

**CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL.**

**COUNCIL  
8 March 2018**

**REPORT AUTHOR: Solicitor to the Council**

**SUBJECT: Review of Electoral Arrangements – Draft Proposals -  
County of Powys**

---

**REPORT FOR: Decision**

---

**Introduction**

On 23 June 2016 the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government published a Written Statement asking the Commission to restart its 10 year programme with a new prioritised timetable with an expectation that all 22 electoral reviews be completed in time for the new arrangements to be put into place for the 2022 local government elections.

The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales have completed the first stage of their review of the electoral arrangements for the County of Powys and have published its Draft Proposals. A copy of the Draft Proposals has been put in your pigeon holes in County Hall or can be accessed at the following website

<http://ldbc.gov.wales/reviews/electoralelections/currereviews/59530911/?lang=en>

**Summary of Proposals**

The Commission propose a reduction in the council size from 73 to 68 members. The 68 elected members will represent 60 divisions, of which 7 will be multi-member: Abercraf and Ystrad(2), Brecon (3), Crickhowell with Cwmdu and Tretower(2), Knighton and Beguildy, Llandrindod South(2) , Llanidloes with Llangurig (2), Newtown Central and South(2).

24 of our existing electoral wards will experience no change in their arrangements: Builth, Churchstoke, Cwmtwrch, Dolforwyn, Glantwymwn, Gwernyfed, Hay, Llandrindod North, Llandrinio, Llandysilio, Llanfyllin, Llanrhaedr-ym-Mochant/ Llansilin, Llansantffraid, Machynlleth, Maescar/ Llwyel, Newtown East, Newtown Llanllwchaiarn North, Newtown Llanllwchaiarn West, Rhayader, Rhiwcynon, Talgarth, Talybont-on-Usk, Tawe Uchaf, Ynyscedwyn.

The largest proposed under-representation (in terms of electoral variance) is to be in Brecon and Forden and Montgomery (both 28% above the proposed county average). The largest proposed over-representation (in terms of electoral variance) is to be in Llanfyllin (22% below the proposed county average).

The Commission is proposing to split 5 communities across the county, within the Town of Presteigne, and the Communities of Cwmdu and District, Forden with Leighton and Trelystan, Treflys, and Kerry.

49 wards have the following changes being proposed:

**Aber-craf and Ystradgynlais**

The commission proposes to combine the existing wards of Abercraf and Ystradgynlais to form a two member electoral ward of 3,242 electors.

**Llangattock and Llangynidr**

The Commission proposes to combine the existing wards of Llangattock and Llangynidr to form an electoral ward of 1,686 electors.

**Bwlch and Crickhowell**

The Commission proposes the existing Crickhowell ward is combined with the Community of Cwmdu and District (previously part of the Bwlch electoral ward) to form a two member electoral ward of 2,718 electors.

**Bwlch and Llangors**

The Commission proposes the existing ward of Llangors is combined with the Community of Bwlch (previously part of the Bwlch electoral ward) to form an electoral ward of 1,381 electors.

**St David Within, St John and St Mary of Brecon**

The three existing wards of Brecon are combined to form a three member electoral ward of 6,023.

**Felin Fach and Yscir**

The existing ward of Yscir is combined with the communities of Honddu Isaf and Llanddew (currently part of the Felin-Fach electoral ward) to form an electoral ward of 1,433 electors called Yscir with Honddu Isaf and Llanddew.

**Bronllys and Felin-Fach**

The existing ward of Bronllys is combined with the community of Felin-fach (previously part of the Felin-fach electoral ward) to form an electoral ward of 1,623.

**Glasbury and Old Radnor**

The Commission proposes that the Communities of Gladestry and Old Radnor (currently part of the Old Radnor ward) and the Painscastle community (currently part of the Glasbury ward) combine to form an electoral ward of 1,465 electors called Old Radnor and Glasbury.

