior Manager - Inclusion and Progression	Amber	Amber		Open

**Potential Effects:** Reduced stakeholder confidence in Education services. Downturn in school performance and under achievement . Increase in the number of schools in Estyn category of concern/need of significant improvement

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Each primary, secondary and special school has support through a designated Supporting Improvement Adviser. The Regional School Improvement Service (GwE) leadership development programme is being further developed for across the region and with bespoke programme developing for Flintshire schools which is being offered during the spring term. This is for current and aspiring leaders at all levels. Focused professional development has been offered during 2017 - 2018 for Deputy Headteachers and Acting Headteachers. New and Acting Headteachers are also engaged in the regional development programme for new headteachers. Support is provided to Governing Bodies through Local Authority / GwE partnership protocol for recruitment to senior leadership posts.

Last Updated: 19-Apr-2018




Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST180	Limited funding to address the backlog of known repair and maintenance works in Education & Youth assets	Strategic Risk	Damian Hughes - Senior Manager, School Planning & Provision	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems				Open

**Potential Effects:** The fabric of Education and Youth buildings will continue to decline

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Continuation of the School Modernisation programme is one of the strategic options available to address the repair and maintenance backlog. The programme continuation will also i) Support a reduction of unfilled places ii) Provide a more efficient school estate and concentrate resources on teaching by removal of unwanted fixed costs in infrastructure and leadership iii) Ensure that the condition and suitability of the school estate is improved. Additionally, in future years capital business cases will be submitted through the Council process to supplement the 21st Century Schools investment programme

Last Updated: 12-Apr-2018


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Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST177	Local employers and learning providers do not work closely enough to identify and meet the skills based needs of the future	Strategic Risk	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	Niall Waller - Service Manager - Enterprise and Regeneration				Open

**Potential Effects:** Employers will increasingly struggle to fill vacancies and may leave the area. Young people will not be able to benefit from the growth of the local economy and may need to move away to secure employment that matches their skills. If the skills base fails to match employer needs in the future then the area will struggle to compete for investment.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** In addition to current work to link schools, learners and employers there are a number of proposals for further work being developed as part of the North Wales Growth Deal including an enhanced careers offer and further STEM support for schools. In addition, learning provision is guided by the Regional Skills Strategy which sets out the needs of the economy.


Last Updated: 16-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST179	Numbers of school places not matching the changing demographics	Strategic Risk	Damian Hughes - Senior Manager, School Planning & Provision	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	Red	Red		Open

**Potential Effects:** Higher teacher ratios, unfilled places, backlog maintenance pressures, inefficient estate

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Reducing unfilled school places via school organisation change is an ongoing process. School change projects can take between three and five years from inception to delivery before reductions of unfilled places can be realised. This continues to be an ongoing process linked to the school modernisation programme. To supplement this the Council will continue to work closely with schools to consider innovative ways for reduction in capacity on a school by school basis (i.e. alternative use of school facilities by other groups) with the objective of meeting national targets of circa 10% unfilled places in all school sectors.

Last Updated: 12-Apr-2018



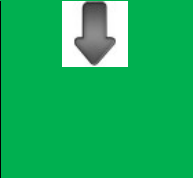
Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST178	Sustainability of funding streams	Strategic Risk	Claire Homard - Senior Manager - School Improvement	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	Red	Red		Open

**Potential Effects:** Reduced capacity to deliver targeted support to schools.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** The sustainability of grant funding remains a major and live risk. The Council has received notification of a 7.69% cut to the Education Improvement Grant, resulting in a real terms reduction of approximately quarter of a million pounds. This grant funds a range of posts within schools e.g. Foundation Phase Support Staff and central service delivery within the portfolio. There is limited guidance available at the current time from Welsh Government (WG) to be able to strategically plan for the implementation of this cut. Additionally, other grants e.g. Small and Rural School grant which was made available this year do not appear on the grant schedule for 2018/19. The School Uniform Grant for yr 7 pupils entitled to Free School Meals has also been withdrawn without prior notification, leaving a potential cost pressure for the Council or schools to absorb. There remains considerable concern about the future of the Minority Ethnic Achievement Grant (MEAG) as Welsh Government advised it had been transferred into the Revenue Support Grant. The Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) have challenged this and discussions at the highest level at WG are continuing. Currently only £7.5m of

the original £12.5m grant for all Local Authorities in Wales has been confirmed. A cut in funding will result in reduced service delivery in the portfolio, where demand for pupil support is increasing.

Last Updated: 09-May-2018




Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST174	Those schools who do not recognise their need for improvement and external support	Strategic Risk	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	Jeanette Rock - Senior Manager - Inclusion and Progression				Open

**Potential Effects:** Downturn in school performance and under achievement. Increase in the number of schools in Estyn category of concern/need of significant improvement

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** The Council has a Service Level Agreement in place with GwE - the regional school improvement service. Fortnightly Quality Board meetings are in place between the Senior Manager for School Improvement and GwE Core Leads for primary and secondary. There is also a half-termly Local Authority Standards Board. The Council is represented at the regional Quality Board for standards and the GwE Management Board. Annual review of categorisation process for all schools has been completed with no appeals from schools in the local authority. Business plans are reviewed regularly.

Last Updated: 19-Apr-2018

4 Green Council




Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST189	Adverse weather conditions on the highway network	Strategic Risk	Barry Wilkinson - Highways Networks Manager	Lynne Fensome - Management and Support Manager				Open

**Potential Effects:** Increase in cost to future planned repairs as network deteriorates beyond that can be rectified by planned maintenance Increase in insurance claims

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** The risk trend has increased due to the severity of the winter increasing the likelihood of the risk occurring. Road conditions throughout the County are detrimentally affected following poor winter weather and, given the severity of this winter period, the local network has been adversely affected by road surface defects and potholes. Repairing the Council's roads is a priority for the service and resources were provided to identify and then prioritise the roads in need of repair. Additional funds, resources and contractors were deployed across the county over several weeks in efforts to repair the network as the defect were if identified. Schemes for the resurfacing and permanent patching contracts have been prioritised for the summer period, which will commence in June 2018. This more expensive and permanent repair to the road surface is part of the annually planned maintenance regime.

Last Updated: 01-May-2018




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Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST184	Customer expectations around the delivery of flood alleviation schemes are not effectively managed	Strategic Risk	Ruairi Barry - Senior Engineer	Lynne Fensome - Management and Support Manager				Open

**Potential Effects:** Reduced public confidence to effectively manage flood risk

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** The Council has powers under Section 14 of the Land Drainage Act 1991 to undertake works "so far as may be necessary for the purpose of preventing flooding or mitigating the damage caused by flooding in their area". A programme of local schemes has been developed in line with national guidance and transparent risk based priority criteria. The programme is to be continually updated and will be communicated via published Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMPs) to assist in managing customer expectations around the delivery of schemes. Skills and resources within the Team will to be developed and focused to ensure the programme is deliverable. A service review will identify a more effective approach/structure that balances the delivery of flood alleviation works with undertaking statutory duties under the Flood and Water Management Act.




Last Updated: 19-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST183	Funding will not be secured for priority flood alleviation schemes	Strategic Risk	Ruairi Barry - Senior Engineer	Lynne Fensome - Management and Support Manager				Open

**Potential Effects:** Flooding of homes and businesses across the county Potential homelessness

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Measure 10 of Flintshire’s Local Flood Risk Management Strategy is to "identify projects and programmes which are affordable, maximising capital funding from internal and external sources". The Flood Risk Management have now designed a more affordable, modular scheme to replace that previously designed and approved to alleviate Mold’s flooding.










Last Updated: 19-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST186	Insufficient funding to ensure our highways infrastructure remains safe and capable of supporting economic growth	Strategic Risk	Barry Wilkinson - Highways Networks Manager	Lynne Fensome - Management and Support Manager				Open

**Potential Effects:** Deterioration of the condition of highways in Flintshire

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Preventative and corrective work has been completed across a number of improvement and maintenance schemes of the highest ranked sites within the network as planned, in accordance with available funding. Priority is given to the areas of the network that require the investment whilst considering the local infrastructure. The service area intends to make best use of available funds and apply them to the areas of the network that requires the investment whilst considering the surrounding local infrastructure.


Last Updated: 25-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST190	Lack of community support for transport options	Strategic Risk	Ceri Hansom - Integrated Transport Unit Manager	Lynne Fensome - Management and Support Manager				Open
<p><b>Potential Effects:</b> i) Planned programme of community transport hubs not delivered. iii) Decreased passenger numbers on bus services. iii) Increase in individual car usage</p> <p><b>Lead Supporting Officer Comments:</b> Community based transport services can play an important part in an integrated passenger transport provision and transport network. Community Benefit clauses included in all new transport routes awarded (except local bus). This is a free service provided by the successful tenderer as a Community Benefit. A minimum of 1.5% of mileage per annum is required from each tenderer (capped at 150 miles per annum). Delivery is dependent on the ability and willingness of the local communities and transport operators to support and deliver sustainable transport arrangements.</p> <p>Last Updated: 20-Apr-2018</p>								
Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST185	Lack of holistic air quality data across the region leading to on cost for the Council to manage its own review	Strategic Risk	Dave L Jones - Environmental Health Officer	Lynne Fensome - Management and Support Manager				Closed
<p><b>Potential Effects:</b> Knock on effect for capacity within the team to manage own review</p> <p><b>Lead Supporting Officer Comments:</b> All six North Wales authorities have now contributed to the regional report and the findings have been accepted by Welsh Government.</p> <p>Last Updated: 25-Apr-2018</p>								
Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST182	Limitations on suitable Council sites with sufficient area for larger scale renewables schemes and suitable connections to the electric grid	Strategic Risk	Sadie Smith - Energy Conservation Engineer	Lynne Fensome - Management and Support Manager				Open

**Potential Effects:** Failure to meet Welsh Government renewable energy targets and the actions set out in the Council's renewable energy action plan

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** We are continuing with an ongoing review of the available sites, particularly in terms of the agricultural estate and the viability of these sites. Two sites have been prioritised as the most suitable sites and grid connection offers accepted. We have developed a good working relationship with Scottish Power Energy Networks which has allowed for informal discussions to take place ahead of formal plans being submitted. This helps in workload capacity of the team and in moving forward with the prioritised sites. Alternatives to grid connections are also considered as part of the process to provide more innovative solutions. This includes selling to a large user which may be a more financially viable option given the costs of connecting to the grid and ultimately delivers both greater financial savings and greater income opportunities.


Last Updated: 25-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST181	Reduction of the Single Environment Grant	Strategic Risk	Tom Woodall - Access and Natural Environment Manager	Lynne Fensome - Management and Support Manager	Amber	Amber		Open

**Potential Effects:** Income targets not met Potential reduction could impact staffing resource to maintain service delivery

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Welsh Government have reduced the Environmental and Sustainable Development grant by £110k for 2017/18. This was better than the forecasted expectation therefore the allocations across the two portfolios have been maintained and projects continue to be delivered. However this remains a risk in that the quality of the bid submissions needs to be maintained to ensure full draw down of the grant. Further reductions for 2018/19 will again lead to a potential reduction in services that can be delivered. We await the notification of the grant for 2018/19. For 2018/19 waste and flood allocations are to be removed from the Single Revenue Grant (SRG). Resources will be allocated to support Local Environment Quality (LEQ) and Natural Resources Management (NRM) through the existing SRG mechanism.

Last Updated: 13-Apr-2018




Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST187	Sufficient funding will not be found to continue to provide subsidised bus services.	Strategic Risk	Ceri Hansom - Integrated Transport Unit Manager	Lynne Fensome - Management and Support Manager	Amber	Amber		Open

**Potential Effects:** Decrease in bus services to residents, particularly in rural areas



**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Withdrawal of subsidies could affect viability of some marginal commercial bus services impacting on people with disabilities, younger people, people employed on low wages, who are unable to drive, and those who may have no alternative choice of travel. There is also a potential impact on rural communities, where no alternative transport services exist and there is heavy reliance on private cars for travel.

Last Updated: 20-Apr-2018



Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST188	Supply chain resilience	Strategic Risk	Katie Wilby - Transportation and Logistics Manager	Lynne Fensome - Management and Support Manager				Open

**Potential Effects:** Transport services cannot be provided

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** The control measures have been put in place to mitigate against another major transport services provider going into administration or not able to meet the required operating standards. New processes have been established and officers are carrying out both safety compliance checks and also finance compliance checks on contractors

Last Updated: 02-May-2018

5 Connected Council




Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST194	Limitations on public funding to subsidise alternative models	Strategic Risk	Ian Bancroft- Chief Officer - Strategic Programmes	Ian Bancroft- Chief Officer - Strategic Programmes				Open

**Potential Effects:** Reductions in funding to these models by the public sector resulting in the new to stop or close services and facilities

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Review meetings are providing an update on the future financial context so organisations can plan for potential reductions when appropriate. Draft Business Plans for 2018/19 are currently being prepared and shared with the Council and these will identify if funding for the future enables the organisations to be sustainable.

These plans show funding levels for organisations moving forward into 2018/19 are sustainable.




Last Updated: 16-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST193	Market conditions which the new alternative delivery models face	Strategic Risk	Ian Bancroft- Chief Officer - Strategic Programmes	Ian Bancroft- Chief Officer - Strategic Programmes				Open

**Potential Effects:** More competition from other agencies or decreasing use of the services means they are in the future unsustainable

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Established reviews are planned with each of the Alternative Delivery Models. Two reviews have taken place with Aura Leisure and Libraries and concluded that the first year business plan is being delivered and agreed subject to cabinet approval the second year business plan.




Last Updated: 16-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST196	Newly established Social Enterprises and Community Asset Transfers failing in their early stages of development.	Strategic Risk	Ian Bancroft Chief Officer - Strategic Programmes	Ian Bancroft Chief Officer - Strategic Programmes				Open

**Potential Effects:** Social enterprises cease trading and asset return to the Council.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Review meetings have been held with all Community Asset Transfers (CATs) that transferred 2015-17. The second year review meetings are now complete as are the first reviews for organisations that took on Community Asset Transfers after 1 April 2017.

Last Updated: 27-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST195	Procurement regulations stifling our ability to develop local community and third sector markets	Strategic Risk	Ian Bancroft - Chief Officer- Strategic Programmes	Ian Bancroft - Chief Officer - Strategic Programmes				Open




**Potential Effects:** Social and third sector organisation not able to grow through the winning of new contracts.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Draft Community Benefits Strategy agreed by Cabinet and workshop held with the procurement team to start implementation of this strategy.

Engagement with the community and third sector on the strategy is now being planned. Small working group have developed and are delivering a plan to help council staff commission in a way that delivers community benefits.

Last Updated: 16-Apr-2018




Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
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ST191	The capacity and appetite of the community and social sectors	Strategic Risk	Ian Bancroft- Chief Officer - Strategic Programmes	Ian Bancroft- Chief Officer - Strategic Programmes				Open
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**Potential Effects:** Lack of capacity to and desire of the sector resulting in unsustainable community and social sector projects such as Community Asset Transfers and Alternative Delivery Models

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** Sustained progress on growth of the social sector with development of new Community Asset Transfers and Alternative Delivery Models. The emphasis will now be on sustaining this delivery and maximising its impact. Regular review meetings and partnership board meetings are in place.

Last Updated: 16-Apr-2018

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST192	The willingness of the workforce and Trade Unions to embrace change	Strategic Risk	Ian Bancroft- Chief Officer - Strategic Programmes	Ian Bancroft- Chief Officer - Strategic Programmes				Open




**Potential Effects:** Lack of capacity of staff to work with and enable social sector organisations to grow and develop

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** This is a key priority of the Community Resilience priority of the Public Services Board working with all public service staff to support growth of the social sector.

As a result a leadership programme will be run by Glyndwr University for public service practitioners who are working with communities enabling them to support communities to increase resilience. A taster session for this programme was provided for 50 people across public sector agencies and over 25 have expressed an interest to do the formal leadership programme

Last Updated: 16-Apr-2018

6 Serving Council




Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST198	The capacity and capability of the organisation to implement necessary changes from the Digital Strategy.	Strategic Risk	Gareth Owens - Chief Officer - Governance	Richard Ashley - IT Business Relationship Manager				Open

**Potential Effects:** That projects agreed as part of the DS will be hindered or delayed thereby delaying the potential benefits to residents or causing cost to be incurred in correcting mistakes

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** There is no overall change to this risk at this time. Capacity will be taken into account when selecting projects for inclusion in the action plan and will be timed to fit with the needs of the service and availability of employees. Each separate project will also undergo a risk assessment to establish the capacity and capability necessary to take it forward and any gaps that might need to be addressed.

Last Updated: 20-Apr-2018

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Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Initial Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
ST197	The scale of the financial challenge	Strategic Risk	Gary Ferguson - Corporate Finance Manager	Sara Dulson - Corporate Accounting and Systems				Open

**Potential Effects:** Reduction in funding of Revenue Support Grant leading to challenging financial position for the Council in its ability to set a balanced budget.

**Lead Supporting Officer Comments:** The impact of the Final settlement for Flintshire was a decrease in funding of 0.9%. The Final settlement reduced the decrease in funding to 0.2%. Stage 1 budget options were approved in November 2017 and Stage 2 options were considered and agreed in principle with Council in December 2017 with a couple of areas being referred to specific scrutiny committees for further consideration. Final Budget options were agreed in February 2018. An initial forecast for 2019/20 will be considered by Cabinet in April 2018.

Last Updated: 18-Apr-2018

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APPENDIX C - NATIONAL INDICATORS DATA TABLE

Performance Measure	Improvement direction	2015-16				2016-17				2017-18									
		Quarter	PI value	Wales	Rank	Quarter	PI value	Wales	Rank	Quarter	PI value	Wales	Rank						
PAM001: Number of working days/shifts per full-time equivalent (FTE) local authority employee due to sickness absence during the year	<	3	10.5	10.3	10.4	97	10.4	10.9	10.1	97	10.4	10.9	10.1	97	8.9	↑	n/a	↑	4
PAM006: Percentage of Year 11 pupils achieving the Level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A*-C in English or Welsh first language and Mathematics in schools maintained by the local authority	>	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	9
PAM007: Percentage of pupil attendance in primary schools	>	4	94.7	94.9	94.7	95.3	94.9	94.7	94.6	95.1	94.9	94.7	94.6	95.1	94.8	↑	↑	↑	12
PAM008: Percentage of pupil attendance in secondary schools	>	2	94.2	94.2	94.3	94.5	94.3	94.3	94.1	94.5	94.1	93.7	94.1	94.5	93.9	↓	↓	↓	13
PAM009: Percentage of Year 11 leavers known not to be in education, training or employment (NEET)	<	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	16
PAM010: Percentage of highways inspected of a high or acceptable standard of cleanliness	>	4	93.2	96.6	93.6	98.6	96.0	94.4	96.8	98.6	93.6	93.5	96.8	97.7	94.5	↑	↑	↑	12
PAM011: Percentage of reported fly-tipping incidents reported within working days of the incident being reported	>	2	97.79	95.37	93.36	98.22	96.85	96.50	98.22	98.62	95.12	96.62	98.62	98.62	97.61	↓	↓	↓	9
PAM012: Percentage of households threatened with homelessness successfully prevented from becoming homeless	>	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	64.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	13
PAM013: Percentage of empty private sector properties brought back into use through direct action by the local authority	>	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	1
PAM015: Average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)	<	4	308	224	281	190	235	249	190	179	213	241	223	179	281	↓	↓	↓	19
PAM016: Number of visits to public libraries during the year per 1,000 population	>	3	4.535	5.480	4.281	5.628	4.835	4.562	5.628	5.628	4.281	4.835	5.628	5.628	4.568	↑	↑	↑	12
PAM017: Number of visits to local authority sport and leisure facilities during the year where the visitor will be participating in physical activity per 1,000 population	>	1	9.744	8.387	7.626	9.056	8.374	8.740	9.056	9.371	8.502	7.690	8.496	9.371	7.160	↓	↓	↓	21
PAM018: Percentage of all planning applications determined within required time periods	>	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	83.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	19
PAM019: Percentage of appeals against planning application decisions dismissed that are in overall poor condition	>	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	63.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	10
PAM020: Percentage of principal A roads that are in overall poor condition	<	1	1.4	3.7	4.2	3.3	2.5	1.5	2.5	2.6	3.7	4.5	3.3	2.6	1.4	↓	↓	↓	1
PAM021: Percentage of B roads that are in overall poor condition	<	1	1.5	4.2	5.1	4.2	3.3	1.3	3.3	3.7	4.3	5.2	4.4	3.7	1.3	↓	↓	↓	1
PAM022: Percentage of C roads that are in overall poor condition	<	1	6.3	15.0	11.5	8.8	6.8	5.0	6.8	6.1	14.1	11.5	7.5	6.1	5.3	↓	↓	↓	2
PAM023: Percentage of food hygiene complaints with food hygiene standards	>	1	96.54	95.16	94.20	95.04	96.52	96.55	96.52	96.97	95.27	93.13	95.20	96.97	97.36	↑	↑	↑	5
PAM024: Percentage of adults who are satisfied with the care and support that they received	>	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	-
PAM025: Rate of delayed transfers of care for social care reasons per 1,000 population aged 75 or over	<	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	-
PAM026: Percentage of carers reporting they feel supported to continue in their caring role	>	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	-
PAM027: Percentage of children who are satisfied with the care and support that they received	>	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	-
PAM028: Percentage of assessments completed for children within statutory timescales	>	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	-
PAM029: Percentage of looked after children on 31 March who have had three or more placements during the year	<	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	-
PAM030: Percentage of municipal waste collected by local authorities and prepared for reuse and/or recycled, including source segregated bio-wastes that are composted or treated biologically in another way	>	4	58.49	63.81	62.63	65.72	64.89	65.20	65.72	65.72	63.81	62.63	65.72	65.72	65.20	↑	↑	↑	4
PAM031: Percentage of municipal waste collected by local authorities sent to landfill	<	4	25.04	9.50	11.66	4.54	2.37	0.53	2.37	2.37	9.50	11.66	4.54	2.37	0.53	↓	↓	↓	4

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## National Public Accountability Measures