**Llanbadarn Fawr, Llanelwedd and Old Radnor**

The Commission proposes the current ward of Llanbadarn Fawr is combined with the communities of Glascwm (currently part of Llanelwedd) and New Radnor (currently part of Old Radnor ward) is combined to form an electoral ward of 1,760 called Glascwm, Llanbadarn Fawr and New Radnor.

**Disserth & Trecoed and Llanelwedd**

The commission proposes the current ward of Disserserth & Trecoed is combined with the community of Llanelwedd (currently part of Llanelwedd) to form an electoral ward of 1,638 called Aberedw, Disserserth and Trecoed and Llanelwedd.

### **Llanafanfawr and Llanwrtyd Wells**

The Commission proposes the current ward of Llanafanfawr is combined with the community ward of Garth (currently part of Llanwrtyd Wells ward) to form an electoral ward of 1,324 electors called Llanafanfawr with Garth.

The remainder of Llanwrtyd Wells is retained as an electoral ward with an electorate of 1,352.

### **Llanyre and Nantmel**

The Commission proposes the existing ward of Llanyre and the communities of Nantmel and St Harmon (currently part of the existing ward of Nantmel) is combined to create an electoral ward of Llanyre and Nantmel with an electorate of 1,575.

### **Llandrindod East/Llandrindod West and Llandrindod South**

The Commission proposes existing Llandrindod South electoral ward and the existing Llandrindod East/West ward is combined to create an electoral ward of two members called Llandrindod South.

### **Llangunllo and Presteigne**

The Commission proposes the existing ward of Llangunllo is combined with the community ward of Norton (currently part of Presteigne) to create an electoral ward called Llangunllo with Norton of 1,625 electors.

The Presteigne Town ward would be left as an electoral ward of Presteigne with an electorate of 1,737.

### **Beguildy and Knighton**

The Commission proposes the existing electoral ward of Knighton is combined with the Beguildy community (currently part of Beguildy electoral ward) to form an electoral ward called Knighton with Beguildy with an electorate of 2,923, represented by 2 councillors.

### **Beguildy and Nantmel**

The Commission proposes the remaining communities of the current Beguildy ward: Llanbister and Llanbadarn Fynydd are combined with the remaining communities of the Nantmel electoral ward: St Harmon and Abbey Cwmhir to form an electoral ward called Abbey Cwmhir, Llanbadarn and Llanbister with an electorate of 1,266.

### **Blaen Hafren and Llanidloes**

The Commission proposes the existing electoral ward of Llanidloes and the Llangurig Community (currently part of Blaen Hafren electoral ward) are combined to form an electoral ward of 2,910 electors, called Llanidloes with Llangurig represented by two councillors.

The Commission proposes that the remaining communities of the current Blaen Hafren ward: Trefeglwys and Llanidloes Without form an electoral ward of 1,279 called Llanidloes Without and Trefeglwys, represented by a single councillor.

### **Kerry and Llandinam**

The Commission proposes that the existing electoral ward of Llandinam is combined with the Dolfor ward of Kerry Community (currently part of the Kerry electoral ward) to create a new ward called Llandinam with Dolfor, with an electorate of 1,279.

The remaining Kerry community wards of Kerry and Sarn are retained to form a new electoral ward of Kerry, with an electorate of 1,464.

#### **Newtown Central and Newtown South**

The Commission proposes that the existing electoral wards of Newtown Central and Newtown South are combined to form a multi member electoral ward of 3,644 electors to be called Newtown Central and South and represented by two councillors.

#### **Caersws and Llanbrynmair**

The Commission proposes the existing ward of Llanbrynmair and Carno Community is combined to form a new electoral ward of Carno and Llanbrynmair with 1,362 electors.

As a consequence, the Commission proposes that the remainder of Caersws, is retained as an electoral ward of 1,270 electors.

#### **Forden and Montgomery**

The Commission proposes the existing ward of Montgomery combine with the community ward of Forden (currently part of the Forden electoral ward) to create a new electoral ward of 2,001 electors called Forden and Montgomery.