Appendix D

Indicator	Outturn 2015/16	Outturn 2016/17	Quartile 2016/17	Outturn 2017/18	Actual Quartile position 2017/18	Target 2017/18	RAG against target 2017/18	Performance Trend 2017/18
<b>Organisational Change</b>								
PAM/016: The number of visits to Public Libraries during the year, per 1,000 population	4,535	4,562	3	4,568	3	4,014	G	Improved
PAM/017: The number of visits to local authority sport and leisure centres during the year per 1,000 population where the visitor will be participating in physical activity	9,501	8,740	2	7,160	3	7,296	A	Downturned
<b>Housing</b>								
PAM/013: Percentage of empty private properties brought back into use	8.8%	9.05%	2	33.30%	1	N/A	N/A	Improved
PAM/014: Number of new homes created as a result of bringing empty properties back into use	N/A	126	N/A	293	1	220	G	N/A
PAM/015: Average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Disabled Facilities Grant: PSR/002	307.74	248	4	281	4	241	A	Downturned
<b>Planning, Environment and Economy</b>								
PAM/023: Percentage of food establishments which are 'broadly compliant' with Food Hygiene standards	96.5%	96.55%	1	97.36%	1	N/A	N/A	Improved
<b>Streetscene &amp; Transportation</b>								
PAM/030: Percentage of municipal waste collected by local authorities and prepared for reuse and/or recycling	58.5%	68.20%	1	N/A	N/A	68.00%	TBC	TBC
PAM/010: Percentage of streets that are clean	93.2%	94.40%	4	94.50%	3			Improved
PAM/011: Percentage of fly tipping incidents cleared in 5 days	97.8%	96.50%	3	97.61%	2			Improved
PAM/020: Percentage of principal (A) roads in poor condition	N/A	1.50%	1	1.40%	1	5.00%	G	Improved
PAM/021: Percentage of non-principal (B) roads in poor condition	N/A	1.30%	1	1.10%	1	5.00%	G	Improved
PAM/022: Percentage of non-principal (C) roads in poor condition	N/A	5.00%	1	5.30%	1	7.00%	G	Downturned
<b>People &amp; Resources</b>								
PAM/001: Number of working days lost due to sickness absence per employee	10.5	9.87	2	8.89	1	9.00	G	Improved
<b>Education &amp; Youth</b>								
PAM/003: Percentage of pupils achieving the expected outcome at the end of the Foundation Phase (FPOI)	N/A	86.90%	N/A	89.50%	N/A	89.90%	G	Improved
PAM/004: Percentage of pupils achieving the expected outcome at the end of key stage 2. (CSI)	N/A	90.10%	1	91.00%	1	91.30%	G	Improved
PAM/005: Percentage of pupils achieving the expected outcome at the end of key stage 3. (CSI)	N/A	88.27%	1	89.50%	1	90.90%	A	Improved
PAM/006: Percentage of pupils achieving the expected outcome at the end of key stage 4. Level 2 inclusive threshold 5 GCSE A* - C incl E/W and Maths	N/A	61.50%	N/A	57.00%	N/A	59.90%	A	Downturned
PAM/007: Percentage of pupil attendance in primary schools	94.7%	94.70%	4	94.80%	3	95.30%	A	Improved
PAM/008: Percentage of pupil attendance in secondary schools	94.2%	94.30%	2	93.90%	3	94.90%	A	Improved
PAM/009: Percentage of year 11 leavers not in education, training, or employment.	N/A	1.10%	N/A	1.70%	N/A	1.10%	A	Downturned
*Outturns for education are always from the previous academic year as results are not available until the Summer								

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**APPENDIX E – ALIGNMENT OF THE FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL WELLBEING OBJECTIVES TOWARDS DELIVERING THE NATIONAL WELLBEING GOALS**

Flintshire County Council will support the health and wellbeing of present and future generations in line with the sustainability duty through .....		Prosperous	Resilient	Healthier	Equal	Cohesive Communities	A vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language	Globally Responsible
<b>Supportive Council</b> Page 291	Ensuring the supply of affordable and quality housing of all tenures	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
	Protecting people from poverty by maximising their income and employability	✓	✓	✓				
	Making early interventions to support healthy and independent living.		✓	✓				
	Sustaining a local market of high quality and affordable service provision for those who are highly dependent on care support.	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Enabling more people to live independently and well at home.		✓	✓		✓		✓
	Giving equal opportunity to all to fulfil their lives.			✓	✓			
	Providing joined-up services with public and third sector partners which support quality of life in communities and for individuals and families.		✓	✓	✓	✓		

**APPENDIX E – ALIGNMENT OF THE FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL WELLBEING OBJECTIVES TOWARDS DELIVERING THE NATIONAL WELLBEING GOALS**

Flintshire County Council will support the health and wellbeing of present and future generations in line with the sustainability duty through .....		Prosperous	Resilient	Healthier	Equal	Cohesive Communities	A vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language	Globally Responsible
Protecting people from the risk of any form of abuse.			✓	✓	✓	✓		
	Making communities safe places by working with partners to prevent crime, repeat crime and anti-social behaviour.		✓	✓	✓	✓		
Sustaining economic growth through local and regional business development, employment and training sites.		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
	Developing the transport infrastructure and employment sites and transport services, widening access to employment and training sites.	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
	Creating a supply of diverse and quality training and employment opportunities.	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓

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Ambitious Council

**APPENDIX E – ALIGNMENT OF THE FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL WELLBEING OBJECTIVES TOWARDS DELIVERING THE NATIONAL WELLBEING GOALS**

Flintshire County Council will support the health and wellbeing of present and future generations in line with the sustainability duty through .....		Prosperous	Resilient	Healthier	Equal	Cohesive Communities	A vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language	Globally Responsible
Learning Council	Providing high quality learning opportunities and learning environments for learners of all ages.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Supporting children and younger people to achieve their potential.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Supporting learners from 3 to 18 years of age to aspire to high levels of educational attainment and achievement.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Green Council	Enhancing the natural environment and promoting access to open and green spaces.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
	Reducing energy consumption and using and developing alternative/renewable energy production.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
	Maximising the recovery and recycling of waste.	✓	✓	✓				✓

**APPENDIX E – ALIGNMENT OF THE FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL WELLBEING OBJECTIVES TOWARDS DELIVERING THE NATIONAL WELLBEING GOALS**

Flintshire County Council will support the health and wellbeing of present and future generations in line with the sustainability duty through .....		Prosperous	Resilient	Healthier	Equal	Cohesive Communities	A vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language	Globally Responsible
	Developing the transport infrastructure and employment sites, and transport services, widening access to employment and training sites.	✓	✓		✓			
Page 294 Connected Council	Supporting local communities to be resilient and self-supporting.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Committing to resilient service models to sustain local public services.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Widening digital access to public services.	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Serving Council	Continuing to be a high performing and innovative public sector organisation with social values.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Providing high quality, accessible, responsive and cost effective public services.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

## APPENDIX F – GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
21st Century Schools	A Wales Government programme of funding to improve school buildings and environments.
Adaptations	Changes to a person's home to enable her/him to live as independently as possible.
Affordable Housing	Covers a range of tenure options for renting and purpose.
Agile Working	Working across locations in a flexible way with the use of technology.
Armed Forces Covenant	The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise by the nation ensuring that those who serve or who have served in the armed forces, and their families, are treated fairly.
Capital	Money spent on assets (e.g. buildings, equipment and land).
Carbon footprint	The amount of Carbon Dioxide that enters the atmosphere through the activities of the Authority.
CCTV	To prevent and respond to crime and disorder.
Coastal Communities Fund	Money from the Big Lottery Fund provided to encourage the economic development of UK coastal communities by giving funding to create sustainable economic growth and jobs.
Community	A geographical area; a town (or an area within a town such as a ward or parish) or a village. This encompasses the people who live and work there, the businesses which operate there, the services that are provided there and the physical spaces which they inhabit.
Communities First programme	A Welsh Government Programme to tackle poverty in the most disadvantaged areas in Wales.
Community Asset Transfers	Transfers of land or buildings into the ownership or management of a Voluntary / Community Sector organisation or statutory body.
Community benefit clauses	Benefits to local communities from major procurements e.g. training and employment opportunities, community facilities. This incorporates social value by taking wider impacts and benefits into account other than price.

## APPENDIX F – GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
Community Ownership Models	Way of organising community owned assets or organisations. These are owned and controlled through some representative mechanism that allows a community to influence their operation or use and to enjoy the benefits arising.
Community Resource Team	A multi-disciplinary team working within the community. The team work with patients within their own home to provide the additional support required to be able to stay at home as an alternative to being hospitalised or have an extended stay.
Community Shares	Community Shares are non-transferrable, withdrawable share capital unique to Co-op and Community Benefit Society Legislation and can be used as a method to engage the community in becoming shareholders (owners) of community businesses.
Deeside Enterprise Zone	Deeside Enterprise Zone is one of the first to be created in Wales and covers over 2000 hectares that will provide space for new and existing businesses to grow.
Disabled Facility Grant (DFG)	A grant available for larger adaptations to a person's home.
Domiciliary Services	Care and support services offered to a person within their own home.
Early Help Hub	Multi-agency project which aims to improve the 'journey' for families at greater risk of worsening problems with an emphasis on information, advice and assistance.
Efficiency Targets	Financial savings we aim to achieve within a given period of time through specific actions.
Enterprise Zones	A Welsh Government initiative to stimulate growth and support business in designated areas.
Equal pay	Equality legislation prohibits less favourable treatment between men and women in terms of pay and conditions of employment. Where there has been a potential historical pay gap between men and women, Equal Pay claims may be brought.
Flintshire Business Entrepreneurship Network	Employers working together to support Entrepreneurship Programmes.



## APPENDIX F – GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
Homelessness Prevention	Take reasonable steps to prevent homelessness for anyone at risk of homelessness within 56 days.
Infrastructure	Facilities, systems, sites and networks that are necessary for the County to function.
Intermediate Care Fund (ICF)	Funding provided by Welsh Government to avoid unnecessary hospital admissions, inappropriate admission to residential care, and delayed discharges from hospital.
Local Development Plan	The Council's land use planning document that will guide development until 2030.
Looked After Children	A child aged 0-18 who is under the care of the Local Authority.
Medium-term Financial Strategy	The Council's plan forecasts funding levels and resource requirements over the medium term, identifies the gap between the two with specific actions identified to balance the budget and manage resources.
Mersey Dee Alliance (MDA)	A partnership that supports strategic economic activity spanning the North Wales/North West England border.
North East Wales Ambassadors programme	A partnership between the Local Authority and tourism businesses aimed at maintaining high standards for visitors.
Poverty	Poverty is when your resources are well below your minimum needs.
Pre-deposit Plan	The name for the draft of the Local Development Plan (LDP) before it is formally submitted to Wales Government.
Procurement collaborations	Ways of procuring goods and services within agreed terms and conditions.
Public Accountability Measures (PAMs)	Information collected from every Local Authority in Wales to measure and compare performance.
Public Services Board (PSB)	<p>The Flintshire PSB is a statutory body which was established on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 following the introduction of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.</p> <p>The Flintshire PSB is made up of senior leaders from a number of public and voluntary organisations. The Board has</p>

## APPENDIX F – GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
	<p>a membership made up of both statutory members (i.e. prescribed by law) and invited members.</p> <p>The Flintshire PSB replaces the Flintshire Local Service Board (LSB).</p>
Regional Domiciliary Framework	Multi-agency approach to care and support services offered to a person within their own home.
Renewable energy schemes	Schemes designed to use energy from a source that is naturally replenished e.g. sunlight.
Safeguarding	<p>Safeguarding” is a wider concept than the protection of children and adults and deals with the promoting of:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical, emotional and mental health</li> <li>• Protection from harm and neglect</li> <li>• Education, training and leisure</li> <li>• Contribution to society</li> <li>• Social and economic well-being</li> </ul> <p>It includes everything a Council can do to keep people safe, including minimising the risk of harm and accidents, taking action to tackle safety concerns and ensuring people grow up and live in safe circumstances.</p>
Single Point of Access (SPoA)	A new way for adults across North Wales to gain access to advice, assessment and coordinated community health and social care services by contacting just one telephone number.
Social business model	The way in which we run the Council as an accountable and ethical organisation operating in a business world. This incorporates social value; the importance of the overall quality of the outcomes.
Social Enterprises	Businesses with primarily social objectives whose surpluses are mainly reinvested for that purpose in the business or community.
Social Housing Grant (SHG)	A grant given by Welsh Government to provide new affordable homes or low cost home ownership.
Strategic Housing Regeneration Programme (SHARP)	A programme of building new affordable homes across Flintshire.

## APPENDIX F – GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
Step Up/Step Down beds	Beds within a care home setting to provide short term support to prevent hospital admission/long term care (Step Up) or to support discharge from hospital where the individual is clinically ready to go home but requires some support before they return home (Step Down).
Substance Misuse	The continued use of drugs or alcohol despite negative consequences to the individual using, their friends, family and the community.
TRAC project	An EU funded project supporting young people aged 11-24 who are disengaging with education and at risk of not being in education, employment or training.
Universal Credit	New benefit which replaces the current means tested benefit for working age claimants.
Vibrant and Viable Places	Welsh Government's regeneration framework launched in March 2013 with the vision that everyone in Wales should live in well-connected, vibrant, viable and sustainable communities with a strong local economy and good quality of life.
Wales Housing Quality Standard	Welsh Government's physical quality standard for modern social housing.
Welfare Reform	A range of measures being introduced by Central Government to reform the Welfare Benefits system.
Young Entrepreneur Programme	An opportunity for young people to work with mentors on their business ideas.

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## FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2018
<b>Report Subject</b>	Economic Ambition Board and the Proposition Document
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Executive

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Cabinet adopted the *Growth Vision for the Economy of North Wales* in September 2016. The vision set out a collective and strategic ambition for North Wales for infrastructure development, skills and employment, and business growth. The cabinets of the five partner councils in the region similarly adopted the strategy at that time.

Cabinet was then advised in a further report in February 2017 that North Wales had been formally invited to open negotiations for a Growth Deal with both the UK and Welsh Governments: - for additional resources and powers to pursue the priorities set out in the *Growth Vision*. A number of City Deals and regional Growth Deals have been adopted across the UK.

In June of this year Cabinet and Council adopted a Governance Agreement for the planning and development phase of a Growth Deal. The Governance Agreement empowers and regulates the regional partnership between the six local authorities, the two universities, the two further education colleges and the North Wales Mersey Dee Business Council. The partnership operates through a joint committee called the North Wales Economic Ambition Board. All partners have similarly adopted the Governance Agreement.

The target date for entering a Heads of Terms Agreement for a Growth Deal with both governments was set as autumn/winter 2018. A *Proposition Document*, which sets out the priority programmes of activity for the region and for which national funding is being sought through the Growth Deal, has been approved by the North Wales Economic Ambition Board. The Growth Deal will fund selected programmes and projects from within the *Proposition Document*; ones that meet shared governmental objectives for economic growth. The document constitutes the regional bid which will lead to a deal.

The *Proposition Document* has been developed over a period of time with significant input from the business sectors in the region and the partners themselves, and in close liaison with civil servants from both the UK Government and the Welsh Government. The *Proposition Document* builds on the earlier *Growth Vision* and proposes a range of interventions for economic growth under a series of priority programmes.

Council resolved at its June meeting that it be presented with the final draft Growth Deal Bid prior to the stage of reaching Heads of Terms with both Governments. The *Proposition Document* sets out the programmes and projects to be considered for inclusion in a Growth Deal, at Heads of Terms stage, by both Governments. The region is now on the verge of reaching Heads of Terms.

During October the regional partners are being invited to endorse the *Proposition Document* to give a mandate to their respective leaders to enter into a Heads of Terms Agreement with both Governments. Post Heads of Terms, the region would then enter the final stage of Bid development and negotiation with Governments.

## RECOMMENDATION

1.	That Council adopts the <i>Proposition Document</i> as (1) the basis of a longer-term regional strategy for economic growth and (2) the regional bid for the priority programmes and projects from which the content of a Growth Deal will be drawn at the Heads of Terms Agreement stage with Governments. Adoption does not commit the Council to any financial investment of its own at this stage and is subject to the financial risks and benefits of the final Growth Deal being set out in detail, for full consideration, when the final Deal is presented for approval at a later date.
2.	That Council notes that the Leader is authorised by the Executive Board/Cabinet to commit the Council to entering Heads of Terms with Governments alongside the political and professional leaders from the nine other statutory partners represented on the North Wales Economic Ambition Board, and the North Wales Mersey Dee Business Council, with the <i>Proposition Document</i> setting out the parameters for the Heads of Terms agreement.

## REPORT DETAILS

1.00	PROGRESS IN REACHING A GROWTH DEAL FOR NORTH WALES
1.01	<p>Cabinet adopted the <i>Growth Vision for the Economy of North Wales</i> in September 2016. The vision set out a collective and strategic ambition for North Wales for infrastructure development, skills and employment, and business growth. The cabinets of the five partner councils in the region similarly adopted the strategy at that time. Cabinet was then advised in a further report in February 2017 that North Wales had been formally invited to negotiate a Growth Deal with both the UK and Welsh Governments for additional resources and powers to pursue the priorities set out in the Growth Vision. A number of City Deals and regional Growth Deals have been adopted across the UK. The target date for entering a Heads of Terms agreement for a Growth Deal with both governments was set as autumn/winter 2018.</p>
1.02	<p>A Growth Deal is a formal agreement between a regional partnership and Governments for additional investment in the region and the conferment of devolved powers. Bidding regions are required to have a legal, resilient and accountable governance model for the planning and implementation of their strategy. For North Wales, the Cardiff Capital City Region and the Swansea Bay Region the bidding process involves both the UK and Welsh Governments.</p>
1.03	<p>In June, Cabinet and Council together adopted a Governance Agreement for the planning and development phase of a Growth Deal. The Agreement sets out in detail how the regional governance arrangements will work and are to be regulated. The Agreement is between the partnership of the six local authorities, the two universities, the two further education colleges and the North Wales Mersey Dee Business Council. The Business Council, which has a place on the Board without voting rights, is not a signatory to the Agreement as it is a membership organisation and not a constituted corporate body. The partnership operates through a joint committee, as the preferred governance model, called the North Wales Economic Ambition Board. All statutory partners similarly adopted the Governance Agreement in the summer.</p>
1.04	<p>In the interim, the Board has worked up its priority list of programmes, and specific supporting projects, to accelerate economic growth in the region. All projects are underpinned by an Outline Business Case. A <i>Proposition Document</i> (attached), which sets out the details of these priority programmes and for which national funding is being sought through a Growth Deal, has been approved by the North Wales Economic Ambition Board. The <i>Proposition Document</i> constitutes the regional bid. The Growth Deal will fund selected programmes and projects from within the <i>Proposition Document</i> – ones that meet governmental objectives for economic growth.</p>

1.05	<p>The <i>Proposition Document</i> has been developed over a period of time with significant input from the business sectors in the region and the partners themselves and in liaison with civil servants from both the UK Government and the Welsh Government, in an intense and iterative process. The <i>Proposition Document</i> builds on the earlier <i>Growth Vision</i> and proposes a range of project interventions for economic growth under a series of priority programmes.</p>
1.06	<p>There are two stages to securing a Growth Deal. Firstly, the Heads of Terms stage, where Governments will set out which programmes and projects they are prepared to fund and to what level via an outline agreement with the bidding region. Second is the stage of agreeing the final Deal with the detailed content and financing arrangements. In between these two stages, all selected programmes and projects have to pass through the five-case business model evaluation process (as required by the UK Government's Treasury). Those projects selected at the Heads of Terms stage which meet the tests of evaluation will be funded through the finalised Deal.</p>
1.07	<p>The <i>Proposition Document</i> is based on the following strategic priority programmes: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Land and Property Development</li> <li>2. Smart Access to Energy</li> <li>3. Adventure Tourism</li> <li>4. Smart Technology and Innovation Hubs</li> <li>5. Regional Growth Business Fund and Hubs</li> <li>6. Pathways to Skills and Employment</li> <li>7. Skills Centres of Excellence</li> <li>8. Digital Connectivity</li> <li>9. Strategic Transport</li> </ol>
1.08	<p>The scale of the strategy is summarised below: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The total cost of investment proposed is £670.65m, with £109.19m of direct private sector contributions and £219.46m of contributions from partners. The region is seeking £334m of capital funding and £8m revenue funding from the Growth Deal;</li> <li>• 5,408 direct jobs will be created, and the value of private sector investment achieved as a direct consequence of the projects being delivered (private sector leverage) will be £3.13billion; and</li> <li>• The over-riding aim is to increase the value of the North Wales economy from £13.6 billion in 2016 to £26 billion by 2035.</li> </ul>



2.00	<b>BALANCING RISK AND OPPORTUNITY</b>
2.01	A Growth Deal will give the region access to capital funds provided by both Governments. The funds will be allocated to the approved projects included in the final Deal. The projects might be implemented and overseen directly by the Board itself, or dispersed to partner organisations, such as the universities, on its behalf.
2.02	<p>All projects will have robust project planning and management arrangements in place to manage exposure to the risks of cost and liability e.g. the risk of capital cost over-runs. The capital funds are expected to be in equal instalments over a 15-year period. To make the biggest impact on the economy the region is likely to plan to invest a high proportion of the capital in the early years and ahead of the Government payment schedule. If this is the case, then there will be additional costs from the payment of interest on the capital borrowed. This would be at a cost to the regional partners and is therefore a financial risk. The Board is working to the principle that it will minimise the risks to the region of entering a Growth Deal. To reduce or eliminate this financial risk the Board would: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aim to keep the Growth Deal at a manageable and affordable level</li> <li>• Share the risk amongst the partners</li> <li>• Retain a proportion of the net growth in National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR) across the region, to contribute to any borrowing costs, by agreement with the Welsh Government</li> <li>• Recoup income from certain projects to contribute to any borrowing costs and reinvest in the region e.g. energy production income and digital connectivity income from users</li> <li>• Explore with Governments options for sharing financial risk</li> </ul>
2.03	The recommended final Deal will be presented to all the regional partners for their individual review and approval as a reserved matter (as set out in the Governance Agreement to which the Council is a party) at a later date. At this point partner organisations will be fully able to evaluate risk and opportunity before deciding whether to formally commit to the Deal in the form presented. When the recommended final Deal is presented for approval, the financial arrangements, and benefits and risks, will be set out in detail. The partners will be able to advise the North Wales Economic Ambition Board on their views on the cost-benefit analysis of the Deal on offer. The Board will not have the authority to sign the final Deal without the individual agreement of the partner organisations.
2.04	The partnership arrangements for the implementation stage of the Deal, which will follow the conclusion of reaching agreement on the final Deal from 2019 onwards, will be regulated by a second Governance Agreement. This second Agreement will specify the financial implications for the collective partnership and for the individual partners.

2.05	<p>There will be a need for a regional resource to manage the implementation of the Growth Deal, and the wider strategy, to be called the Programme Office. Following the principle of minimising financial risk and cost to the region, the Programme Office will be financed through a combination of: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Considering capitalised salaries drawing on the capital resources provided by Governments (subject to a capitalisation direction)</li> <li>• Management fees for project management similarly drawn from national resources</li> <li>• Drawing down other national funding streams such as the remaining European Social Fund resources available to Wales</li> <li>• Secondments and in-kind contributions</li> <li>• Financial contributions from partners</li> </ul>
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<b>3.00</b>	<b>NEXT STAGES OF GROWTH DEAL NEGOTIATION AND APPROVAL</b>
3.01	<p>As set out in 1.01 the target date for agreement of Heads of Terms for a Growth Deal with both Governments is autumn/winter 2018. As explained in 1.06 the Heads of Terms agreement is the first stage of securing a deal. Under this agreement the scope, priority content and scale of the potential final deal will be set out. Detailed work has then to be concluded on the prioritised programmes and projects through the five-case business model evaluation. The final deal will be reported back to the regional partners for review and agreement, as a reserved matter requiring the individual authority of each partner, in 2019. Once agreed by all partners the Board would then be authorised to commit to accessing the resources offered by Governments to begin to implement the projects supported.</p>
3.02	<p>The Growth Deal is not the only intervention to support the aims and objectives of the wider vision and strategy for the region. Welsh Government is already committed to significant capital investment in transport infrastructure and strategic sites in the region, and UK Government is supporting the region through the sector plans which underpin the national <i>Industrial Strategy</i>. Further investment programmes might be negotiated separately and a memorandum of understanding with Welsh Government for future joint working is being proposed; one which will complement the recently published <i>Economic Action Plan</i> for Wales. The unity of the region behind the vision and adopted strategy is an important factor in having negotiating purpose, credibility and leverage.</p>

<b>4.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
4.01	<p>As set out in the report there is likely to be an interest cost of borrowing which will need to be serviced. Until we have the detail of the final Growth Deal, to be negotiated with the Governments, and the capital grant payment arrangements to finance the Deal, the regional partners will not know the</p>

	number and the combined cost of the approved projects. The combined cost of the approved projects, and how they are to be phased over a period of years, will have a bearing on the contributions to the borrowing costs each partner might be expected to make.
4.02	In approving the recommendations of this report the Council will not be making any commitment to financial investment of its own, and will only be authorising the submission of a formal Bid for consideration by Governments. As explained in 4.01 the financial risks and benefits of a final Growth Deal will be reported at the second and final approval stage, along with the model for sharing any borrowing costs amongst regional partners.

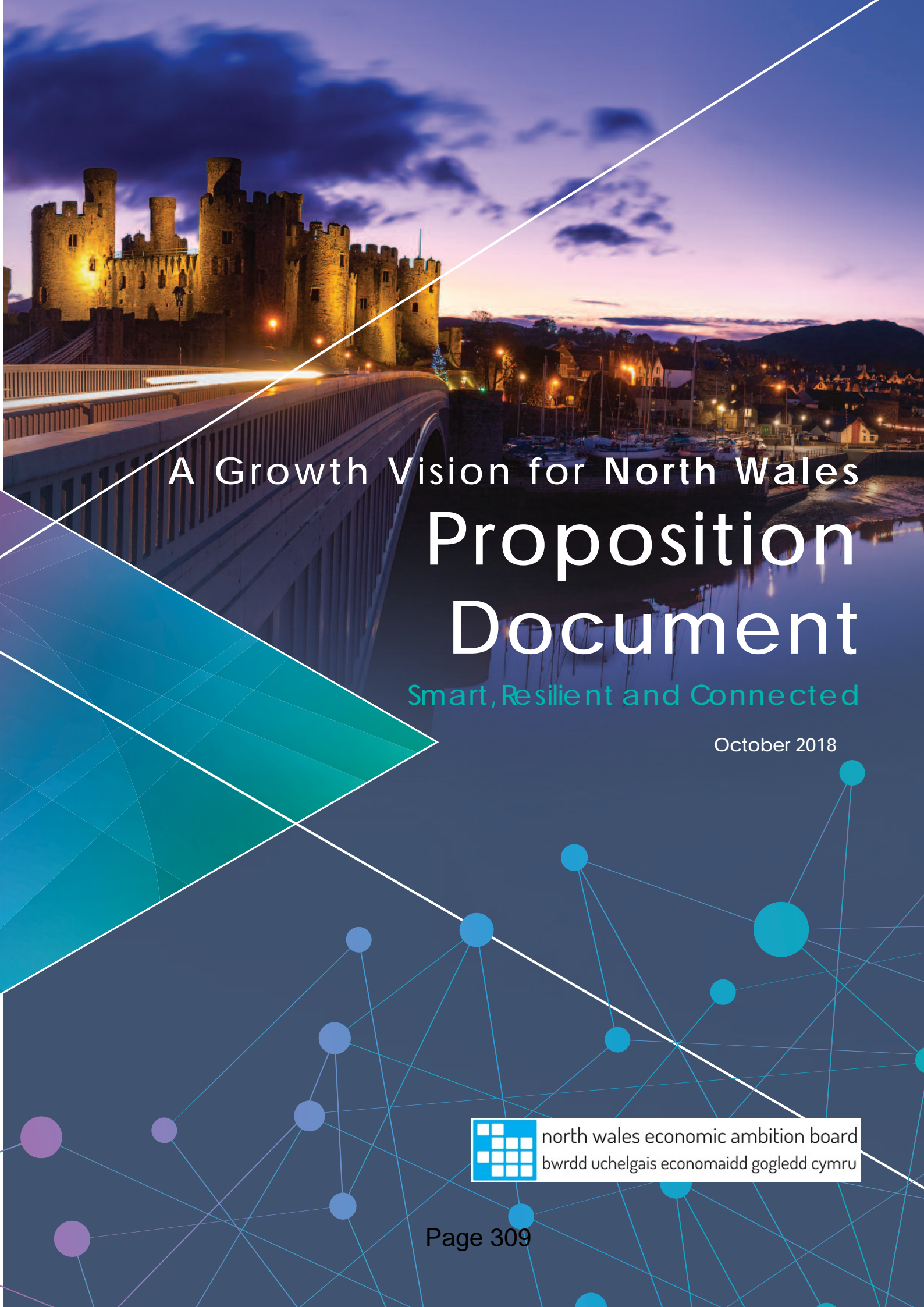
<b>5.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
5.01	<p>There has been extensive consultation across the public and business sectors in the development of the Proposition Document. Members have been engaged in each of the six councils through briefings and workshops. A regional conference has been organised for partner bodies and this information has been made available internally.</p> <p>Engagement of the private sector has been continuous, primarily through the North Wales Mersey Dee Business Council and through the Confederation of British Industry (CBI). Intensive challenge sessions with selected business leaders by sector, consultation with a newly formed Business Leadership Stakeholder Forum, and latterly engagement with the Business Services Association (BSA) have been undertaken.</p>

<b>6.00</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
6.01	Once the potential extent and content of the Growth Deal is known, following agreement of Heads of Terms, a full risk assessment and cost-benefit analysis can be undertaken. This would be available to inform decision-making before the region entered into commitments at the stage of the final Growth Deal agreement later in 2019. Risk analysis is built into the business case modelling for the programmes and projects which make-up the developing Bid. All projects listed in the <i>Proposition Document</i> have an Outline Business Case to demonstrate their worth and value.

<b>7.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
7.01	Appendix 1: Proposition Document

<b>8.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
8.01	<p>Regional Vision and Strategy (2016); Reports to Cabinet and Council (2016-2018) and North Wales Economic Ambition Board agendas, reports and minutes (2017-2018).</p> <p><b>Contact Officer:</b> Chief Executive  <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 702101  <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:chief.executive@flintshire.gov.uk">chief.executive@flintshire.gov.uk</a></p>

<b>9.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
9.01	<p><b>Proposition Document</b> – the regional strategy for economic growth for the region which constitutes the bid for resources and powers to be conferred by Governments through a Growth Deal.</p> <p><b>Growth Deal</b> – funds provided to Local Enterprise Partnerships in England, and local authority partnerships in Wales, for economic intervention programmes which benefit the region and its economy.</p> <p><b>Governance Agreement</b> – interchangeable terms for a legally binding agreement between collaborative partners to regulate constitutional working and the sharing of risk and benefit.</p> <p><b>North Wales Mersey Dee Business Council</b> – a membership-based representative body of the private and business sectors in North Wales and the Mersey Dee sub-region.</p> <p><b>Five Case Business Model</b> – an established project development method for making business cases in support of proposals for investment operated under UK Treasury guidelines.</p> <p><b>Industrial Strategy</b> – the national strategy of UK Government for economic growth and prosperity.</p> <p><b>Economic Action Plan</b> – the national strategy of the Welsh Government for economic growth and prosperity.</p> <p><b>Sector Plans</b> – national programmes of UK Government for investment in key industrial sectors of the economy e.g. nuclear energy, automotive and aerospace.</p> <p><b>Programme Office</b> – the regional resource for overseeing the planning and implementation of the Growth Deal and the regional strategy. The Programme Office is located within a host authority (currently Gwynedd County Council).</p>



A Growth Vision for North Wales  
**Proposition  
Document**

Smart, Resilient and Connected

October 2018



north wales economic ambition board  
bwrdd uchelgais economaidd gogledd cymru

# GROWTH VISION FOR NORTH WALES PROPOSITION DOCUMENT

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## APPENDICIES:

### Appendix 1:

Project Outline Business Cases ([HYPERLINK](#))

### Appendix 2:

Terms of Reference for the North Wales Economic Ambition Board

### Appendix 3:

Terms of Reference for the Stakeholders Forum

### Appendix 4:

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Host Authority

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND KEY MESSAGES

- There has been solid and positive growth in productivity and employment over recent years in the economy of North Wales. However, more investment is required to build on this success and progress and to create further opportunities for businesses and the local labour market in the region.
- Although employment and unemployment levels are improving, high value employment offering high wages is under-represented in the labour market and significantly below the UK average.
- We have an ageing population across the region and tradition of outward migration of talent.
- There is significant variation within the region's economy, most notably in GVA per head (Flintshire and Wrexham are 84.1% of UK average, Anglesey is only 52.9%). There has been a track record of very strong growth in North East Wales, yet this is being constrained by the lack of infrastructure (sites and transport) as well as labour market shortage and skill supply. In North West Wales, the economy is much more dependent on the public sector. There is a need for publicly funded infrastructure to stimulate and facilitate private sector growth, and to support supplier developments related to large scale investment projects.
- The region has a big opportunity to generate growth due to proposed investments by the private sector in key economic sectors such as advanced manufacturing and energy. One key strategic project is the £15bn Wylfa Newydd Project, the largest infrastructure project in Wales for a generation which will have a large impact on businesses and labour market in the region.
- To capitalise on such opportunities, the region has developed a single, 'joined-up' vision for economic and employment growth, with a commitment between all the partners to work together collaboratively for a common purpose.
- We are promoting "inclusive growth", addressing social and spatial irregularities and inequalities within the region. Growth will need to be dispersed and scalable, in accordance with the priorities of the Welsh Government's Economic Action Plan and our obligation under the Well-Being of Future Generations Act.
- There is ambition for the region to position itself as one of the leading **UK locations for energy generation and advanced manufacturing** – as well as becoming a **hub of innovation and technology expertise**, and a centre of excellence for **high value tourism**. This ambition builds on strengths and opportunities, and its delivery will create a more sustainable and balanced approach to economic development.
- The Growth Vision is founded on three key aims:
  - Smart North Wales – with a focus on innovation in high value economic sectors to advance economic performance;
  - Resilient North Wales – with a focus on retaining young people, increasing employment levels and skills to achieve inclusive growth;
  - Connected North Wales – with focus on improving transport and digital infrastructure to enhance strategic connectivity to and within the region
- These aims, which are broad statements of desired outcomes for the region, set the context for our Strategic Programmes. These Programmes, nine in number, are a group of inter-related projects to be managed in a co-ordinated way. The programmes and projects are "key drivers" to deliver our vision and to address the identified challenges and create the conditions for growth. The Programmes will be long-term, broad based in nature and provide a clear framework to pool and integrate private and public resources to deliver positive outcomes for the economy.
- The Strategic Programmes have been co-designed and developed by key stakeholders, particularly the private sector. There is currently a long list of Projects which have been identified to provide interventions for the shorter term. These are packaged under the thematic Programme structure - the Project schedule list, as explained in section 6, is reviewed and updated on a regular basis to ensure agility and flexibility and to maximise opportunities, especially if investment is forthcoming from the private sector;

- Our Projects concentrate on developing the conditions to attract private sector investment. Some of our major sites for business or industrial development are currently “stalled” and we need to make ‘up-front’ investment to enable these sites to be “market ready” for the private sector. This reflects the need for intervention and to maximise the value of assets available for economic growth across the region.
- **Collectively, the Projects identified are transformational** – we have a package of innovative and transformative projects that are inter-related and co-dependant. Their delivery will support the region to overcome the barriers currently faced by the private sector to invest in the region and create jobs. They will also support the region to adjust to and prepare for “new forces” impacting businesses, such as decarbonisation, automation, artificial intelligence and other forms of digitalisation. There is a focus in particular on supporting low carbon technologies to boost productivity and create high value jobs;
- The total cost of investment proposed is **£670.65m**, with **£109.19m** of direct private sector contributions and **£219.46m** of contributions from various partners. We are seeking **£334m** of capital funding from the Growth Deal and **£8m** revenue funding from the Growth Deal;
- **5,408** direct jobs will be created, and the value of private sector investment achieved as a direct consequence of the projects being delivered (private sector leverage) will be **£3.13bn**;
- The over-riding aim is to increase the value of the North Wales economy from **£13.6 billion** in 2016 to **£26 billion** by 2035;
- There will be robust engagement with local businesses to enable them to access supply chain opportunities resulting from Growth Deal funded projects, in order to maximise the potential regional benefits and impact of investment.
- We also seek the support of the UK Government and Welsh Government to be given more capacity and flexibilities to make key decisions at a regional level. New powers and responsibilities are sought to facilitate growth in key policy areas such as transport and employment. Our approach advocates regionalism and devolution;
- The Growth Deal is not the sole intervention to support the aims and objectives of the wider vision and strategy for the region. Welsh Government is already committed to significant capital investment in transport infrastructure in the region alongside the Bid, both road, rail, and other investments such as the opening up of the Northern Gateway site for inward investment and the Advance Manufacturing Research Institute at Broughton. The Growth Track 360 strategy for cross-border rail network investment is progressing at a UK Government level. Welsh Government has recently announced the new Wales and Borders Rail Franchise with infrastructure and service improvements. Further investment programmes might be negotiated separately. We will focus in particular on the UK Government’s “Sector Deal” programme – as outlined in the Industrial Strategy. We will also be targeting other available relevant programmes from both Governments to deliver the interventions as set out in our Growth Vision.
- The region has established new, robust and effective governance arrangements to co-ordinate and deliver the Growth Vision for the region. Functions such as economic development, skills and employment, transport and land use planning will now be co-ordinated by the newly-formed “**North Wales Economic Ambition Board**”;
- A new private sector stakeholders group is also being established to support, advise and challenge the North Wales Economic Ambition Board. This will include business representatives from all key growth and foundation sectors, to provide expert advice to members of the Ambition Board;
- The North Wales Economic Ambition Board, together with its governance arrangements and structure, will provide leadership and accountability for strategic direction and outcomes. It will also be a strong and united voice for North Wales.
- Coming together as “one North Wales” through the North Wales Economic Ambition Board, with a single, joined up vision for the economy, has been achieved over recent years. We now present this Proposition Document to set out the rationale for investment in the region and the details of our Strategic Programmes and Projects which will deliver inclusive economic growth for the communities and businesses of North Wales.



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## SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT

### *Introduction and Purpose of the Proposition Document*

The purpose of the Proposition Document is to set out a package of bold measures and interventions to deliver sustainable economic growth in North Wales.

It acts as the vehicle to leverage funding from the UK Government and the Welsh Government – in particular through the Growth Deal.

The document provides the strategic rationale for investment in North Wales, and explain how the Proposition fits in with wider national policies, particularly the UK Governments’ Industrial Strategy and the Welsh Governments’ Economic Action Plan.

It demonstrates how a wide range of realistic and achievable strategic options were identified and appraised in terms of addressing the economic challenges of the region.

The agreed Growth Vision is set out, as well as the Aims and the Strategic Programmes. This forms the context for the Project Schedule List which will demonstrate the proposed interventions and timeline for delivery.

The engagement of private sector partners is shown in the way in which the Projects were designed and developed.

The economic case highlights the overall impact, outcomes and inter-dependencies, and demonstrates how the investment proposal optimises public value.

The finance and funding case summarises the financial appraisals of the project. It sets out the capital investment required, as well as the revenue implications. It also sets out the investment required from the Growth Deal.

Empowering the region to make more decisions at the regional level and to gain more control over key policy areas are also critical themes of the Proposition, and the key “devolution asks” to facilitate the delivery of the Growth Vision from both Governments are set out.

The Governance and Delivery structure and arrangements are demonstrated in this Proposition Document, along with the programme management and reporting arrangements that are being put in place.

The document demonstrates the key roles of the private sector in the delivery of the Growth Vision.

### *Origins of the Proposition*

The rationale for exploring a new approach to delivering economic growth in North Wales came from three initial drivers:

- **Shared challenges** – there is a recognition that Local Authorities across the region faced a number of shared and similar challenges in relation to their economies, with a deep concern in relation to the widening gap with the economic performance of the rest of the UK. Issues such as low levels of household income, low productivity, low population retention, and levels of concentrated poverty have long been identified as barriers to growth across the region. There is also a challenge of improving the infrastructure and the skills base of the region.
- **Opportunity through collaboration** – there has been an acknowledgement that collaboration between partners can build and capitalise on regional strengths to deliver positive changes and quality

employment. Partners in the region, from Higher Education, Further Education, Local Authorities, and the Private Sector, have shown a commitment to work together collaboratively for common purpose. It is a region with unique assets and opportunities, such as the high quality natural environment and landscape, the recent advancement of the advanced manufacturing sector – particularly in Deeside, and the emerging opportunities such as the development of Wylfa Newydd Power Station and related low carbon and renewable energy initiatives. The region can build on these strengths and opportunities to create the conditions for innovative and globally competitive sectors to thrive and generate growth and jobs. It is recognised that a partnership approach is crucial if this is to be achieved – with all the partners aligning and sharing resources in pursuit of delivering a single, joined-up vision for sustainable economic growth in North Wales.

- **National Policies** – the development of the UK Government’s “Industrial Strategy” and the Welsh Government’s “Economic Action Plan” has given more impetus to the new approach at the regional level. The Industrial Strategy emphasises the importance of “local leadership” and “ambitious visions” for regions in the UK, whilst the Welsh Government’s Economic Action Plan highlights the key role of regional partnership in delivering on shared goals. There is a clear commitment by the Welsh Government to a regionally focused model of economic development, with the aim of developing the distinctive strengths of each region “in pursuit of growth”. This new, place-based approach will support our efforts in North Wales to promote and strengthen strategic economic planning and develop a more integrated and joined-up model to deliver change.

In developing the Proposition Document, close attention has been paid to our duties under the Well-Being of Future Generations Act. The principles of the Act have been embedded in our approach and strategic thinking, and they have informed and influenced the Vision, Aims and the Strategic Programmes. The well-being goals, objectives and ways of working will be a key thread through our work.

## SECTION 2 – CASE FOR INVESTMENT

### Introduction

The current state of the North Wales' economy is briefly described in the following pages through analysis of key statistical information. This information provides a snapshot of North Wales economy and social structure as it currently stands. It also includes the challenges and opportunities for achieving sustainable and inclusive growth across the region.

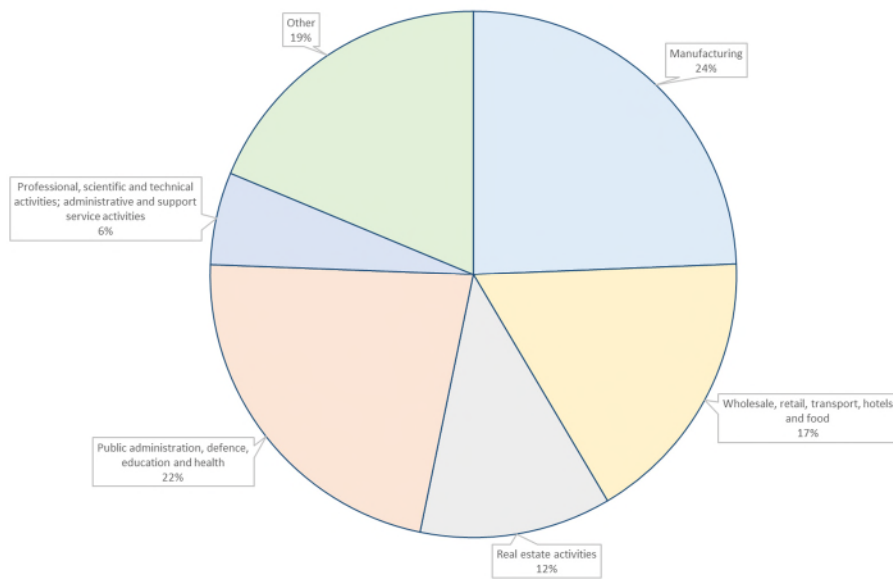
### ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE – GROSS VALUE ADDED

**The total GVA in North Wales in 2016 was £13.6 billion**, up 3.0 percent over the previous year, which accounted for 22.9 percent of Wales total GVA (£59.6 billion) and 0.8 percent of UK total GVA (£1,747.6 billion) in that year. Despite the relatively small size of North Wales' economy, its performance has been resilient following the financial crisis and during the period of austerity.



**Figure 2.1 – Percentage change in North Wales' GVA**

The average North Wales GVA growth rate between 2008 and 2016 was 2.6 percent, which is higher than that seen for Wales (2.4%) but lower than that of the UK (2.8%) over the same period. This growth is not evenly distributed across each of the Local Authorities in North Wales, as seen by the maximum/minimum GVA growth seen in Figure 2.1. In recent years, Flintshire and Wrexham have been the engine of regional growth through their manufacturing activities. Manufacturing accounted for 24.4 percent of North Wales GVA in 2016 (and 40.9% of Flintshire and Wrexham GVA in the same year). Figure 2.2 shows the contribution of different industries to North Wales GVA.



**Figure 2.2 – Industry contribution to 2016 GVA**

The public sector plays a significant role in the region’s economy, accounting for 22.4 percent of GVA in 2016, followed by the wholesale, retail, transport, hotels and food sector (17%). The distribution seen in Figure 2.2 is similar to that seen across Wales, albeit with differences in the contributions of manufacturing (24% vs. 18%) and the public sector (22% vs. 25%) makes to GVA.

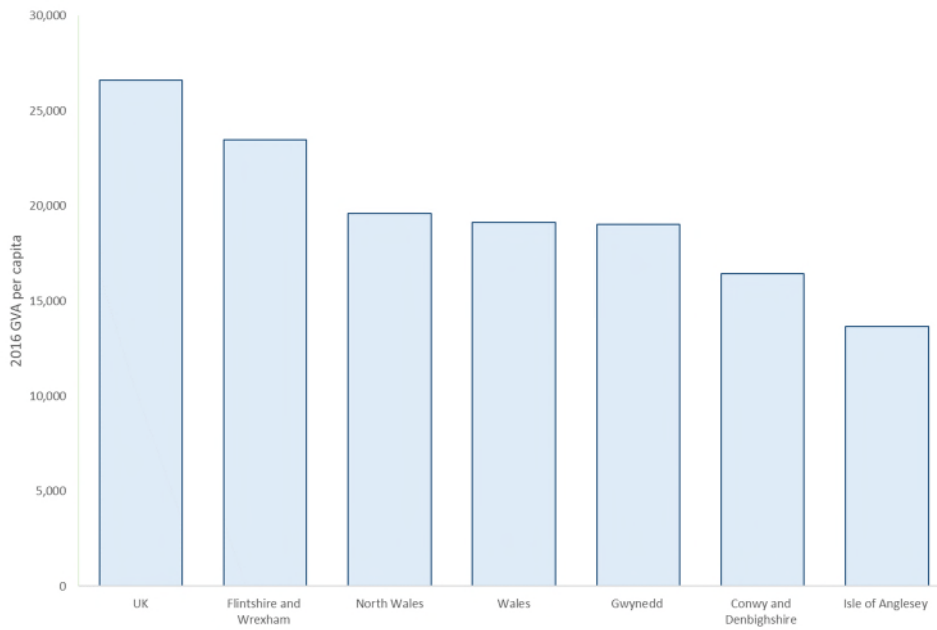
**Despite the performance of the economy, GVA per capita in North Wales remains persistently below that of the UK. With North Wales total GVA of £13.6 billion in 2016 and a population of circa 690,000, this translates to £19,601 per capita. This is 73.6 percent of the £26,621 per capita seen for the UK in the same year.**

**Within North Wales there are wide variations in GVA per capita, from 52.9 percent of the UK average in Isle of Anglesey to 84.1 percent in Flintshire & Wrexham.**

This difference is largely explained by higher economic activity rates in the latter, and a higher proportion of elderly residents and net commuting out in the former.

As a consequence of the low GVA in the four North West Wales counties, these areas qualify for the highest level of EU structural funding intervention.