#### **Forden and Trewern**

The Commission proposes the remaining community ward of Trelystan (currently part of the Forden electoral ward) is combined with the existing electoral ward of Trewern to form an electoral ward of Trelystan and Trewern, with an electorate of 1,425.

#### **Welshpool Castle, Welshpool Gungrog and Welshpool Llanerchydol**

Welshpool Town Council made representation to adjust the current electoral and community ward boundaries to achieve better electoral parity between the existing three wards. These proposals have been utilised by the Commission to retain the existing three wards with adjusted boundaries, each with one councillor.

#### **Berriew and Guilsfield**

The Commission proposes to combine the existing electoral ward of Berriew with the Castle Caereinion Community (currently part of Guilsfield electoral ward) to form a new ward of 1,650 electors, called Berriew and Castle Caereinion.

As a consequence, the remaining part of Guilsfield electoral ward (Guilsfield Community) forms an electoral ward of 1,404 electors of the same name.

#### **Banwy, Llanfihangel and Llanwddyn**

The Commission is proposing to combine the existing electoral ward of Llanwddyn with the Community of Banwy (currently part of Banwy electoral ward) and the Community of Llanfihangel (currently part of Llanfihangel electoral ward) to form an electoral ward called Banwy, Llanfihangel and Llanwddyn with an electorate of 1,808.

#### **Banwy and Llanfair Caereinion**

It is proposed to combine the remaining part of Banwy, the Community of Llanerfyl with the existing electoral ward of Llanfair Caereinion to form an electoral ward called Llanerfyl and Llanfair Caereinion with an electorate of 1,667 electors.

## **Llanfihangel and Meifod**

The Commission proposes the existing electoral ward of Meifod is combined with the Community of Llangyniew (currently part of Llanfihangel electoral ward) to form an electoral ward called Llangyniew and Meifod with an electorate of 1,615 electors.

### **Responses to the Report**

The proposed electoral wards have been given working names by the Commission which are intended to represent an area rather than particular settlements, villages, or towns. The Commission recognises that there may be names that are more appropriate and it would welcome alternative suggestions. The Commission would request that these suggested names should not merely consist of listed communities and villages but, instead, should reflect the character of the areas involved as well as being effective in either English or Welsh.

The draft scheme represents the Commission's preliminary views on the electoral arrangements for the County of Powys. The Commission welcomes any representations in respect of these proposals and will consider carefully all representations made to before formulating its final proposals and submitting them to the Welsh Government. Representations can be made by individuals and/or political groups, and/ or by the Council as a whole.

All observations on these draft proposals should be sent to:

The Chief Executive

Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales

Hastings House

Fitzalan Court

Cardiff CF24 0BL Or by email to: [ldbc.wales@gov.wales](mailto:ldbc.wales@gov.wales) not later than 29 May 2018

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Recommendation:</b>  | <b>Reason for Recommendation:</b>                        |
| <b>To provide Group Leaders with delegated authority to consider and provide a Powys County Council response.</b> | <b>To prepare a draft response for Council approval.</b> |

|  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| <b>Person(s) To Action Decision:</b>         | <b>Sandra Matthews</b>          |
| <b>Date By When Decision To Be Actioned:</b> | <b>28<sup>th</sup> May 2018</b> |

|                               |          |                       |          |
|-------------------------------|----------|-----------------------|----------|
| <b>Relevant Policy (ies):</b> | None     |                       |          |
| <b>Within Policy:</b>         | <b>Y</b> | <b>Within Budget:</b> | <b>Y</b> |

|                       |              |              |  |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|--|
| Contact Officer Name: | Tel:         | Fax:         | Email:   |
| Sandra Matthews       | 01597 826747 | 01597 826220 | <a href="mailto:sandram@powys.gov.uk">sandram@powys.gov.uk</a> |

|                                      |                                      |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Relevant Portfolio Member(s):</b> | <b>County Councillor Aled Davies</b> |
| <b>Relevant Local Member(s):</b>     | <b>N/A</b>                           |

### **Background Papers used to prepare Report:**

The Review of Electoral Arrangements of the County of Powys – Draft Proposals Report, February 2018