**The North Wales Growth Vision aims to target high value sectors to grow the economy. Growth in these sectors has been volatile between 2010 and 2016.**

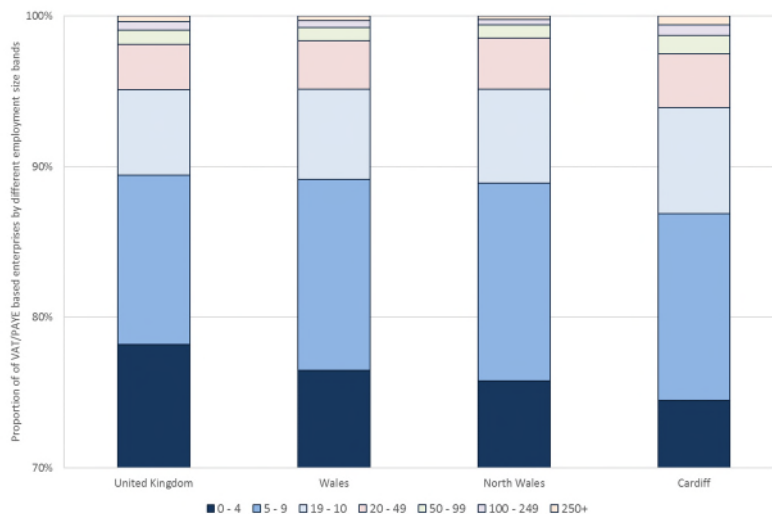


**Figure 2.3 – 2016 GVA per capita**

The economy of the region is diverse with key sectors being manufacturing, energy and tourism as well as public sector jobs. Accessibility to markets, access for employment and for visitors is crucial. The North West of the region has seen a welcome growth in adventure tourism, capitalising on the post-industrial landscape and the area’s natural assets.

### **BUSINESS STRUCTURE**

In North Wales, there were 2,515 VAT/PAYE registered births during 2016. This was an increase from 2,365 enterprise births in 2015. There were 25,070 VAT/PAYE registered enterprises in North Wales in 2017, with 88.9 percent of these in the micro size-bands (i.e. 0 to 9 employees). This is similar to the situation in the whole of the UK (89.4%) and Wales (89.2%). 98.5 percent of enterprises in North Wales are classified as micro or small enterprises (i.e. less than 50 employees), while only 0.2 percent are large enterprises (i.e. more than 250 employees). For comparison, 0.4 percent of UK enterprises are large; 0.3 percent in Wales, and 0.6 percent in Cardiff. North Wales is reliant on micro and small enterprises and there is a barrier to grow these beyond 50 employees and attract large enterprises to the region.



**Figure 2.4 – Enterprises by employment bands**

## POPULATION

North Wales comprises of six Local Authorities; Isle of Anglesey, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Gwynedd, and Wrexham. The region has a resident population of 690,000 living across an area of 6,500 km<sup>2</sup>. The largest town is Wrexham with a population of 61,000, followed by Rhyl (31,000) and Colwyn Bay (29,000). North Wales is a rural region with a population density of 106 person/km<sup>2</sup>. Gwynedd in the west of the region is the least densely populated area with 49 person/km<sup>2</sup> while Flintshire in the east is the most densely populated area with 350 person/km<sup>2</sup>. By comparison, the Cardiff Urban area in South Wales has a population of 447,000 and a density of 5,900 person/km<sup>2</sup>.

The population of North Wales is expected to increase to over 720,000 by 2039. This growth in population is driven by an increasing birth rate coupled with a decreasing mortality rate, due to extended life expectancy. In 2018, the population aged +65 accounted for 23% of North Wales population; however, this will increase to 30% by 2039. This increase in older population means there are fewer working-age people in the economy, which can lead to a supply shortage of qualified workers and making it more difficult for businesses to fill in-demand roles.

## LABOUR MARKET & EMPLOYMENT

The employment structure of North Wales differs to that of Wales and the UK with a reliance on Public Administration, Health and Education sector in North West Wales, and Manufacturing plays a significant role in North East Wales. In 2016, the public sector accounted for 35.3 percent of total employment in North West Wales, while manufacturing accounted for 23.7 percent of total employment in North East Wales. Flintshire and Wrexham have a high proportion of the workforce employed by larger employers, and rural areas of Gwynedd, Conwy and Ynys Môn are much more reliant on SMEs.

**North Wales has seen a greater improvement in employment compared to Wales since 2001. This puts the region in a strong position as we face the challenges ahead.**

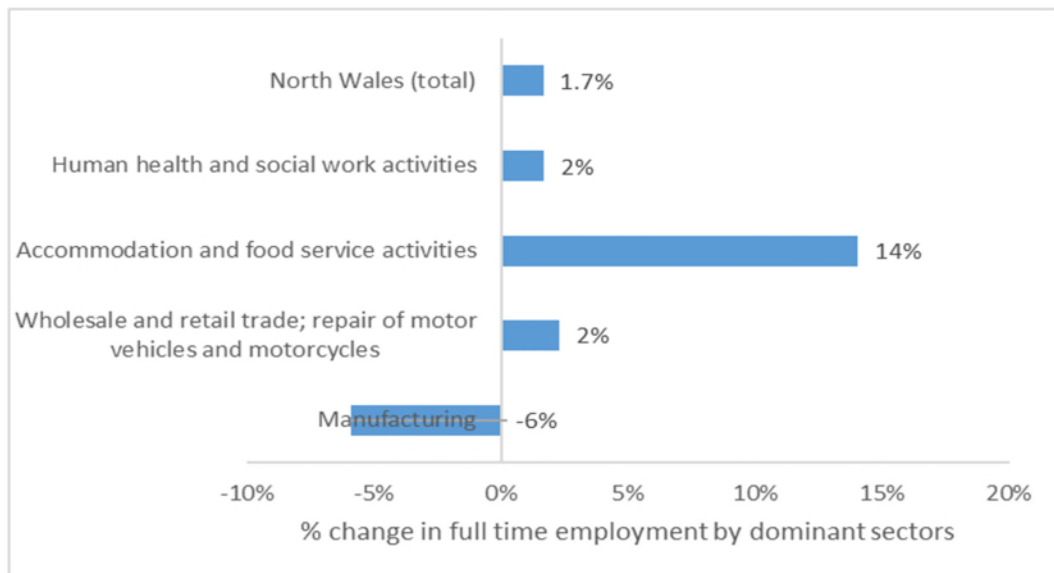
Over the year 2017, the employment rate in North Wales rose by 2.3 percent, with 326,000 people (75.4% of the population) in employment as of December 2017. This rate was higher than the rate for Wales (72.4%) and the UK (74.7%). (Between 2010 and 2015, nearly 16,800 of jobs were added to the economy, a growth of over 6.3% for the region.)

This growth in the number of jobs has not been evenly distributed across all Local Authorities. Within North Wales, five of the six Local Authorities had increases in the employment rate over the year. Since 2001, all 6 Local Authorities have seen increases in employment rates, with Anglesey having the largest (up to 9.1 percentage points).

**Despite the increase, the average growth in 'high value' employment was 1.6% across north Wales between 2010 and 2015. Less than 59,000 people were employed in 'high value' sectors in 2016, a decrease of 4.8 percent on the 2015 figure. This presents a challenge for the region if we are looking to increase 'high value' sectors to improve productivity and competitiveness. Growth in high value sectors has been volatile during the last 5 years.**

There is also a reliance on traditionally low paid sectors/employment such as Tourism and Retail, and there is a high percentage of people employed in the Construction sector in the region – higher than the Wales and UK average.

The chart below shows the percentage change in full time employment by dominant sector in North Wales.



**Figure 2.5 – Change in full time employment by dominant sector**

Conwy and Flintshire are competitive in attracting jobs to the area when compared against the whole of the UK (as calculated through shift-share analysis).

**Flintshire has a competitive advantage in creating employment in manufacturing, public administration and defence, and scientific and technical activities, while Conwy has a competitive advantage in creating employment in the education sector.**

#### *Economic Inactivity – Unemployment and Inactivity*

The unemployment rate in North Wales has decreased over the recent period. The unemployment rate for the region currently stands at 3.3%, down from 4.5% in the previous year. This is lower than the rates for Wales (4.8%) and the UK (4.4%).

However, there is a difference between the economic inactivity seen in each Local Authorities; four of the six Local Authorities had falls in the unemployment rate over the year. Flintshire has seen the lowest rate at 2.1% and Wrexham the highest at 5% - above Wales and UK average.

**Looking long term, North Wales has seen a bigger improvement in employment and unemployment compared to Wales since 2001, but has not improved in terms of economic inactivity.**

The region's current Economic Inactivity rate stands at 18.3%, which is below the Wales average (19.8%), but above the UK average of 17.8%. There are variance across the Local Authorities, with the inactivity rates for Denbighshire (21.7%) and Conwy (20.0%) above the Wales average. However, since 2001, all six Authorities had falls with Wrexham having the largest (down 9.6 percentage points).

There were 36,400 workless households across North Wales in 2016, accounting for 16.6% of the region's total households. There has been a small decline in the number of workless households in North Wales from a peak of around 19.8% in 2010.

#### **EARNINGS AND INCOME**

The picture for earning and income in the region is diverse. Gwynedd has the lowest average full-time weekly earnings (£421), and second lowest in Wales, and considerably lower than that of the UK (£550.40). Isle of Anglesey and Conwy are also showing a similar situation, and are well below the average for Wales, and the UK. However, Flintshire's average earnings is higher than Wales's average at £535.50.

The average weekly earnings in North Wales are down by 2.4 percent over the last year, compared to an increase of 1.0 percent for Wales and an increase of 2.2 percent for the UK.

## **SKILLS**

North Wales does have a skilled and productive workforce. However, their skills may not necessarily match the demands of a growing economy as the current workforce does not possess the higher skills required; those who are highly qualified and skilled often leave to find employment elsewhere; and those who are furthest away or removed from the labour market are often caught in a cycle of repetitive support that is often too locally focused. Those in possession of higher-level skills may not necessarily enjoy a higher level job, as they may not match that individual's employer requirement, and the skills possessed may not be in accord with future workforce requirements.

### **HIGHER LEVEL SKILLS**

In terms of skills, North Wales higher skills (NQF4 or above) has been increasing since 2010 and reached a peak in 2015 at 36.1% of those aged 18-64.

Skills development is an essential factor for achieving the objective of 'decent work' both by increasing the productivity and sustainability of enterprises and for improving working conditions and the employability of workers; however, skills development will not automatically lead to improved productivity or more and better jobs unless there is a conducive economic and social environment to translate productivity improvement into employment growth and development.

### **APPRENTICESHIPS & CHALLENGES**

The regional challenges for skills and employment is how to address a workforce replacement demand gap rather than a skills gap. The primary challenges, features and requirements for North Wales are:

- a. An ageing workforce with skills disappearing through retirement.
- b. A requirement to upskill existing workforce as well as increase entry points for younger workers
- c. An alignment of the training opportunities with the vacancies – e.g. STEM, digital
- d. Joined-up careers and advice services and major projects that are pipelined/timetabled so as to gain the maximum legacy for the region.
- e. 8.2% of the working age population in North Wales have no qualifications - which is below the Welsh national average of 9.5 percent.
- f. There were 6,240 apprenticeships and traineeships in North Wales in 2016/17 (compared to 6,625 in 2015/16).
- g. There were 710 higher level apprenticeships in North Wales in 2016/17 (compared to 1,045 in 2015/16).

### **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHS (STEM)**

North Wales performs well in terms of young people in STEM subjects; however, there is a decrease in those choosing to take up these areas of study, particularly amongst young females. There is also a decline in the percentage of young people achieving grades A\* to C in both Maths (61.5%) and Science (74.4%) at GCSE in 2017; which puts the region below the respective Welsh averages (62.5% and 75.6%).



If we are to respond regionally with a future workforce that is qualified and skilled to meet the future STEM based opportunities across the region, we need a greater coordinated approach across North Wales that promotes diversity, inclusivity and clear progression into our future economic demands based on clear industry demands.

In addition to an increased demand for STEM skills, we need to see a workforce that is more aware of, and competent in digital skills. As a response to increasing automation across all sectors and industries, with over 9,000 IT specific and digital jobs advertised across Wales during 2017, we need to both upskill the current workforce to remain technically competitive, and for future workforce, to appear technically attractive to future employers.

## **PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE**

### **Road Infrastructure**

The region is of national strategic significance as it has at its western point the port of Holyhead, which is the principal gateway to the island of Ireland. The port of Holyhead is the end of the A5, A55, and E22 dual carriageway roads and the main railway line from London (Euston). This transport infrastructure spans the whole of North Wales and connects Europe via the E22 with the ferries to the Port of Dublin.

The economy of north Wales is heavily dependent on road transport for connectivity. Most journeys to work and effectively all freight movements rely on road based carbon fuel transportation. Our road networks are increasingly congested leading to increased journey times and a lack of resilience.

The A55 corridor is of key importance to the region as a catalyst for wider economic growth. It is however only a two lane highway, with significant pinch points at its junction with the A483 near Chester, on the Deeside Corridor, between Colwyn Bay and Abergele and at the Menai crossing near Bangor. The A483 corridor is also critical, linking Wrexham to the M54 and the A55. The major junctions with the A55 and the A5 near Chirk, as well as the town centre junctions serving Wrexham are all heavily congested.

Congestion costs which impact directly on businesses, as well as long journeys for employees and visitors to the region, act as throttles on our ability to grow the economy.

Whilst North Wales is a large and diverse region it is not self-contained. North Wales is a strategic gateway between Ireland and Europe through the Port of Holyhead for both passengers and freight. The Port of Mostyn also provides for freight linkages being close to the strategic road and rail network of North East Wales/ North West England. The A55/ A494, Holyhead passenger port and the mainline railway from Crewe to Holyhead are designated as European TEN-T core routes and the rail line for freight, Holyhead freight port and the A483 are designated as TEN-T comprehensive routes.

The road crossings between North Wales and North West England carry significant commuter traffic flows as well as strategic freight. There is significant congestion and a lack of resilience at peak times. Given the importance of connectivity and the potential for growth, an improvement in cross border strategic travel planning is essential.

Improved capacity and better management of our road networks, reducing congestion, increasing resilience and journey time reliability will help support economic growth, and is considered vital for large capital developments associated with energy generation.

### **Rail Infrastructure**

The rail network does not support regional economic growth effectively. Less than 1% of journeys to work are made by rail. Whilst this is partly due to the rail network only serving the coastal strip and Wrexham effectively, the lack of frequent services on some routes, high fares, overcrowded trains and services not

going to employment sites are all factors. There has been little investment in infrastructure in recent years and service patterns have remained largely unchanged despite different commuting and travel patterns.

The Growth Track 360 campaign was established to identify priorities for investment, both in infrastructure and in additional services. The prospectus [www.growthtrack360.co.uk](http://www.growthtrack360.co.uk), set out the rationale for and proposals for investment in rail.

In particular line speed improvements on the main coast railway, and the Wrexham and Bidston route, together with capacity improvements at Chester and Wrexham stations are priorities. The recently announced new franchise operator for the Wales and Borders Franchise, and the commitments to deliver improvements, establishes a good basis for delivering some of the region's key priorities.

### Public Transport Infrastructure

Public passenger transport represents a small part of our transport contribution. Bus networks are declining with many services having been discontinued in recent years. Services, especially in rural areas, can be infrequent often with long journey times. Opportunities to integrate transport modes are very poor. Bus and rail are often in competition with each other rather than contributing to an integrated transport network. The lack of effective alternative provision of public transport, leads to increased pressure on the road network.

In addition, to respond to Government initiatives to decarbonise transport, innovative proposals are needed to reduce dependence of fossil fuels.

Better and more integrated transport networks, will reduce dependence of the private car, help reduce congestion and bring more choice for transport users. Access to employment and services will be enhanced by better transport integration.

### Digital Connectivity

Demand for high-speed broadband and mobile connectivity in North Wales has kept pace with supply. However, the infrastructure in the region has historically lagged behind the rest of the UK in terms of coverage and capacity.

With the emergence of commercially available fibre optic technology towards the end of the 20th century, the widening of the 'digital divide' now has the potential to increase exponentially where the difference in affordable bandwidth can now be typically 100s of Megabits per second compared to other regions (e.g. 4.9% premises in Denbighshire with availability of ultrafast at >100Mbps compared to 49% in North West England).

**All four counties in the West rank in bottom 25% of UK areas for Superfast (>30Mbps) broadband coverage.**

### Housing

The Region has a diverse housing market, with activity by the volume builders largely restricted to the east. Whilst a few areas need no public sector intervention for the delivery of mainstream volume housebuilding, most areas face more challenging market conditions and need mechanisms to stimulate delivery.

Levels of housing completions across the region is at a historical low, despite projected provision for housing allocations in Local Development Plans ranging from 37,500 to 44,100 (2500-3000 homes annually). To date 13,100 dwellings have been completed (2015 figures), with the majority in Flintshire and Wrexham area.

House building in Wales is failing to keep pace with demand, with Welsh Government household projections indicate a need for 8,500 new homes per annum in Wales from 2011-31. Latest figures show that there is a current shortfall of over 2,600 per annum.

Data analysis also show that there is a shortage of fully available land for business development in parts of the region.

**In light of the above data, we have identified the following challenges that face the economy of North Wales today. These challenges will need to be addressed:**

#### **NORTH WALES TODAY – THE CHALLENGES**

1. Despite the increase in GVA in the region, there is a wide variation in GVA per head between West and East of the region. The GVA in North Wales remains persistently lower than the UK average.
2. Although employment and unemployment levels are improving, growth in 'High Value' sectors in the economy has been volatile during the last five years, with a decrease in growth in the last two years. This presents a challenge if we are to improve productivity and competitiveness of the region.
3. Some parts of the region are reliant on traditionally low paid sectors/ employment. Over reliance on public sector in some areas can have a negative impact, especially given the current financial climate.
4. Even though the region has seen an improvement in employment and unemployment, the economic inactivity rates have not improved and are above the UK average.
5. Average household earnings are below Wales and UK averages, with some Local Authorities in the West among the lowest in Wales and UK.
6. 94.3% of enterprises in North Wales are classed as zero to micro sized band (0-9 employees). This indicates a reliance on small micro businesses in region.
7. There is a dearth of larger enterprises especially in the North West counties and challenges around growing business beyond micro, small and medium sizes.
8. Inadequate Digital Connectivity across the region continues to present challenges to enterprise and individuals, with infrastructure lagging behind the rest of the UK in terms of coverage and capacity.
9. Transport links and physical infrastructure limit movement and ready access to major employment hubs.
10. Levels of housing completions across the region are at an all-time low, and house building is failing to keep pace with demand.
11. Skills levels – current workforce does not possess the higher skills or the correct skills required for the growing economy. There is a poor take up of STEM/digital subjects.
12. There is an ageing population in the region and a net outward migration of talent. Investing in skills that match the needs of the region's new employment opportunities is fundamental to our future economic health.

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## SECTION 3 – STRATEGIC CONTEXT AND FIT WITH GOVERNMENT POLICY

Consideration has been given to the UK Government’s Industrial Strategy and the Welsh Government’s Economic Action Plan in developing our approach in the region.

### *The UK Government’s Industrial Strategy*

The UK Government’s Industrial Strategy emphasises the importance of five foundations of productivity – which are ideas, people, infrastructure, business environment and places. It also identifies “Grand Challenges” which are set for the Government and the wider economy, including the need to put the UK at the forefront of the artificial intelligence and data revolution, maximising the advantages for UK industry of the global shift to clean growth, and harness the power of innovation to help meet the needs of an ageing society.

The Strategy also sets out partnership arrangements between the Government and industry on sector-specific issues (Sector Deals) to create significant opportunities to boost productivity, employment innovation and skills. This has recently involved specific sectors coming together under clear leadership and negotiating a Sector Deal with the Government to boost productivity and employment within that particular sector. There are Sector Deals in place for Life Sciences, Construction, Artificial Intelligence and the Automotive Sector, with the Creative Industries, Industrial Digitalisation and Nuclear in advanced discussion.

Its Strategy also promotes a “regional” approach to economic development, stating that the Government will “work in partnership” with local leaders to drive productivity. Collaboration to address shared challenges is encouraged; and there is a commitment to build on the “innovative approaches” secured through City and Growth Deals.

### *Welsh Government’s Economic Action Plan*

The Economic Action Plan of the Welsh Government emphasises the need to grow the economy inclusively, spreading opportunity and promoting well-being. It defines its approach as ensuring a “fairer distribution of the benefits of economic growth – both at an individual level and between different parts of Wales”. The Plan is shaped by the principles of public investment with a social purpose, simplification, a stronger regional voice, and a focus on the long term.

The Plan also sets out a new approach – moving away from a “sectoral” approach to focusing more on supporting businesses to take advantage of new forces such as decarbonisation, automation, artificial intelligence, and other form of digitalisation.

It also confirms the key role of the foundation sectors such as care, tourism, food and retail – and sets out new models of support and partnership in these areas.

The proposals contained within the Proposition Document will align closely with the priorities of the UK and Welsh Governments in relation to economic development. It will also be in keeping with the Welsh Government policy on local government reform and modernisation through strategic regional collaboration and integrated service models. We will have a strong “regional offer”, building on our strengths and unique assets, and our approach – as highlighted in this Proposition Document – will make a significant contribution to the delivery of national policies at a regional level.

## *Alignment with other Key Strategies*

We have also ensured an alignment with the strategies for the Northern Powerhouse and the immediate North West of England, specifically the strategies of the Mersey Dee Alliance and the Cheshire & Warrington Local Enterprise Partnership.

The Mersey Dee Prospectus (2017) is particularly relevant, with the focus on the cross-border area including North East Wales, West Cheshire and Wirral. This is a very dynamic economic area with a population of nearly one million people, and a strong, diverse economy which includes aerospace, automotive, nuclear, renewables, engineering and retail.

There will also be a close relationship with strategies supporting the connectivity with the economy of Ireland, and a key priority will be ensuring a close synergy with the emerging economic plans being co-ordinated by the Growing Mid Wales Partnership and the Wales Rural Forum.

The Proposition Document is also co-dependent on the delivery of other key strategies, such as the Growth Track 360 for rail investment, the Welsh Government trunk road programmes as set out in the Moving North Wales Forward Strategy (2017) and the UK Industry Sector Deals. These strategies are supported in parallel to this document but with separate decision-making processes and budgets.

It is also worth highlighting that a number of strategic projects are underway in North Wales on which the Proposition Document will build. These projects already have funding, and are not therefore, included in the Proposition Document for new support. Principal examples are the Deeside Advanced Manufacturing Research Institute, the Wrexham Incubator Hub, M-Sparc on Anglesey and a number of strategic road improvement schemes (A494, A483 and A55 improvements as well as the third Menai Crossing).

The one “Stand-out” project to be developed in the region over the next 10 years is the Wylfa Newydd Project on Anglesey. The £15bn project will stimulate major opportunities for the local and regional supply chains with the construction phase having the potential to create 9,000 jobs and its operational phase will deliver 850 well paid, long term jobs. The project will also have a number of project inter-dependencies and associated developments, including park and rides, worker accommodation/site campus, logistic centre, highway improvements and other facilities.

A combination of these strategic projects, together with the development of the £15bn Wylfa Newydd project and the innovative projects contained in this Proposition Document, will accelerate growth of high value economic sectors to increase competitiveness. They will also demonstrate how the North Wales region can successfully contribute to the delivery of the UK Industrial Strategy and the Welsh Government’s Economic Action Plan.

Furthermore, the announcement of the Nuclear Sector Deal, with specific reference to the UK National Thermal Hydraulic Experimental Facility (of international significance), to be based in North Wales at Menai Science Park, and the support for SMRs and Advanced Nuclear Technologies, specifically at Trawsfynydd, is highly significant for the region.

The North Wales Nuclear Arc Consortium (Nwana), led by Bangor University, with partners University of Manchester and NNL, recently submitted a draft Science and Innovation Audit (SIA) to BEIS for the Arc, which extends from Cumbria across to North West Wales. The Nwana Consortium has made recommendations and supported the setting up of twin ‘Innovation Partnerships’ for both Cumbria and North West Wales with the core ‘central areas’ of this ‘geography’ supporting the potential for economic growth in the nuclear sector for the UK and international exports. Additionally the region was included in the North West Coastal Arc Clean and Sustainable Growth SIA, led by Lancaster University, which highlighted a number of R&D facilities which closely align with the priorities of the Growth Deal.

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## SECTION 4 – OPTION APPRAISAL AND THE PREFERRED WAY FORWARD

A number of realistic and achievable strategic options were considered and appraised in order to address the economic challenges of the region.

They are listed below:

- **“Minimum Change”**

This would involve the “same old, same old” approach with limited innovation and ambition. Different priorities and agendas would stifle opportunities, with no shared goals between organisations and stakeholders. Productivity levels would continue to “lag behind” the rest of the UK.

- **To focus purely on key economic sectors**

This approach would certainly improve productivity levels in the region’s economy, but risks excluding a majority of the labour market. Development in decarbonisation and automation are also transforming industries and increasingly driving new collaborations across sectors.

- **To focus more on the foundation economy, in particular care, tourism and retail sectors**

This would support the backbone of the local economy in the region, and would help small and often fragile enterprises embedded in local communities increase their productivity. However, this is a risk that such an approach would not generate the levels of growth required in the economy – and there would also be concerns about the quality of employment opportunities across the region.

- **To focus more on areas of opportunity where the private sector is already strong – such as the Cross-Border areas**

This option would certainly deliver economic growth and improve productivity – but risks the over-concentration in one particular area to the detriment of other areas within the region.

- **To focus on scalable and dispersed growth across the region to achieve sustainable, balanced and inclusive economic growth**

This would also focus on capitalising on the success of high value economic sectors, such as advanced manufacturing and energy, and our connection to the economies of the Northern Powerhouse and Ireland. This approach would develop a more balanced economy, and achieve inclusive growth so that irregularities are addressed. It would lead to a fairer distribution of the benefits of economic growth – both at an individual level and between different parts of the region. It will also create the climate to boost productivity across the region and maximise opportunities for the labour market.

A strategic appraisal matrix was adopted to identify the most sustainable approach for North Wales. The factors used to evaluate the options and set the best strategic approach included:

- **Equity** – that the approach ensures that benefits have a positive impact on as many communities as possible in the region.
- **Value added** – that the approach is focused on high value returns.
- **Strategic fit** – that the approach is in keeping with both Wales and UK wide industrial and economic strategies of relevance.
- **Private Sector Investment** that the approach would need widespread appeal for the private sector – both in terms of support and potential leveraged investment.

Action	Equity	Value Added	Strategic Fit	Private sector interest
Do nothing / Minimum	x	x	x	x
To focus purely on key economic sectors	x	✓	✓	✓
To focus more on the foundation economy, in particular care, tourism and retail sectors	✓	x	✓	x
To focus more on areas of opportunity where the private sector is already strong – such as the Cross-Border areas	x	✓	✓	✓
To focus on scalable and dispersed growth opportunities across the region to achieve sustainable ‘balanced’ economic growth	✓	✓	✓	✓

The strategic options appraisal was definitive in terms of establishing that the preferred approach was:

**“To focus on scalable and dispersed growth opportunities across the region to achieve sustainable ‘balanced’ and inclusive economic growth”.**

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## SECTION 5 – GROWTH VISION

### Overview

This Proposition Document is being developed in support of the “Growth Vision” for the Economy of North Wales – adopted by all the strategic partners in July 2016. It will be the mechanism/vehicle for leveraging additional public and private sector investment and resources to deliver an exciting package of measures and interventions that will achieve transformational and positive change.

### Growth Vision

We have a single, joined-up vision for economic and employment growth for North Wales. It will be delivered through collaboration and partnership working, with a strong private sector involvement and a “Team North Wales” approach, building close economic relationships with neighbouring areas.

The Vision is co-owned by key stakeholders across the various sectors and sets out a clear framework for the development of strategic interventions.

Delivery of the Vision will demonstrate clearly how North Wales is contributing to the priorities of the Industrial Strategy and the Welsh Government’s Economic Action Plan.

The adopted Vision is to develop “a confident, cohesive region with sustainable economic growth, capitalising on the success of high value economic sectors and our connection to the economies of the Northern Powerhouse & Ireland.”

We will, as a region, be positioned as one of the leading UK locations for **energy generation and energy-related supply chain investment**, with expertise in low carbon technologies and processes.

We will, as a region, capitalise on the strong network of anchor companies with an international profile to build an **advanced manufacturing cluster** – one which will be highly competitive on a global stage.

We will, as a region, become a **hub of innovation and technology excellence** and a leader in developing digital business clusters. We will put the region at the forefront of the artificial intelligence and data revolution.

We will develop and project the reputation of North Wales as a **centre of excellence for high value tourism**, building on recent investments and a growing portfolio of globally attractive all-year attractions. This will contribute to the attractiveness of the region as a destination and a place for investment. We will be the “adventure capital” of the UK.

We will capitalise on the opportunities created by significant private sector investments, most notably Wylfa Newydd on Anglesey, one of the largest contemporary private sector investments in the UK. This will be a £15 billion direct investment into the region, and will be transformational in increasing high quality employment and supply chain opportunities. Over 850 jobs will be created when the Plant is operational, and up to 9,000 construction jobs will be created.

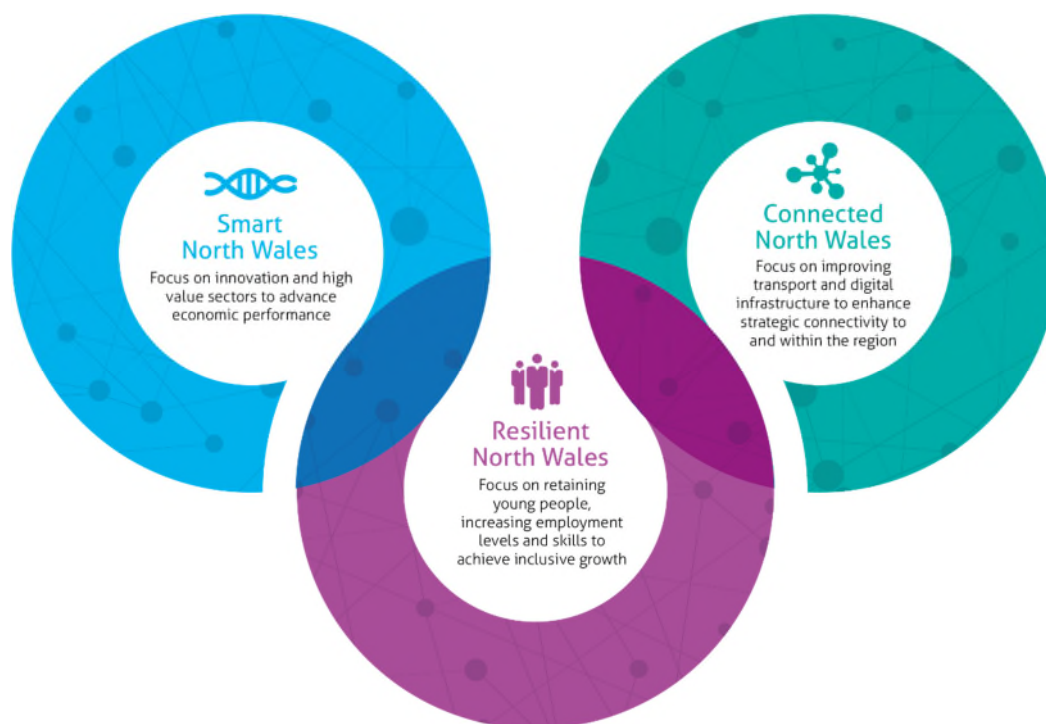
With the stimulus of public and private sector investment North Wales will become a low carbon, high-tech economy with a high-quality infrastructure, a sustainable skills-base and responsive business support to host and grow sustainable businesses in globally competitive sectors. We will maximise the advantages for industry in the region from the global shift to clean growth. And we can become an exemplar of a “low carbon region”.



### 3 Aims

The Growth Vision was founded on three key Aims:

- **Smart North Wales** – with a focus on innovation and high value economic sectors to advance economic performance.
- **Resilient North Wales** – with a focus on retaining young people, increasing employment levels and skills to achieve inclusive growth.
- **Connected North Wales** – with a focus on improving transport and digital infrastructure to enhance strategic connectivity to and within the region.



#### Smart North Wales:

**With a focus on innovation in key sectors to advance economic performance. We will do more to:**

- Capture the value from our science, research and creativity and support innovation that drive our productivity.
- Address barriers that impact on collaboration and the flow of knowledge between research and industry.
- Improve access to capital and ensure that business support and advice is coherent and coordinated, especially in view of “new forces” impacting businesses such as decarbonisation, automation, artificial intelligence and other forms of digitalisation.
- Deliver high quality sites and premises across the region to accommodate expansion, diversification and innovation in the business base, particularly in the advanced manufacturing and adventure tourism sector.
- Play a leading role in providing the low carbon technologies, innovations and services in maximising opportunities stemming from the global shift to “clean growth”.

## Resilient North Wales:

### **Retaining young people, raising employment levels and improving skills. We will do more to:**

- Embed a culture of career-long learning, so as to give people the opportunity to adapt, learn new skills and grow their earning power.
- Reduce the number of workless households and remove barriers faced by workers to access good jobs.
- Inspire young people to access opportunities and exciting careers in the region, and we will equip people for jobs shaped by next generation technology, driving up digital skills.
- Ensure people and businesses have a co-ordinated and joined up service to skills and employment support and advice in the region.
- Ensure that there is sufficient supply of housing in the region especially of affordable types, to support employment growth and community needs.

## Connected North Wales:

### **Improving transport and digital infrastructure to upgrade connectivity to and within the region. We will do more to:**

- Plan and deliver a strategic approach to our investments, ensuring that they are well-targeted in order to drive economic development and employment growth.
- Upgrade digital networks and infrastructure across the region, with a focus on full fibre broadband, new 5G networks and smart technologies.
- Address and reduce traffic congestion on strategic road routes across the region.
- Develop integrated transport hubs and to deliver low carbon transport solutions.

## 9 Strategic Programmes

We have identified 9 Strategic Programmes. These Programmes are defined as a group of related Projects managed in a co-ordinated way to obtain benefits and to deliver the overall Vision and Aims.

The Programmes are listed below:

- **Land and Property Development**  
To address the shortage of suitable land and properties for business growth and to bring forward sites for housing development.
- **Smart Access to Energy**  
To deliver the infrastructure improvements required to position North Wales as one of the leading UK locations for energy generation and production, building in particular on the Wylfa Newydd Nuclear Power Project.
- **Adventure Tourism**  
To enable further investment in adventure tourism attractions in the region, increasing their value to the regional economy.
- **Smart Technology & Innovation Hubs**  
To deliver world-class resources in sector leading facilities such as low carbon energy and advanced manufacturing, building on expertise in the region, accelerating economic impact from research and technology.

- **Regional Growth Business Fund & Hubs**

To provide financial, technical and coherent advice and support for businesses across the region

- **Pathways to Skills & Employment**

To tackle economic inactivity and to deliver a co-ordinated skills and employment advice and support service, particularly to skill people up for future employment.

- **Skills Centres of Excellence**

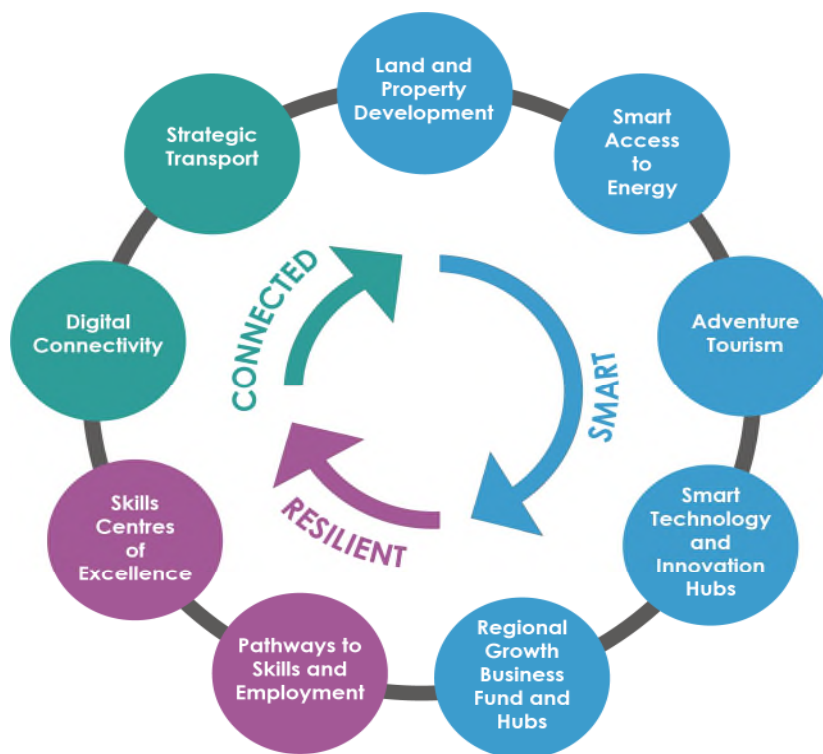
To create the conditions to increase the supply of skills in key growth sectors, focusing on improving the skills infrastructure in the region.

- **Digital Connectivity**

To deliver quality access to effective and affordable digital connectivity for businesses and households across the region, to boost innovation in digital signalling and to improve digital skills.

- **Strategic Transport**

To improve local transport infrastructure to support accessibility and connectivity.



The Vision, Aims and Strategic Programmes have been developed and agreed by a wide Partnership of people, organisations and the private sector who share a pride in, and ambition for, a region with unique assets, challenges and opportunities.

The focus of our approach is on creating the appropriate conditions for high value economic clusters such as energy, advanced manufacturing and digital sector to flourish and boost their contribution to the Welsh and UK economies.

This will be achieved by building on the strengths of the existing business base and overcoming barriers and challenges by delivering a package of Projects which are needed to transform opportunities for people and businesses.

Increasing productivity is naturally a key goal. However, to achieve this successfully, and to deliver a more balanced economy, long term investment will be required to tackle long term challenges, especially around transport, skills and employments, business support, specific sites and premises, and housing needs.

The need to achieve growth in an inclusive, integrated and suitable way is recognised and acknowledged – especially in keeping with the Well-Being of Future Generations Act. Our approach will address the well-being goals, with all the relevant public bodies working collectively to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of North Wales.

### *Strategic Outcomes*

The strategic outcomes that will be delivered through this approach will include the following:

- Growth in regional prosperity.
- Creation of better quality jobs for the local labour market.
- A more skilled workforce within the region.
- Improvements in standards of living across the region.

Strategic Outcomes & Indicators	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Future Direction
<b>Growth in Regional Prosperity</b>							
GVA Growth	10,723	11,160	11,812	12,357	12,402	12,822	↑
North Wales GVA per head as % of UK (-London +SE)	82%	84%	87%	88%	85%	86%	↑
Dispersed GVA growth across the 6 Counties of North Wales	9.6%	5.5%	5.0%	12.3%	3.1%	5.5%	↓
GVA growth in high value economic sector (GVA growth in manufacturing, information and communications and technical activities)	0.1%	4.8%	4.0%	7.8%	-0.3%	2.0%	↑
<b>Creation of Better Quality Jobs</b>							
Employment Growth	-0.9%	1.4%	3.6%	-0.3%	0.4%	1.1%	↑
Dispersal of Employment Growth across the 6 Counties of North Wales	7.2%	8.2%	8.1%	7.4%	13.2%	12.9%	↓
Employment Growth in high value economic sectors	-1.5%	1.8%	0.1%	6.2%	5.8%	-2.6%	↑
<b>A more Skilled Workforce within the Region</b>							
Increase in proportion of the population with qualifications (NQF 4)	29.7%	30.4%	32.2%	33.5%	35.2%	36.1%	↑
Increase in higher level apprenticeships as a proportion of total employment	-	-	-	-	1,335	1,885	↑
Increase in apprenticeships 16-24 as a proportion of total employment	-	-	-	-	5,100	5,155	↑
<b>Improvements in Standards of Living across the Region</b>							
Reduce the proportion of workless households	19.9%	19.7%	18.7%	17.6%	18.7%	17.4%	↓
Improve affordability (median house prices / median income)	6.08	5.99	5.91	5.55	5.64	5.84	↓
Increase in median household income (£)	£22,813	£22,602	£23,297	£24,362	£24,478	£24,823	↑

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## SECTION 6 – PROJECT SCHEDULE LIST

The Projects for which investment is sought are included in this section. They are all strategic and their delivery will transform the performance and opportunities across the region. They have been developed in the context of our Vision and Aims, and are presented within the Strategic Programmes.

The Projects are inter-related and co-dependent. They have all been tested in terms of strategic fit, delivering value for money, commercial sustainability, deliverability and partnership support and commitment.

They have been designed and developed through partnership working and co-production amongst the public, higher education, further education and particularly the private sector in the region.

The Project Schedule List includes a mix of solutions that are:

- Spatially targeted
- Applied to the whole region
- Enablers, e.g. transport, housing
- Supporting growth and attracting private sector investment
- Promoting innovation

The balance of benefits from the investment will be shared to support sustainable and inclusive growth across the region – in accordance with our Vision as well as the priorities of the Well-Being of Future Generation Act.

It must be emphasised that this is a long list of projects – and the Schedule List will be regularly updated and reviewed in order to capture new and innovative projects that will deliver our vision and aims. This is therefore by no means a fixed and inflexible Project Schedule List. An Outline Business Case (OBCs) for each Project is included in **Appendix 1** (<C:\Users\900094\OneDrive - Cyngor Gwynedd\North Wales Growth Deal OBCs>). **Copies of individual OBCs are available in the Economic Development Department of all 6 Local Authorities.**

These OBCs have been prepared in accordance with the Treasury's Green Book.

A narrative of each Project is included below:

### SMART NORTH WALES

#### 1. Land & Property Development Programme

This Programme includes a package of projects to unlock growth opportunities in the region. Their development will deliver high quality sites and premises to accommodate innovation and expansion in the business base, in particular in advanced manufacturing and low carbon energy related industries.

The delivery of the Project within the Programme will provide businesses with access to a portfolio of well-serviced, high quality employment sites and premises and help meet the demand for housing, attracting investment and creating employment opportunities in the construction sector. A pipeline of schemes will be available to meet demand in future years:

## Regional Land and Property Joint Venture Project

The purpose of the Project is to deliver a pipeline of quality sites and premises to meet demand and end-user requirements in the region. This will support opportunities for growth in key sectors (advanced manufacturing, energy and digital) and facilitate expansion, diversification and new investment in the business base of north Wales.

The project involves establishing a joint venture between the North Wales Economic Ambition Board and the Welsh Government to co-ordinate and manage the development and delivery of land and property across north Wales. The Joint Venture will also work with the private sector and other partners to resolve the barriers to development. There will also be a focus on accelerating the development of housing sites designated in the Development Plan of individual local authorities, working in partnership with the group of Registered Social Landlords in the region. The Partnership represents a strategic approach to the effective use of resources in seeking to address the housing needs of the region and bringing an innovative approach to the development by providing easier access to funding for local and regional house-builders to accelerate the rate of house building across the region.

The aim is to work in partnership with the Development Bank of Wales to ring-fence, expand the scope of, and promote, specific loans which are targeted at the SME house-building sector within the region. There are a series of “stalled sites” across where progress has been halted for a variety of reasons, such as viability issues caused by high infrastructure costs. Problems accessing finance limits the ability to unlock stalled sites which are a key barrier to house-builders in the region.

The project will create 2875 direct jobs and 2750 indirect jobs.

The total cost of the project is £124m.

**This is a project that will be funded through the Growth Deal.**

Priority sites for the joint-venture, where pump-priming investment is needed to bring forward development, include the following:

### **Warren Hall Strategic Site Project** **[Lead Sponsor: 6 Local Authorities]**

Warren Hall is a major strategic site in Flintshire that has been in public sector ownership since the early 1990's. Although some primary road junction infrastructure has been installed, the site remains undeveloped and incapable of further development until additional on-site infrastructure has been provided. The site is located close to the A55 and has planning consent.

Funding is required to support up-front infrastructure costs. The site comprises 65Ha of land available for development. The proposals include a mixed-use development of housing and Business Park, and will complement and capitalise on the success of the Deeside Industrial Zone and Chester Business Park.

There is clear evidence of demand from the private sector, and major enquiries are currently under discussion. However, private investment cannot be secured and interest can't proceed unless the primary infrastructure is provided.

The site has the potential to generate private sector investment leverage of £55 million, with a scope for up to 1,000 indirect or construction jobs.

The Project will be delivered between 2019-2021.

The total cost of the Project is £15m.

## **Wrexham Technology Park Strategic Site Project**

### **[Lead Sponsor: 6 Local Authorities]**

The purpose of this Project is to bring forward an extension to the Wrexham Technology Park – which is a strategic site located between the town centre and the main A483 road corridor. Additional brown field site is available for development, but new road access is required, together with improved junctions on the A483, electricity grid connections and other new primary infrastructure.

Recent progress by Welsh Government to support significant junction improvements to be delivered over the next few years means that the site can now be bought forward for development.

The site comprises 5Ha of development land, in four plots, with a proven demand from the private sector for development. A major local occupier with significant growth and job creation potential is known to require additional development land.

Funding is required in order to support up-front infrastructure work to bring forward the site. The site has been in public ownership for many years and has not progressed due to the inadequate infrastructure supporting the site. The site has the potential to accommodate significant opportunities for digital and financial services employment opportunities.

The Project will deliver direct private sector investment of £2 million. It is also considered that there will be an additional indirect leverage of £32.4 million. The Project will generate up to 1,000 direct jobs and 500 indirect jobs.

The Project will be delivered between 2022-2025.

The total Project cost will be £11 million.

## **Parc Bryn Cegin Strategic Site Project, Bangor**

### **[Lead Sponsor: 6 Local Authorities]**

Parc Bryn Cegin is a strategic development site close to the A55 on the outskirts of Bangor. The site has remained undeveloped – despite investment in primary infrastructure in the early 2000's

There is known private sector interest in the site and area, in particular in view of opportunities related to the energy sector and Wylfa Newydd. However, the return on investment is not deemed sufficient to persuade private sector developers to build units for occupation on terms acceptable to potential occupiers.

Funding is required to provide industrial floor space to meet known demand for units. It is proposed that up to 10km<sup>2</sup> of industrial and B1 floor space will be provided on the site. The completed development could be sold on completion, either to end users or on the investment market. There is potential for a return on some of the investment made from the sale of the occupied units.

There is scope to generate 250 indirect jobs, and up to 5 large businesses could be accommodated. It has potential to generate £12m private sector leverage.

The total cost would be £12million.

The Project will be delivered between 2019-2021.

## **Bodelwyddan Strategic Site Project**

### **[Lead Sponsor: 6 Local Authorities]**



The purpose of the Project is to support the development of a strategic mixed-use development site at Bodelwyddan in Denbighshire.

The site is located as a key strategic site within the Denbighshire Local Development Plan and planning consent has been agreed.

Funding is required in order to support up-front infrastructure costs. The site comprises 137Ha of land on which a master plan has been developed to accommodate housing development, employment, land and local facilities. The site will complement the existing St. Asaph Business Park and Kimmel Park employment sites, and will provide additional capacity for development in the central part of the A55.

There is a “named” developer for the site who will contribute £4m of direct private sector investment into the Project. The Project is expected to secure private sector leverage of £185m and will create up to 1,000 indirect or construction jobs. A joint venture mechanism will be used to generate a return on investment. This will be used to fund future projects within the Land and Property Development Programme.

The Project will be completed by 2021.

The total Project cost is £22m.

Consideration will also be given to the development of the Wrexham Food Centre, which is aimed at strengthening and enhancing regional food and beverage sector. The focus in the short term will be develop speculative rental units with onsite support to facilitate the development of sector cluster.

These “early win” sites, together with a pipeline of other potential opportunities, will be managed by the Joint Venture so as to respond to market demand and not to oversupply of the market. It will also allow capacity to meet future investment requirements in the region.

These sites – once developed and occupied – will produce income for the Joint Venture generated from rents and disposals of land and property. This income will be used to deliver the schedule of sites and premises priorities by the Joint Venture.

A small pool of technical expertise will be identified to develop and deliver projects on behalf of the Joint Venture.

New jobs, properties and housing units will be identified on a project-by-project basis. High level targets for the Joint Venture include 100 h.a. of “shovel ready” business land provided, 15,000m<sup>2</sup> of business space provided, 1500 housing lots with infrastructure available for development and £30 million direct private sector investment.

**This is a project that will be funded through the Growth Deal.**

It is estimated that the project will attract £657 million private sector investment achieved as a direct consequence of the portfolio of sites and premises being delivered by the Joint Venture.

## **2. Smart Access to Energy Programme**

**This Programme includes a package of Projects that will focus on positioning North Wales as one of the leading UK locations for low carbon energy generation and production, as well as innovative small scale smart local energy networks. It will focus in particular on capitalising on the opportunities from the £15 billion investment taking place as a result of the Wylfa Newydd Nuclear Power Station.**

**The delivery of the Projects within the Programme will ensure that North Wales has a quality and modern infrastructure to accommodate and facilitate sustainable growth in the low-carbon energy sector. Pilot projects will be exemplars for rural and peripheral areas:**

### **Holyhead Gateway Project** **[Lead Sponsor: 6 Local Authorities]**

The purpose of the Project is to upgrade and improve the infrastructure of Holyhead, a strategic gateway into North Wales and the UK. The Project will provide new deep-water cruise and heavy loading facilities, thereby, maximising the economic impact of the raft of North Wales energy projects, in particular Wylfa Newydd.

The Project will be developed and delivered in partnership with the private sector. Stena Line, the owners and operators of the Port of Holyhead, have made a clear commitment to inject private sector funding into the Project.

There is an urgent need for improved port facilities for the loading and unloading of heavy items. Very strong indications have been given by potential key customers that they will use Holyhead Port if the appropriate infrastructure improvement are delivered. This includes Horizon for the purpose of Wylfa Newydd.

Funding is required in order to support the infrastructure improvements to the Port, including reclamation of a site to deliver a multi-purpose berth and flexible holding area and the development of an integrated deep-water berth, enabling visits from larger cruise ships. There will also be a breakwater restoration scheme as part of the Project and the introduction of technologies to enable Holyhead to become the UK's first "smart" Port.

**This is a project that will be funded through the Growth Deal.**

The Project will deliver up to 1,250 direct jobs and 1,589 indirect construction jobs, and 17 acres of new and improved port facilities.

The overall Project cost is £80m, with a direct private sector contribution of £45m.

The Project will be delivered between April 2019 and March 2023.

### **Trawsfynydd Power Station Project** **[Lead Sponsor: 6 Local Authorities]**

The purpose of this Project is to represent the first phase of infrastructure development to enable further energy-related development to take place at Trawsfynydd.

The site is within the designated area of the Welsh Government's Snowdonia Enterprise Zone – its inherent characteristics, infrastructure and grid connections lending itself well to further energy related development.

Funding is required in order to support complex feasibility studies in relation to the site, and upgrading infrastructure to and from the site. The aim is to enable the site to have the necessary licence to host a Small Modular Reactor and to base research activities in future nuclear technologies and associated systems on site.

Strong links have already been forged with key Small Modular Reactor developers, industry bodies, and governments, and consequently the benefits offered by the Trawsfynydd site are now widely recognised.

There is strong synergy between this Project with the ongoing and proposed developments at Bangor University, especially in Research & Development. The activities of the Energy Project, for example, will align closely with the Trawsfynydd Project, and enable innovation and testing to take place on advanced technology. There is strong synergy with the development of the Nuclear Sector Deal and the support for SMRs and Advanced Nuclear Technologies.

**This is a project that will be funded through the Growth Deal.**

The Project will lead to 250 direct jobs, over 2,500 construction jobs, and support over 600 new long-term jobs across the North Wales supply chain. It has the potential to achieve a leverage of £2bn in private sector investment.

The total cost of the Project is £20m.

The Project will be delivered between April 2019 and March 2030.

### **Morlais Project**

**[Lead Sponsor: 6 Local Authorities]**

The Morlais Project is one of the most innovative marine energy Projects in the World. The Project will provide a “plug and play” seabed zone where tidal stream turbine manufacturers can install their turbines to generate energy.

The Project has identified sub-tenant customers with a range of technologies, a deliverable route to commercial readiness and proximity to expandable grid connectivity.

It has the potential to provide an output of 180MW of energy.

This Project has seven named tidal turbine manufacturers signed up on the sequential contracts. It will generate a new innovative method of generating energy through renewable sources. The development will be the first of its kind, and may well lead the way in the tidal stream energy sector.

Funding is required in order to support up-front infrastructure costs to develop the “plug and play” model. The Project will deliver a fully consented and connected zone for commercial roll-out, with the potential of private sector leverage of £5m with 8 turbine manufacturing companies establishing bases in the region. The Project will facilitate over 300 direct jobs.

**This will be a project that will be funded through the Growth Deal.**

The cost of the Project is £28m and the Project will be delivered between 2019-2022.

### **Smart Local Energy Network Project**

**[Lead Sponsor: 6 Local Authorities]**

The purpose of this Project is to facilitate the development of sustainable local energy solutions for communities across the region.

The region has considerable potential for local renewable energy generation, but often these are constrained by grid capacity, especially in rural and peripheral areas. Additionally, community groups are also often constrained by complex legal and governance barriers and technical capacity. The project will address such barriers to accelerate and support community-owned electricity generation schemes.

The project will establish a Regional Energy Body to provide a hub of technical expertise, deliver pilot projects and evaluate options for future solutions to ensure communities and business benefit from local energy developments, by considering and evaluating innovative solutions.

The project will also support the decarbonisation of energy networks by delivering innovative pilot projects. These projects would involve the decarbonisation of transport and decarbonisation of domestic and business heating.

Opportunities for renewable schemes that provide balanced energy generation where hydro, wind and solar generation, supported by storage and gas storage solutions that can provide a mix of renewable energy will be considered. The project will also seek to produce hydrogen in modular facilities to support decarbonisation of transport networks; pilot projects that support access to tourism and reduce carbon usage for transport at major transport and business hubs will be delivered.

It will also seek to develop local energy networks that improve resilience, use energy generated more locally, and allow for the storage of energy when gaps in supply occur.

The project will deliver local energy generation schemes across a balanced mix of sources by funding and supporting small scale projects and working in partnership with community enterprises. The mix of technical expertise and funding provided by the project will help accelerate the development of future projects in the region.

**This will be a project that will be funded through the Growth Deal.**

The overall Project cost is £18m.

The Project will be delivered between April 2019 and March 2025.

### 3. Adventure Tourism Programme

**This Programme will support the delivery of strategic projects that will boost the reputation of the region as the UK capital of adventure tourism, maximising and delivering the economic value from our natural environment. The programme will focus in particular on capitalising on the opportunities from international growth in the adventure tourism visitor market.**

**The successful delivery of the Projects within the Programme will further enhance the position of the region as the No 1 adventure tourism destination. There is a clear focus on extending the season and increasing the value base in terms of jobs, earning and value-added. All investments proposed within the Programme are distinctly private sector driven from existing Adventure Tourism facilities in north Wales. This will take the current offer to the next level and generate new and additional economic activity in the region**

#### **North Wales Adventure Tourism Capital Investment [Lead Sponsor: TBC]**

The purpose is to bring forward a series of partnership projects with the private sector to increase the global reputation of North Wales as an adventure tourism destination. The Project will focus on increasing the competitiveness of existing attractions, enabling them to offer new experiences to visitors and retain them in the region for a longer period.

The project will focus in particular on addressing the barriers faced by the private sector in further developing their attractions. One key aim will be to bring forward transformational proposals that will

extend the season and therefore have a positive impact on the value base of the current offering in terms of jobs, earnings and value added.

A portfolio of key investment will be delivered through this project that will have a transformational impact on the adventure tourism base across North Wales. All the proposals funded will be distinctly private sector drivers from existing adventure tourism facilities in North Wales.

Proposals will be subject to prioritisation framework based on existing UK and Welsh Government appraisal system with a set of key criteria aligned with delivering proposals that attract international visitors, deliver year-round tourism, extend dwell-time, deliver complimentary offers (i.e. health and well-being) and achieve additionality. We will also seek to ensure that any supported proposal through this Project will deliver jobs efficiently, introduce innovation into the sector, and are potentially “game changers” for North Wales.

These investments are estimated to deliver over 175 Full Time direct jobs and upwards of 450 indirect jobs.

**This is a project that will be funded through the Growth Deal.**

The estimated total cost of the project is £40m but will also attract £20m of direct private sector investment.

The project will be delivered between April 2019 and March 2023.

#### **4. Smart Technology & Innovation Hubs Programme**

**This Programme includes Projects that will deliver world-class resources in sector leading facilities, building on expertise in the region to maximise local economic impact from research and technology. It will focus in particular on opportunities in low carbon energy and advanced manufacturing.**

**The delivery of the Projects within the Programme will ensure that the region has world leading expertise and a network of world leading centres to boost innovation and new technology in key economic sectors, and therefore enabling new investment, growth and quality jobs in North Wales. Key to this Programme will be the direct benefits to the local SME sector in the region. Access to R&D facilities and assets will be promoted within the region to ensure that their value is maximised with relevant local businesses:**

##### **Nuclear Energy Centre of Excellence [Lead Sponsor: Bangor University]**

The purpose of this Project is to establish world-class facilities and expertise on Sustainable Energy with a strong nuclear focus. The economic opportunities for a Nuclear Energy Centre of Excellence arise from the proposal to build a £15bn new nuclear power station on Anglesey and the plans by Rolls Royce, GE Hitachi and others to develop SMR technologies relevant to Trawsfynydd.

The plans in place and proposals being developed, namely the BWR Hub & Network, the academic capacity in nuclear engineering within the recently established Nuclear Futures Institute in Bangor University funded through Sêr Cymru, the attraction of world leading academics and the proposals for a Thermal Hydraulic Experimental Facility indicates a clear commitment by Bangor University, Imperial College London, Menai Science Park and their industry partners to bring transformational change to the economy of the region. These have the potential to bring about the biggest economic boost to the region in a generation.

The Centre located jointly at Bangor University and the Menai Science Park, will foster the formation of businesses and academic enterprises by providing a range of technical and business support to newly-formed companies in a nuclear-related cluster.

Funding is required in order to develop the Sustainable Energy Centre and the Nuclear Energy Centre of Excellence. The private sector will be a key partner in the development of the Centre. Companies such as GE Hitachi, Rolls Royce, The Wood Group and Horizon have shown a clear interest in supporting the Centre.

The Centre will increase innovation in the energy sector, and levels of commercialisation of research in high value sector. It will help to support positioning North Wales as a centre of international expertise in nuclear technology and create high value jobs. It will be a significant R&D facility promoting knowledge transfer with access to world class facilities and highly skilled graduates.

**This is a project that will be funded through the Growth Deal.**

It has the potential to create 90 direct jobs, and up to 900 indirect construction jobs.

The cost of the Project is £108.7m.

### **Enterprise Engineering & Optics Centre Project (EEOC)**

**[Lead Sponsor: Wrexham Glyndwr University]**

The project is to build on Wrexham Glyndwr's existing expertise in advanced manufacturing and optics to provide businesses in the region with facilities, research and innovation and skills in critical areas.

The Enterprise Engineering & Optics Centre will provide facilities targeted to boost high-level skills development for the region and enable SME's and large businesses to work in partnership with WGU on commercially driven research and development.

The provision of new state-of-the-art equipment that has wide industrial, R&D and educational application will support business in the region to deliver on the priority & growth sectors: advanced manufacturing, energy & environment, construction. Funding is therefore required to support the development of the Centre.

Key initiatives within the planned Enterprise Engineering & Optics Centre include: Precision Optics and Photonics (primarily based at St. Asaph); Microwave Technology & Composite Materials and Hydrogen Cell Technology (based in Wrexham).

Some 500 businesses will expect to be accessing services and facilities from the Centre with 30 being co-located on campus.

**This is a project that will be funded through the Growth Deal.**

The total cost of the Project is £30.7m and it will create 145 direct jobs.

The Project will be delivered between April 2019 and March 2024.

### **3D Factory UK**

**[Lead Sponsor: Wrexham Glyndwr University]**

The project is to build on Wrexham Glyndwr's existing expertise in advanced manufacturing to provide businesses in the region and beyond with production-level capacity in additive manufacturing.

The 3D Factory UK is the UK's first comprehensive commercial production centre for additive manufacturing, based in Wrexham.

The facility will provide commercial production level 3D printing across key materials and multiple technologies. These will include titanium, plastics, steel, nylons, ceramics and printed circuit boards. This technology will support a wide spread of manufacturing and construction industries, from automotive, aerospace and energy to health and medical.

The 3D Factory UK's physical facilities will be underpinned by senior design engineers who will be able to advise commercial partners on technology applications and design solutions and work closely with partner staff on process management.

The rise of the digitally-driven economy and "Industry 4.0" are transforming manufacturing industry and revolutionising the development and prototyping of new products. This facility will be a significant regional asset, placing North Wales at the forefront of manufacturing and supporting our place as a centre for leading-edge engineering.

### **This project is under development.**

Funding is required in order to support the development of the facility. The Project cost is £14.9m and it will create 92 direct jobs.

Over 300 businesses will access the facility, capitalising on the first multiple technology platform 3D Manufacturing Facility in the UK.

The Project will be delivered between April 2019 and March 2023.

### **Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub Project** **[Lead Sponsor: Grŵp Llandrillo Menai]**

The purpose of the Project is to develop the role and contribution of the Grŵp Llandrillo Menai Glynllifon campus to support rural economic development, specifically to stimulate economic growth and create jobs. The Rural Economy Hub (REH) will be a regional centre of excellence supporting rural enterprises with the space, knowledge and tools to enable them to reach their productive potential. Customers and users will include pre-start-ups, start-ups and growing SMEs who will take advantage of the support infrastructure, research and innovation excellence to become competitive in the global market place.

The Hub will provide an innovation bridge between research in agriculture methods and the local farming community and the land-based sector in general. The Hub will work closely with GLLMs current Food Technology Centre at Llangefni who have a very positive regional reach and impact. The Hub will enhance this reach and impact across the region.

The REH will be a joint venture between national and regional partners with the aim of supporting the regional rural economy through nurturing entrepreneurship, innovation and enterprise development. The hub will focus on providing support through facilities including: the **Knowledge Centre** – which is centred on creating a pool of "know-how" and practical experience to support innovation and enterprise growth in the region; and the **Food Enterprise Park** – including incubator space for start-ups and flexible food grade units designed to attract growing SMEs.

The project will address the challenge of Brexit, provide higher value employment opportunities for young, skilled people and provide a solid local and regional infrastructure to support the growth and development of the rural economy.

Funding is required in order to support the infrastructure costs associated with the development of the Hub.

The Federation of Small Businesses have given their support to the project:

*“We are supportive of this project and could lead to enhanced partnerships between FE and smaller businesses as well as provide opportunities for joint approaches to rural enterprises within the region.”*

The Llysfasi Carbon Neutral Farm and the Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub projects both compliment each other, by together providing a whole supply chain solution in the agri-food sector, focusing predominantly on pre-farm gate and post farm gate support respectively.

**This is a project that will be funded through the Growth Deal.**

The Project will achieve £3m of partner investment and create at least 80 new jobs. Some 2,300sq.m. of dedicated space for specialist food grade accommodation will be developed and near 1,000sq.m for the Knowledge Centre. Around 200 businesses will expect to be accessing services and facilities from the hub.

The total cost of the Project is £13m.

The Project will be delivered between April 2019 and December 2022.

### **The Llysfasi Carbon Neutral Farm - Renewable Energy and Technology Centre [Lead Sponsor: Coleg Cambria]**

The vision is to create a centre of excellence in productive farming and renewable energy technologies that will act as an innovation demonstrator platform and test bed for new and existing technologies. This will facilitate growth in the commercial Agricultural sector in North Wales and wider regions through the efficient use of digital precision primary food production. It will establish a strategic resource in North Wales for innovation in agricultural productivity and sustainability.

The digitalisation of the sectors and the business infrastructure delivering rural sustainability are all closely related with the skills base, and the future development of innovation. It is estimated that 500 businesses/ communities will benefit from knowledge transfer, and 20 commercial projects will be delivered in renewable and digital precision farming. It will lead to the development of Coleg Cambria's farm and campus at Llysfasi as an innovative, technology-led centre to support productivity in the agricultural sector in North Wales.

This project fits into the vision by Welsh Government that Wales becomes a global leader in clean energy and low carbon electricity generation, and the aspirations of 'best in class' of Wales industry in future years.

The project will be achieved by working in partnership and forming close collaborations a range of organisations including: Welsh Government; Grwp Llandrillo-Menai; Natural Resource Wales (NRW); Local Government; A range of appropriate Universities - UK and international; Tillhill / BSW Forestry management, wood processing and transport logistics; LEAF-FACE (Linking Environment and Farming-Food and Countryside Education with links to schools and careers education); National Renewable Energy businesses - The Greener Group, FreEnergy, Aeolus Energy group. Dulas; UK renewables; Wales farming unions (National Farmers Union - Cymru, Farmers Union Wales); Young Farmers Wales (YFC Wales); Levy boards (AHDB, HCC); General public and local/regional communities; plus a further range of blue chip businesses Regional, National and International.



The project will aim to improve the uptake of renewable energy projects with a target of 40 projects over five years. It will provide a test bed for commercial testing of near market technology over the next five years, whilst delivering economic rural diversification enhancement.

Capital funding is required towards building development and equipment and machinery purchase. Private/commercial sector and Coleg Cambria investment of £5m each is being leveraged, to match fund the ask from the Growth Deal bid.

The Llysfasi Carbon Neutral Farm and the Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub projects both compliment each other, by together providing a whole supply chain solution in the agri-food sector, focusing predominantly on pre-farm gate and post farm gate support respectively.

**This is a project that will be funded through the Growth Deal.**

The total capital cost of the project is £20m

The capital element of the project will be delivered within 2 years of the funding being secured.

### **Centre of Environmental Technology and Industrial Accreditation Project [Lead Sponsor: Bangor University]**

The purpose of the Project is to provide businesses with industrial-scale facilities to enable them to design and test new products and materials, and help achieve the necessary industrial and environmental standards and accreditation.

The Centre for Environmental Biotechnology (CEB) will apply Bangor University's international excellence in environmental science and biochemistry to contribute to the development, long-term sustainability and competitiveness of a new high-tech industrial sector in North Wales, providing innovative solutions to improve the efficiency and reduce the environmental footprint of traditional processes. It will deliver a North Wales biotechnology cluster and position North Wales as a centre of excellence of innovation in environmentally sustainable high-tech manufacturing businesses.

The CEB project is focused on transforming biological processes into industrial/ commercial applications (bioengineering and biocatalysis) through the discovery and categorisation of novel enzymes derived from extreme environments. One of many potential applications is pulp extraction for paper-making which currently takes place at 80°C, and employs corrosive, toxic and greenhouse-gas producing chemicals such as Sodium Hydroxide, Sodium Sulphide and Chlorine. This is truly transformational research with huge commercial potential; support has been indicated by pharmaceutical giant Beyer, as well as Danish firm Novozymes, a company boasting 48% share of the worldwide enzyme production market. Project partners also include Unilever (Wirral), Croda (Cheshire) as well as many other leading industrial companies.

The Accreditation Arm of the Centre will provide Welsh and wider UK businesses with industrial-scale facilities to enable them to design and test new products and materials for a wide range of high value sectors, including: nuclear, solar photovoltaics, photonics, aerospace, automotive and space technology.

The Centre will provide access to highly specialised equipment supported by world-class academic expertise, focussing not just on engineering product design but on commercially vital lifetime and reliability testing. This capacity will be a critical addition to the engineering and manufacturing R&D infrastructure in the region. Private sector project partners include TWI - one of the world's foremost independent research and technology organisations, with expertise in materials joining and engineering processes - Qioptiq Ltd (North Wales) and IQE Ltd (South Wales) - the leading global supplier of advanced wafer products and wafer services to the semiconductor industry and a Welsh company at the forefront of the compound semiconductor industry for more than twenty-five years. The Accreditation Centre also links strongly to the nuclear agenda, both nationally and locally. Support can be provided through the

Centre, to the proposed Nuclear Centre of Excellence. Supporters / potential customers from across North Wales include Raytheon UK, QinetiQ Group plc, Denis Ferranti Group, PPM Technology, Siemens, Menai Organics, Dyesol Ltd, and UK Micromachining Ltd.

Funding is required in order to support the development of the Centre, enabling investment in world-class facilities and equipment.

**This is a project that will be funded through the Growth Deal.**

The Project will achieve £20.1m of partner investment and create at least 128 new jobs.

The total cost of the Project is £29.15m.

The Project will be delivered between April 2019 and March 2023.

## 5. Regional Growth Business Fund & Hubs Programme

**This Programme will deliver Projects that will provide financial, technical and coherent advice to businesses in the region, focusing in particular on accelerating the rate of decarbonisation and promoting innovation with the business base.**

**The delivery of projects within the programme will provide North Wales businesses with the necessary high quality, coherent and market focused advice and support in order to succeed in their competitive marketplace. This should make a major contribution towards supporting North Wales' future economic growth across all sectors and business types. The key aim will be to simplify the service to the region's businesses and community.**

### **The North Wales Regional Business Growth Fund Project (RBGF) [Lead Sponsor: 6 Local Authorities]**

The North Wales Regional Business Growth Fund (RBGF) is a targeted, dedicated regional suite of business support aids that will lever in significant private sector investment and accelerate the rate of decarbonisation within the North Wales business base. The RBGF will complement existing services and strategic projects across North Wales, adding substantial value to the area's current offer and ensuring that business support and advice is much more co-ordinated and coherent across the region. The Project has been designed and developed by the private sector in the region.

The focus for the Regional Business Growth Fund is to ***accelerate Innovation, increase Productivity and Harness Local Talent through the following:***

#### **Accelerating Innovation**

- Cultivate and Commercialise World Leading Research & Development
- Adoption and Commercialisation of Digital - Industry 4.0 technologies across all Sectors
- Increasing Knowledge Transfer and collaboration

#### **Increasing Productivity**

- Increasing Exports
- Boost Supply Chain / Accreditation development
- Targeted Marketing of the North Wales region
- Supporting Clean Business Growth – Accelerate the decarbonisation of the business base

## **Harnessing Local Talent**

- Boosting Graduate Recruitment and Retention

Funding is required in order to support the development of the Business Growth Fund.

The Project will achieve circa £100m of private sector investment as leverage, create at least 1250 new jobs, increase export sales by over £80m, deliver 140 significant R&D projects and save 450,000+ tonnes of carbon within the NWMD region. 1000s of businesses will benefit ranging from micro-businesses (which are usually excluded or ineligible) to the very largest in the North Wales economy.

One key component of the Project is the establishment of a “Business Growth Hub” to deliver a more co-ordinated and integrated support network for businesses. It will enable the co-location of existing officers working in various organisations to achieve a more co-ordinated, joined-up service in the region.

There will be a focus in particular on supply micro-businesses and the self employed sector in the region.

**This project is under development.**

The total cost of the Project is £52.5m.

The Project will be delivered April 2019 and March 2024.

## **RESILIENT NORTH WALES**

### **6. Pathways to Skills & Employment Programme**

**This Programme includes Projects that will tackle economic inactivity and deliver a more co-ordinated skills and employment advice and support service in the region.**

**The delivery of the Projects within the Programme will enable people to access support more easily and effectively to help them upskill and gain employment, ensuring a robust local workforce is available to meet future employment needs and opportunities in North Wales. A particular focus will be given to those who are inactive and to young people who will be inspired to access opportunities and exciting careers in the region:**

#### **Information & Advice Gateway**

**[Lead Sponsor: 6 Local Authorities]**

The aim of the project is to facilitate the upskilling of the North Wales Population for future employment needs, by improving the regional skills and employment knowledge, advice and support available across the region for individuals, employers and service providers.

This is a bespoke enabling project that will support delivery of a number of other key growth deal projects by ensuring appropriate skilled labour is available at the right time and in the right place that is also aligned to and supportive of national policy.

Work will be focused on increasing the level of impartial employer engagement in the region, to increase and share knowledge about future employment and training needs and stimulate apprenticeships. Providing a brokerage service for skills development and recruitment for large regional projects, to aid successful implementation and capitalise on skills development opportunities. Working in partnership with Careers Wales and Welsh Government, to support the development of Welsh Government ‘Employment Advice Gateway’ in the region, including an Adult Bursary Scheme, to influence and increase

the availability of good quality impartial advice and support, to inspire people to train in skills related to future job opportunities in North Wales.

The project will aim to stimulate an 8% shift in skilled labour available in the regional market by 2034, with a 50% increase in the number of higher level apprenticeships in key and growth sectors undertaken and 4000 job opportunities taken up by the local workforce, facilitated via the brokerage service by 2024.

Funding is required to provide capacity to work in partnership with Careers Wales and Welsh Government locally to facilitate the early implementation of the WG Employment Advice Gateway, stimulate employer engagement and resource the brokerage service and adult bursary scheme. Private sector investment of circa £1.5m will be leveraged for the brokerage service.

**This is a project that will be funded through the Growth Deal.**

The total cost of the project is £10.25m.

The project will be delivered between 2018 and 2024.

### **Employability Pathway**

**[Lead Sponsor: 6 Local Authorities]**

It is important to recognise that for those who need help and support in to employment, many are not thinking about work, are not job ready and/or have too many barriers in their way. To support these people on their journey to employment, there is a need to respond locally with bespoke support, but added value in the response can be achieved through a regionally co-ordinated approach.

The aim is to develop a Regional Employability Pathway Framework, which partners in the region would sign up to and use to influence their funding, commissioning and service delivery decisions. The Framework is underpinned by the delivery of a variety of programmes and services both locally and regionally and will be complimented by the National commissioning of the Working Wales employability programme contracts, currently out for tender.

Work will focus on better understanding and co-ordination of the delivery of these programmes and services within the commonality of the Framework, to make best use of available funding, especially in the changing landscape of funding, with the ending of ESF funding.

The project will aim to achieve a 15% reduction in the number of people claiming work related benefits and a 20% reduction in the number of households claiming work related benefits by 2024.

**This project is under development.**

Funding is required initially to stimulate the framework development and co-ordination activity.

The initial cost of the project is £0.3m.

The project will be delivered between 2019 and 2024.

## **7. Skills Centres of Excellence Programme**

**This Programme includes a package of Projects that will improve the skills infrastructure in the region to increase the supply of skills in key growth sectors.**

**The delivery of the Projects within the Programme will facilitate the development of a network of key skills centres across the region that will deliver high quality training in key sectors of the economy:**

## North Wales Tourism & Hospitality Centre of Excellence [Lead Sponsor: Grŵp Llandrillo Menai]

The Tourism and Hospitality Centre of Excellence aims to provide targeted skills development, product research and business support across North Wales. It seeks to increase the resilience of tourism businesses, support the development of sustainable high value tourism jobs, position tourism as an aspiration career choice and support the growth and value of the tourism industry in North Wales.

It will operate in partnership with the private sector as a hub and spoke model. The primary skills excellence hub will be a purpose-built new facility at Coleg Llandrillo in Rhos-on-Sea with much of the training and development being delivered by partner tourism businesses across the region, supported by the very latest training delivery technology in bespoke training facilities.

The hub and spokes will provide training, exhibitions, taster sessions and real work experience to several cohorts including: school pupils, full-time post 16 learners, apprentices and those who are not in employment, education or training. Facilities will be developed that support the development of the skills in demand across the sector with each spoke potentially developing a different area of training. An integral part of this will be that each spoke will commit to operating a high quality apprentice scheme that could be in partnership with other smaller or newer business.

Strong engagement and support is being demonstrated by the private sector with partners involved so far including Zipworld, Surf Snowdonia, Always Aim High, Continuum/Greenwood Forest Park, Dylan's, North Wales Tourism, British Hospitality Association, Llandudno Hospitality Association, Wrexham County Council, Conwy County Borough Council, DWP/JCP. Letters to formally register their interest in the project have been received from a number of these partners.

The project aims to achieve 45 new junior apprenticeships and 50 new apprenticeship opportunities, with 480 hospitality and tourism level 1 to 3 qualifications available at the Hub and Spokes across North Wales.

### **This is a project that will be funded through the Growth Deal.**

Funding is required to establish the hub and spoke model, with a potential leverage of £1.25m private sector investment and £5m investment from Grŵp Llandrillo Menai.

The total anticipated cost of the project is £16.25m

A timeframe for the delivery of the project currently being developed.

## North Wales Rail Engineering Centre of Excellence [Lead Sponsor: Grŵp Llandrillo Menai]

The purpose is to develop workforce skills in rail engineering that support rail infrastructure improvements in Wales and North West / Mid England.

Aligned with the aspirations set out in Growth Track 360, the West and Wales Rail Prospectus and discussions between Network Rail, Grŵp Llandrillo Menai and Denbighshire County Council, this project will provide a highly skilled regional workforce, able to support the significant rail infrastructure improvements required across North Wales. To achieve this, a new North Wales Rail Engineering Centre of Excellence will be developed in the town of Rhyl.

The centre will house a wide range of skills development opportunities across the broad spectrum of rail engineering. Training will be offered to those seeking employment and to those wishing to upskill. Initially the centre will focus on signal engineering to meet the demands of the ongoing upgrade to the North Wales line.

The project will aim to deliver 1000 training days for upskilling, 24 new junior apprenticeships, 36 rail engineering trainees and 24 rail engineering apprenticeships in the each year. With the development of a new higher education programme in rail engineering in year two.

Capital funding is required to fund the development of the infrastructure of the facility and will leverage £0.5m from Network Rail, along with £3.5m from Grŵp Llandrillo Menai.

**This is a project under development.**

The total capital cost of the project is £7.5m

The construction of the centre can potentially commence in the summer 2019 with completion the following year.

### **Regional STEM – Achieving Excellence in Skills Development [Lead Sponsor: TBC – currently with Regional Skills Partnership]**

This project is in its early development phase and is currently being scoped by the Regional Skills Partnership, ensuring it interlinks with other STEM related projects taking place in the region.

### **North Wales Health & Social Care with Higher Education –Achieving Excellence in Skills Development [Lead Sponsor: TBC – currently with Regional Skills Partnership]**

This project is currently at concept stage and the Regional Skills Partnership has commissioned a piece of work to understand the skills requirements in the region for Health and Social Care, to inform the scoping of a solution.

### **North Wales Digital Automation –Achieving Excellence in Skills Development [Lead Sponsor: TBC – currently with Regional Skills Partnership]**

This project is co-dependent on the Digital Skills for North Wales project. It is currently at concept stage and the Regional Skills Partnership has commissioned a piece of work to understand the skills requirements in the region for digital automation, to inform the scoping of a solution.

## **CONNECTED NORTH WALES**

### **8. Digital Connectivity Programme**

**This Programme will bring forward Projects that will improve digital connectivity for business and households across the region, as well as digital skills and innovation in digital signalling.**

**The delivery of Projects within the Programme will provide connectivity to facilitate innovation and smarter working, improvement of business competitiveness, with businesses and residents having the capacity and know-how to exploit high quality digital opportunities. This is seen as an urgent and high priority of the Programme to be delivered in the region:**

## North Wales Digital Connectivity Project [Lead Sponsor: 6 Local Authorities]

This Project will develop improvements in fixed broadband and mobile infrastructure necessary to support new and existing competitive business activity in North Wales. It will also enhance the region as a place to invest, work and live. It will focus in particular on full fibre passive infrastructure, an affordable gigabit service, and rural broadband deployment.

The private sector across the region view this project as a top priority. They have been engaged and involved in its design and development.

The Project will also be the vehicle to leverage private sector funding from the private sector, particularly from network operators. Serious consideration will be given by network operators to invest direct private sector money in the Project through a joint venture.

The need for the Project is highlighted by the fact that four of the six counties in North Wales are ranked in the bottom 25% of UK Local Authority areas for Superfast (>30 Mbps) broadband coverage (March 2018).

The Project will be delivered between 2019-2021.

The Project will have clear outcomes and impact, including 80% of strategic employment sites will be “passed” by direct infrastructure and 100% of the duct provided will be accessed by at least one network provider.

There will be a focus on particular on supply micro-businesses and the self employed sector in the region.

**This is a project that will be funded through the Growth Deal.**

The cost of the Project is £66.75m.

## Digital Signal Processing Centre Project [Lead Sponsor: Bangor University]

This Project will transfer market-driven Research & Development activities into commercial exploitable products, processes and services for digital communication. It will ensure that the region is at the forefront of the new digital economy, and will undertake market-drivers Research & Development for digital signal processing for both wired and wireless networks.

The Project will be based at Bangor University – the University has a worldwide reputation in the application of this technology with the Telecoms sector. Close collaboration with major international companies will take place through this project.

Funding is required in order to develop the Processing Centre and ensure it has the appropriate equipment and facilities.

This Project will position the region as a Centre for International Expertise in digital signalling, and increase in particular levels of commercialisation of research in high value sectors. It will also raise the number of graduates and post-graduates in high demand disciplines within the region.

It will create 160 direct jobs, and generate 30 additional highly skilled graduates in the local workforce annually.

The Project aligns closely with the Digital Infrastructure Connectivity Project, together with the core business of M-Sparc Science Park on Anglesey.

**This is a project that will be funded through the Growth Deal.**

The Project will be delivered between 2019-2021.

The total Project cost is £7.4m.

### **Digital Skills for North Wales Project** **[Lead Sponsor: 6 Local Authorities]**

This Project aims to develop a clear delivery plan to improve the digital skills of the current and future workforce of North Wales.

It will be a partnership approach between Bangor University, Glyndwr University, Grŵp Llandrillo Menai, Coleg Cambria and the 6 Local Authorities. The delivery plan will be co-ordinated by the Regional Skills & Employment Partnership.

This is a key project within the Programme and will ensure that the workforce is equipped with the necessary skills to keep up with the speed of digital and technological change. We need to increase the supply of digital skills across the economy. Highly skilled and highly paid digital jobs grew at twice the rate of non-digital jobs between 2011-2015 (UK Industrial Strategy). We need to ensure that the computing curriculum for pupils aged 5-16, including coding and the basics of programming, is ambitious and rigorous. We need to deliver a comprehensive programme to improve the teaching of computing and drive up participation in computer science.

The new digital age will change jobs and businesses, and we want to ensure that the local workforce in North Wales are able to capitalise on these opportunities.

**This is a Project that is currently under development.**

## **9. Strategic Transport Programme**

**This Programme will include Projects to improve local transport infrastructure to support accessibility and connectivity.**

**The delivery of the programme will improve regional connectivity, access to employment and for business and economic growth. Congestion nodes will be tackled, transport will be better integrated and alternatives to road based access developed. The region will be prepared for decarbonisation of our transport networks**

### **Strategic Transport Project** **[Lead Sponsor: 6 Local Authorities]**

The purpose of the project is to improve transport connectivity across North Wales. The transport network is heavily dependent of private cars and good vehicles to service business and tourism. Journey times are long, there is increasing congestion on the road network, public transport provision is fragmented and there is little integration between transport modes.

The project will deliver a number of Integrated Transport Zones across North Wales. These are areas where there is conflict between local journeys and longer distance travel on the strategic road network. This causes specific congestion points, impacting on access to employment and services, reducing the ability to travel to work and adds costs to business supply chains.



Integrated Travel Zones have been identified for the following locations:

- Deeside Corridor
- A483 and Wrexham Town Centre
- Prestatyn, Abergele, St Asaph and Llandudno, Conwy, Colwyn Bay
- Caernarfon Menai Corridor
- North Anglesey

In addition there are some region wide projects aimed at preparing the ground for decarbonisation of transport, improving integration between modes and providing public transport solutions in rural and peripheral areas currently dependent on private cars for transport.

Funding is required in order to deliver intertwined transport projects in the areas identified above. The project will be delivered between March 2019 and March 2024.

The project supports all other projects in the Proposition bid and outcomes and outputs are likely to be related to transport objectives rather than specific job and private investment. Transport is fundamentally an enabler of economic growth and without the interventions being developed, growth will be stifled. Outcomes to be achieved from the project are:

- Enable businesses to access markets, goods, services and labour
- The local population to access employment, education and services
- Visitors to access destinations, accommodation and attractions in the region
- A fully integrated transport system that enables non private car journeys to be undertaken easily and cost effectively
- A sustainable transport infrastructure that does not damage the environment

The private sector are supportive of this project with Wrexham Business Professionals stating:

*“We are glad that the need to strengthen the transport infrastructure in and around Wrexham has been recognised.”*

**This is a project that will be funded through the Growth Deal.**

The cost of the Project is £80million. It is estimated that the Project will create over 1,950 indirect or construction jobs across the region.

The Project will be delivered between April 2019 and March 2024.

The following table highlights how the Vision, Aims, Programme and Projects are all inter-connected.

<p><b>1 Vision</b></p> <p><i>“defined as an idealistic view of the desired outcome to be produced for the region. It is about creating a mental picture that will serve to energise and inspire”</i></p>	<p><b>3 Aims</b></p> <p><i>“defined as broad statement of desired outcomes for the region – linked to the vision”</i></p>	<p><b>9 Programmes</b></p> <p><i>“defined as a group of related projects managed in a co-ordinated way to obtain benefits and to deliver the overall vision and aims”</i></p>	<p><b>24 Projects</b></p> <p><i>“with a defined start and end point and specific objectives that, when attained, signify completion”</i></p>
<p>The vision is to develop “a confident, cohesive region with sustainable economic growth, capitalising on the success of high value economic sectors and our connection to the economies of the Northern Powerhouse and Ireland”</p>	<p><b>SMART NORTH WALES (with a focus on innovation in key sectors to advance economic performance)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lead innovation in low carbon and nuclear energy, advanced “smart” manufacturing and the digital and creative sectors, building on existing initiatives and strengths to increase investment and employment in these sectors;</li> <li>- Build a critical mass of world class expertise in these lead sectors and exploit supply chain opportunities for indigenous business in the region to grow;</li> <li>- Through close collaboration between businesses and leading research centres and Universities facilitate knowledge exchange, innovation and technology commercialisation to promote sector leading excellence and the growth and development of SMEs;</li> <li>- Grow digital businesses, both indigenous and investing, and create a highly competitive and diverse digital cluster that will cement the regions’ position as a hub of technology and digital excellence;</li> <li>- Build on the strong network of anchor companies with international profile and develop a portfolio of well-serviced, market-ready and accessible development sites across the region.</li> </ul>	<p><b>1. Land and Property Development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to address the shortage of suitable sites and properties for business growth and to bring forward sites for housing development</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Smart Access to Energy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to deliver the infrastructure improvements required to position North Wales as one of the leading UK locations for energy generation and production</li> </ul> <p><b>3. Smart Technology &amp; Innovation Hubs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to deliver world class resources in sector leading facilities, building on expertise in the region, accelerating economic impact from research and technology</li> </ul> <p><b>4. Regional Growth Business Fund &amp; Hubs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to provide financial, technical and coherent advice and support for businesses across the region</li> </ul> <p><b>5. Adventure Tourism</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to raise the quality of the adventure tourism offer in North Wales to international standards and increase the value base of the industry in the region.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regional Land and Property Joint Venture Project</li> <li>- Holyhead Gateway Project</li> <li>- Trawsfynydd Power Station Project</li> <li>- Morlais Project</li> <li>- Smart Local Energy Network Project</li> <li>- Nuclear Energy Centre of Excellence</li> <li>- Enterprise Engineering &amp; Optics Centre (EEOC)</li> <li>- 3D Factory UK*</li> <li>- Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub Project</li> <li>- Centre of Environmental Technology and Industrial Accreditation Project</li> <li>- The Llysfasi Carbon Neutral Farm – Renewable Energy and Technology Centre</li> <li>- The North Wales Regional Business Growth Fund (RBGF)*</li> <li>- North Wales Adventure Tourism Capital Investment</li> </ul>
	<p><b>RESILIENT NORTH WALES (retaining young people, raising employment levels and improving skills)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Retain young people and reduce outward migration through offering a positive future;</li> <li>- Increase employment levels, reduce inactivity and reduce the number of workless households;</li> <li>- Achieve “inclusive growth” and equality of access – connecting the labour market and localities to jobs and opportunities for business growth – through improved transport access and skills;</li> <li>- Be pioneering in skills and employment planning, with schools and training providers collaborating in support of regional economic priorities, and equipping young people with the skills needed by employers ready for employment</li> <li>- Succeed in ensuring that growth is scalable, and is dispersed across the region, respecting and valuing the cultural and linguistic characteristics of North Wales.</li> </ul>	<p><b>6. Pathways to Skills &amp; Employment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to tackle economic inactivity and to deliver a co-ordinated skills and employment advice and support service, particularly to skill people up for future employment</li> </ul> <p><b>7. Skills Centres of Excellence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to create the conditions to increase the supply of skills in key growth sectors, focusing on improving the skills infrastructure in the region</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Information &amp; Advice Gateway</li> <li>- Employability Pathway*</li> <li>- North Wales Tourism &amp; Hospitality Centre of Excellence</li> <li>- North Wales Rail Engineering Centre of Excellence*</li> <li>- Regional STEM – Achieving Excellence*</li> <li>- North Wales Health &amp; Social Care with Higher Education – Achieving Excellence*</li> <li>- North Wales Digital Automation -Achieving Excellence*</li> </ul>
	<p><b>CONNECTED NORTH WALES (improving transport and digital infrastructure to upgrade connectivity to and within the region)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improve transport infrastructure, specifically road and rail, to facilitate economic growth and the movement of people, goods and services;</li> <li>- Develop integrated transport hubs to (1) connect localities to employment centres and the regional and national transport infrastructure – both road, air and rail, and (2) achieve a modal shift from private to public transport;</li> <li>- Identify and deliver low carbon transport solutions;</li> <li>- Reduce traffic congestion on strategic road routes to improve connectivity and access;</li> <li>- Upgrade digital networks and infrastructure access the region to support the functionality, competitiveness and growth of the indigenous business sector with an emphasis on SMEs.</li> </ul>	<p><b>8. Digital Connectivity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to deliver quality access to effective and affordable digital connectivity for businesses and households across the region</li> </ul> <p><b>9. Strategic Transport</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to improve local transport infrastructure to support accessibility and connectivity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- North Wales Digital Connectivity Project</li> <li>- Digital Signal Processing Centre Project</li> <li>- Digital Skills for North Wales Project*</li> <li>- Regional Strategic Transport Project</li> </ul>

\* under development

**SECTION 7 – ECONOMIC CASE**

PROGRAMME	Indirect / Construction Jobs	Direct Job Creation	Direct Private Sector Investment	Private Sector Leverage*	Improved Skills Base
<b>1. Digital Connectivity</b>					
1.1. North Wales Digital Connectivity Project	2,100	n/a	-	£250m	Medium Impact
1.2. Digital Signal Processing Centre Project	120	160	£1.44m	£15m	High Impact
1.3. Digital Skills for North Wales Project*	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>2. Land and Property Development</b>					
2.1. Regional Land and Property Joint Venture Project	2750	2875	£34m	£637.4m	Medium Impact
<b>3. Adventure Tourism</b>					
3.1 North Wales Adventure Tourism Capital Investment	450	175	£20m	£40m	-
<b>4. Smart Access to Energy</b>					
4.1. Holyhead Gateway Project	1,589	1,250	£45m	£80m	Medium - High Impact
4.2. Trawsfynydd Power Station Project	2,500	250	-	£2bn	High Impact
4.3. Morlais Project	300	230	£0.4m	£5m	Medium Impact
4.4. Smart Local Energy Network Project	190	25	-	£3m	Medium Impact
<b>5. Smart Technology &amp; Innovation Hubs</b>					
5.1. Nuclear Centre of Excellence Project	-	90	-	£21m	High Impact
5.2. Enterprise Engineering & Optics Centre Project	370	145	-	£31.4m	High Impact
5.3. 3D Factory UK*	n/a	n/a	-	n/a	n/a
5.4. Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub Project	91	80	-	-	High Impact
5.5. Centre of Environmental Technology and Industrial Accreditation Project	350	128	£1m	£11.2m	High Impact
5.6. The Llysfasi Carbon Neutral Farm – Renewable Energy and Technology Centre	-	-	£5m	£5m	High Impact
<b>6. Regional Growth Business Fund &amp; Hubs</b>					
6.1. The North Wales Regional Business Growth Fund (RBGF)*	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Medium Impact
<b>7. Pathways to Skills &amp; Employment</b>					
7.1. Information & Advice Gateway	-	-	£1.5m	-	High Impact
7.2. Employability Pathway*	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>8. Skills Centres of Excellence</b>					
8.1. North Wales Tourism & Hospitality Centre of Excellence	150	-	£1.25m	£36.2m	High Impact
8.2. North Wales Rail Engineering Centre of Excellence*	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
8.3. Regional STEM - Achieving Excellence*	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	-
8.4. North Wales Health & Social Care with Higher Education - Achieving Excellence*	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	-
8.5. North Wales Digital Automation - Achieving Excellence*	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	-
<b>9. Strategic Transport</b>					
9.1. Regional Strategic Transport Project	1,950	-	-	-	Medium Impact
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>12,910</b>	<b>5,408</b>	<b>£118.59M</b>	<b>£3.12BN</b>	

\*under development

**SECTION 8 – FINANCE AND FUNDING**

PROGRAMME	COSTS AND FUNDING					Regional Growth Deal Contribution	
	Total Investment / Costs	Direct Private Sector Contribution	Private Sector Leverage**	Other Contributions from Various Partners	Capital	Revenue	
<b>1. Digital Connectivity</b>							
1.1. North Wales Digital Connectivity Project	£66.75m	-	£250m	£28.25m	£38.5m	-	
1.2. Digital Signal Processing Centre Project	£7.4m	£1.44m	£15m	£3.025m	£3m	-	
1.3. Digital Skills for North Wales Project*	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
<b>2. Land and Property Development</b>							
2.1. Regional Land and Property Joint Venture Project	£124m	£34m	£637.4m	-	£90m	-	
<b>3. Adventure Tourism</b>							
3.1. North Wales Adventure Tourism Capital Investment	£40m	£20m	£20m	-	£20m	-	
<b>4. Smart Access to Energy</b>							
4.1. Holyhead Gateway Project	£80m	£45m	£80m	-	£35m	-	
4.2. Trawsfynydd Power Station Project	£20m	-	£2bn	-	£20m	-	
4.3. Morlais Project	£28m	-	£0.4m	£19m	£9m	-	
4.4. Smart Local Energy Network Project	£18m	-	£3m	£6m	£12m	-	
<b>5. Smart Technology &amp; Innovation Hubs</b>							
5.1. Nuclear Centre of Excellence Project	£87.2m	-	£21m	£68.6m	£18.6m	-	
5.2. Enterprise Engineering & Optics Centre Project	£30.7m	-	£31.4m	£20.3m	£10.4m	-	
5.3. 3D Factory UK*	n/a	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	-	
5.4. Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub Project	£13m	-	-	£3m	£10m	-	
5.5. Centre of Environmental Technology and Industrial Accreditation Project	£29.1m	£1m	£11.2m	£20.1m	£8m	-	
5.6. The Llysfasi Carbon Neutral Farm - Renewable Energy and Technology Centre	£20m	£5m	£5m	£5m	£10m	-	
<b>6. Regional Growth Business Fund &amp; Hubs</b>							
6.1. The North Wales Regional Business Growth Fund (RBGF)*	n/a	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
<b>7. Pathways to Skills &amp; Employment</b>							
7.1. Information & Advice Gateway	£10.25m	£1.5m	£1.5m	£0.75m	-	£8m	
7.2. Employability Pathway*	-	-	n/a	-	-	-	
<b>8. Skills Centres of Excellence</b>							
8.1. North Wales Tourism & Hospitality Centre of Excellence	£16.25m	£1.25m	£36.2m	£5m	£10m	-	
8.2. North Wales Rail Engineering Centre of Excellence*	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	-	
8.3. Regional STEM - Achieving Excellence*	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
8.4. North Wales Health & Social Care with Higher Education - Achieving Excellence*	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
8.5. North Wales Digital Automation - Achieving Excellence*	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
<b>9. Strategic Transport</b>							
9.1. Regional Strategic Transport Project	£80m	-	-	£40m	£40m	-	
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£670.65M</b>	<b>£109.19M</b>	<b>£3.12BN</b>	<b>£219.46M</b>	<b>£334.5M</b>	<b>£8M</b>	

\*\*the value of private sector investment achieved as a direct consequence of the project being delivered

\* under development

Potential Core Projects for Growth Deal

Potential Core Projects for Growth Deal	Total Investment / Costs	Regional Growth Deal Contribution	
		Capital	Revenue
1. North Wales Digital Connectivity Project	£66.75m	£38.5m	-
2. Regional Land and Property Joint Venture	£124m	£90m	-
3. Holyhead Gateway Project	£80m	£35m	-
4. Trawsfynydd Power Station Project	£20m	£20m	-
5. Regional Strategic Transport Project	£80m	£40m	-
6. Nuclear Energy Centre of Excellence Project	£87.2m	£18.6m	-
7. Smart Local Energy Network Project	£18m	£12m	-
8. Skills Information & Advice Gateway	£10.25m	-	£8m
9. Enterprise Engineering & Optics Centre Project	£30.7m	£10.4m	-
10. Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub Project	£13m	£10m	-
11. The Llysfasi Carbon Neutral Farm - Renewable Energy and Technology Centre	£20m	£10m	-
12. Morlais Project	£28m	£9m	-
13. North Wales Tourism & Hospitality Centre of Excellence Project	£16.25m	£10m	-
14. Centre of Environmental Technology and Industrial Accreditation Project	£29.1m	£8m	-
15. North Wales Adventure Tourism Capital Project	£40m	£20m	-
16. Digital Signal Processing Centre Project	£7.4m	£3m	-
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£670.65M</b>	<b>£334.5M</b>	<b>£8M</b>

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## SECTION 9 – EMPOWERING THE REGION

We seek the support of the UK and Welsh Governments to be given the capacity and flexibilities to make key decisions at a regional level.

Since 2010, City Growth and Devolution Deals have shifted power, as well as funding, to local areas to enable them to take strategic decisions about local priorities. Collectively, these bespoke deals have enabled places to develop long-term plans, strengthen local leadership and have more powers to create the right conditions for growth.

The region will need additional new powers and responsibilities to be effective in facilitating economic growth and delivering its own Strategy with confidence:

- The region invites the Welsh Government to support the formation of a Regional Transport Body and fund the delivery of a well-planned and integrated transport network. Additional powers will be needed to enable the planning of integrated passenger transport networks.
- The region invites the UK Government to co-commission and co-design employment programmes within the region to achieve a more integrated, joined-up service. This will depend on flexibilities being allowed from both the Welsh Government and the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) to integrate funding programmes for the region to be most effective in taking people off benefits and into work.
- The region requests the Welsh Government to establish a Joint Venture to deliver a pipeline of development land and property across North Wales.
- The region will need the Welsh Government to support a regional allocation from the Apprenticeship Tax Levy.
- The region will depend on the Welsh Government to commit to a devolved and co-ordinated approach to economic development at the regional level – enabling the co-location of key levers and assistance for businesses within the Regional Business Growth Hub. The Hub will pool resources from across the region and will deliver a consistent approach to economic and business development.
- The region seeks the support of the Welsh Government to retain a share of national non-domestic rates (business rates) to invest in economic growth.
- The region requests the Welsh Government to allow relaxation of grant rules and accountabilities for social reform and anti-poverty programmes.
- The region will require support from the UK Government’s Sector Deal Programme to deliver additional activity that supports delivery of our vision and aims – as outlined in this document. Particular focus will be given to the opportunities stemming from the Nuclear Sector Deal and the Construction Sector Deal Programme.

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## SECTION 10 – GOVERNANCE AND DELIVERY STRUCTURE

All the 6 Local Authorities, and the other key partners from Higher Education, Further Education and the Private Sector in the region, have approved the formation of a Statutory Joint Committee to direct, oversee and facilitate the development and delivery of the Growth Vision. This reflects the commitment in the North Wales region between the Partners to work together collaboratively for common purpose to facilitate and accelerate economic growth.

The name of the Joint Committee is the North Wales Economic Ambition Board.

The Board will set the governance and delivery arrangements for the discharge of strategic functions at the regional level. These functions will include economic development, skills & employment, transport and land use planning.

The Economic Ambition Board will be supported by a new Stakeholders' Forum, which will bring together all the relevant partners at a regional level. The private sector will play a leading role in the new Stakeholders' Forum.

### *The North Wales Economic Ambition Board*

The main role and functions of the Economic Ambition Board include the following:

- To provide leadership and accountability for strategic direction and outcomes in key strategic functions, in particular transport, skills and employment, economic development and land use planning.
- To be a strong and united voice for North Wales.
- To co-ordinate the planning and delivery of the Growth Vision, with a focus on the Growth Deal.
- To provide direction to the Sub-Boards and to perform a "commissioning" role.

The terms of reference of the Economic Ambition Board is included in **Appendix 2**.

A Governance Agreement has been developed for the first phase of the planning and development of the Growth Vision and the Growth Deal. This is in the process of being adopted by all partners who are Members of the Ambition Board. The Agreement covers Terms of Reference and Membership, voting and decision making, sharing risks, reserved matters and scrutiny arrangements.

A second, more comprehensive, Governance Agreement will be developed and submitted for the next stage Growth Vision and Growth Deal implementation and delivery – in early 2019. The adopted Governance Model for the Board is an Executive Joint Committee i.e. a Joint Committee of all Cabinets of the six Local Authorities in North Wales. To ensure the full participation of all the relevant partners, including representatives from Higher Education, Further Education and the private sector, the Board will seek to achieve consensus before making decisions or taking a formal vote.

### *Delivery Sub-Boards*

The Delivery Sub-Boards will be Sub-Committees of the Economic Ambition Board, and some of the Sub-Boards will be constituted with delegated powers to make decisions, as agreed, within their areas of responsibility. The Board has agreed on 5 Delivery Sub-Boards that will have the following role and functions:

- To plan and co-ordinate a joined-up and integrated strategic service in North Wales.
- To plan and co-ordinate the delivery of strategic interventions, including Growth Bid projects.

- To report to the North Wales Economic Ambition Board on progress, performance, outcomes and funding issues.

There will be 5 Delivery Sub-Boards reporting to the Economic Ambition Board:

- Digital Sub-Board
- Skills & Employment Sub-Board
- Transport Sub-Board
- Enterprise & Innovation Sub-Board
- Property, Sites & Premises Sub-Board

### *Stakeholders' Forum*

The Stakeholders' Forum will play a key role in advising, supporting and challenging the Economic Ambition Board. The Terms of Reference of the Stakeholders' Forum is included in **Appendix 3**.

The Stakeholders' Forum will include business representatives from all key growth and foundation sectors to provide expert input and advice to the Economic Ambition Board.

### *Governance Map*

The governance model is legal, functional and credible. The overall "governance map" is included in **Appendix 4**.

The Monitoring Officers from all of the six Local Authorities have been involved in the process of designing and developing the "governance" structure of the North Wales Economic Ambition Board.

### *Host Authority*

A host authority is required in order to deliver the Growth Vision for the region. The "host" will provide the partnership with professional advice, support and services for it to function effectively through a dedicated Programme Office. The host authority will also be the accountable body for the Growth Deal.

A paper setting out an outline of the host authority's role is included in **Appendix 5**.





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## APPENDIX 2

## OUTLINE OF THE NORTH WALES ECONOMIC AMBITION BOARD (JOINT-COMMITTEE) TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Functions
2. Strategy
3. Prioritisation
4. Representation
5. Performance
6. Responsibility

### Terms of Reference 1: FUNCTIONS

- Economic growth strategy and planning;
- Infrastructure prioritisation and planning;
- Strategic land use planning and allocation;
- Transport planning and commissioning;
- Skills planning and commissioning strategy;
- Others to be added as powers are devolved.

### Terms of Reference 2: STRATEGY

Setting the direction of regional strategy;

Ongoing assessment of evidential regional needs and opportunity to underpin the strategy;

Setting of priorities and investment plans to deliver the strategy.

### Terms of Reference 3: PRIORITISATION

Prioritisation of contributory schemes;

Business case development and case-making for prioritised schemes;

Investment profiling and prioritisation;

Securing investment agreements.

#### **Terms of Reference 4: REPRESENTATION**

Engagement and relationship management with regional partners;  
Engagement and relationship management with cross-border partners;  
Advocacy and lobbying with Welsh Government and UK Government, Ministers and political groups;  
Public and media relations and profile.

#### **Terms of Reference 5: PERFORMANCE**

Programme management and implementation of the strategy;  
Oversight of performance against key progress milestones and outcome measures;  
Securing strategic, programme management and project development and management resources to implement contributory schemes.

#### **Terms of Reference 6: RESPONSIBILITY**

Reporting to the six local authorities;  
Reporting to regional partners on performance, investment performance and risk management;  
Reporting to Welsh Government on performance and the effective use of its investment; Reporting to UK Government on performance and the effective use of its investment.

#### **Limitations of Decision-Making and Reserved Matters**

Examples of decisions which will be reserved for individual council approvals are:

- Agreement of functions to be given to the Joint-Committee;
- Agreement of annual budget contributions for the Joint-Committee and host authorities;
- Investment and borrowing commitments and risk exposure levels; and
- Allocation of land and other asset for pooling.



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## APPENDIX 3

## TERMS OF REFERENCE PRIVATE SECTOR STAKEHOLDERS FORUM (guide only)

### STATUS:

- **The Forum is a Stakeholders' Partnership to support, advice and challenge the North Wales Economic Ambition Board.**
- **This Forum will not have any formal decision making powers but will inform the Economic Ambition Board of its views and make recommendations on key policy and operational matters.**

### PURPOSE OF FORUM:

To be the key stakeholders' partnership to co-ordinate advise to the North Wales Economic Ambition Board and provide challenge, where and when necessary.

The Forum has the following specific roles and responsibilities:

#### Strategic

- to provide strategic advice on the development, monitoring and evaluation on the Growth Vision;
- to provide advice and support to the Economic Ambition Board on strategic matters relating to transport, skills and employment, economic development and land use planning;
- to provide advice on the development and implementation of a regional strategy for place regeneration.

#### Programme & Project Management

- to provide support, advice and challenge in relation to the development and delivery of Strategic Programmes commissioned by the Economic Ambition Board;
- to provide support, advice and challenge in relation to the development and delivery of Projects commissioned by the Economic Ambition Board, and specifically the Projects within the Growth Deal;
- to actively monitor and review progress, impact and performance of Programmes and related Projects, and to put forward any recommendation for change to the Board;
- to advise and put forward views and suggestion to the Board on the business cases for Projects, and specifically the Projects within the Growth Deal.

#### Engagement

- to actively promote the engagement and participation of all key sectors in the development and delivery of the Growth Vision for North Wales;
- to engage with stakeholders to identify any strategic activity and investment required to overcome barriers to growth, and to put forward any recommendations to the Economic Ambition Board;
- to consult with stakeholders to gather market intelligence, evidence and analysis of economic trends in the region and market demand/failure to inform and support the work of the Economic Ambition Board.

### MEMBERSHIP:

Its membership will include representatives from the growth and foundation economic sectors.

The Stakeholders' Forum will include business representatives from all key growth and foundation sectors to provide expert input and advice to the Economic Ambition Board.

### **ROLE OF CHAIR (to be advertised and publicly appointed):**

The Chair will be expected to play a key role in providing leadership to the Forum, and in providing high quality advice to the North Wales Economic Ambition Board.

The key responsibilities of the Chair will be to:

- Play a key role in promoting the views of the Stakeholders Forum to the North Wales Economic Ambition Board;
- Lead the Forum in the monitoring of the development and delivery of the Growth Deal;
- Develop and maintain an effective relationship with the North Wales Economic Ambition Board and its Sub-Committees;
- Act as advisory member of North Wales Economic Ambition Board.

### **SECRETARIAT:**

Secretariat for the Stakeholders Forum will be provided by the Programme Office for the North Wales Economic Ambition Board.



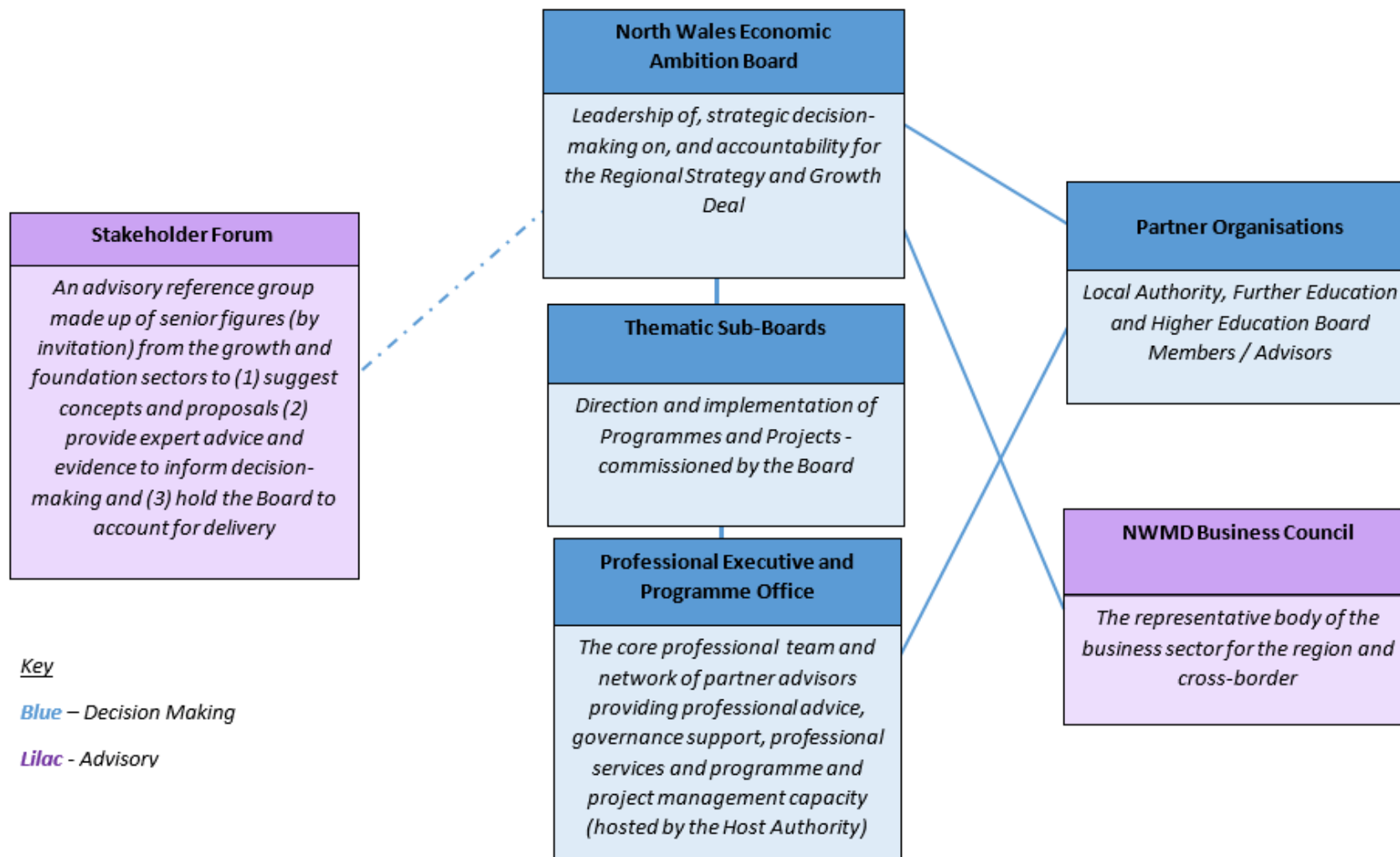
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## APPENDIX 4



**GOVERNANCE MAP**

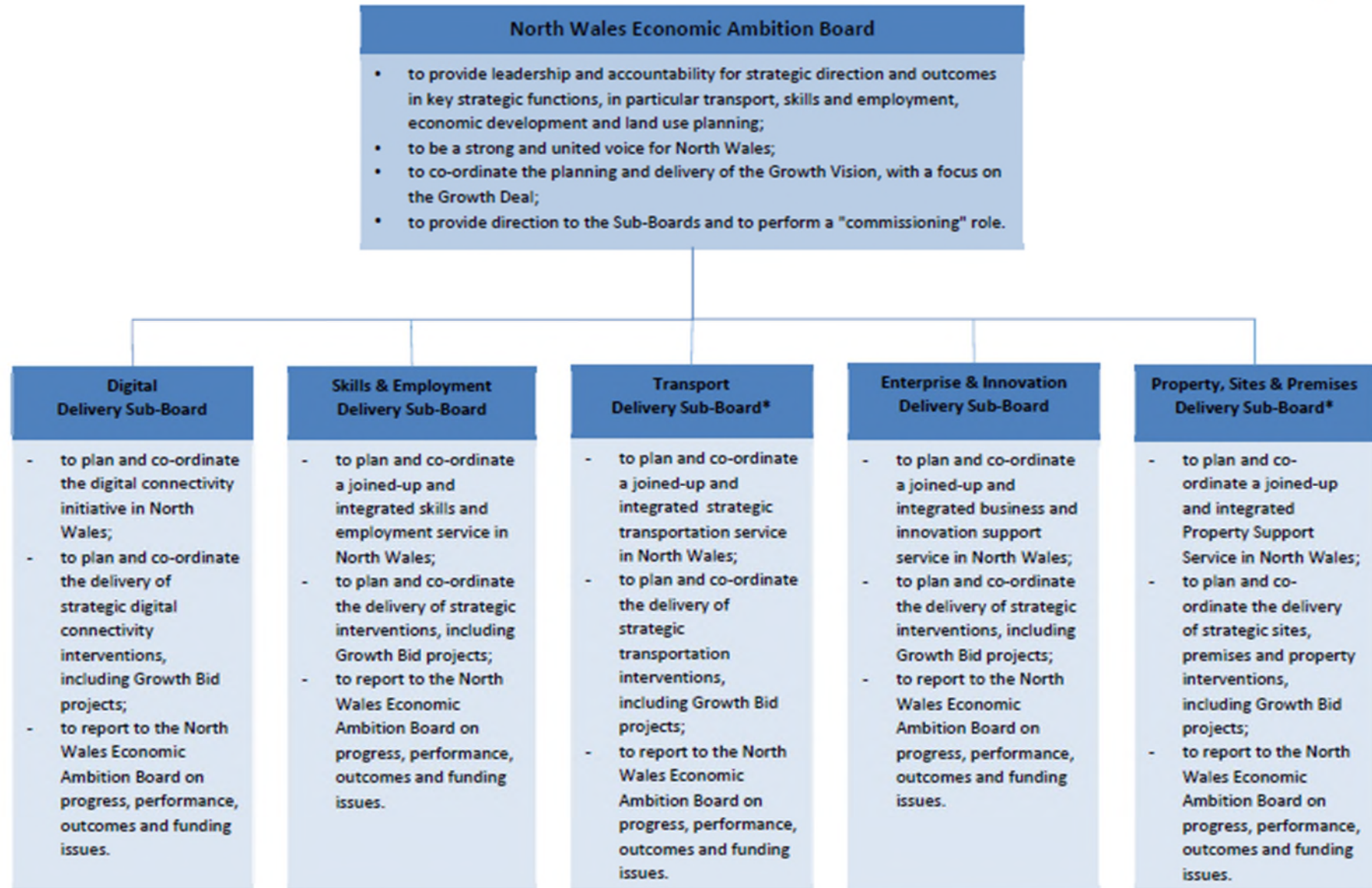


Key

**Blue** – Decision Making

**Lilac** - Advisory





\* Formal Delivery Sub-Boards that will be constituted – at this stage – with delegated powers to make decisions on behalf of the North Wales Economic Ambition Board



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## APPENDIX 5

## **DELIVERING THE GROWTH VISION FOR NORTH WALES HOST AUTHORITY**

For collaborative partnerships which engage employees, manage government grants, enter into contracts, and commit resources, a host authority is required. A host authority acts on behalf of a partnership and acts as its 'home' partner. The host provides the partnership with professional advice, support and services for it to function. It acts as the employer for any employees, provides the financing and governance/secretariat functions, and fulfils the statutory professional roles required under law such as the Monitoring Officer, Section 151 Officer and Internal Audit Manager. The Host Authority be the host for the Programme Office.

This paper sets out an outline of the host authority role for the Growth Bid.

Gwynedd is acting as the host authority for the development and planning phases. A decision will need to be taken on the choice of host authority for the implementation phase from April 2019.

Host authorities are familiar to us. Examples of formal collaboratives in North Wales are GWE (Gwynedd is the host) and the Regional Emergency Planning Service (Flintshire is the host). The new national Wales Pension Pool (Carmarthenshire is the host) is an example on a larger geographical scale.

The host authority role is not necessarily one and the same as a lead role. Leadership roles in governance (e.g. Chair and Vice Chair of a Committee), specialist advice (e.g. professional leads on programme themes), and project management (responsibility for delivery of assigned projects) can be dispersed amongst the partners of the partnership.

The roles of the host authority, its inter-relationships with its partners, how liabilities are to be shared, and how the roles and activities of the host and dispersed roles are to be co-funded, will be regulated by the Governance Agreement 2.

It is proposed that expressions of interest are invited for the role of host authority from 2019 onwards. Informal discussions can then take place to develop the brief for the role and assess the capacity and expertise likely to be needed for the chosen host to be effective. The demands of being the host authority for this collaboration will be extensive and should not be under-estimated.

### **CORE ROLES OF A HOST AUTHORITY:**

#### **Governance**

- Democratic services support and secretariat services
- Monitoring Officer role

#### **Employer**

- Recruitment and secondment management
- Employment advice, HR support services and payroll

#### **Professional Services**

- Legal services
- Internal Audit

- ICT infrastructure and support services
- Procurement advice and support
- Asset and facilities management
- Translation services
- Communications and public relations
- Commissioning consultancy for specialist skills and/or capacity

### **Financial Planning and Management**

- S151 Officer role
- Financial planning (capital and revenue)
- Management accounting (capital and revenue)
- Payments and invoicing
- Grant and income management

### **Performance, Contract, Risk and Project Management**

- Performance management systems and reporting
- Contract management (Policy and Negotiation)
- Risk management systems and reporting
- Project management systems and support