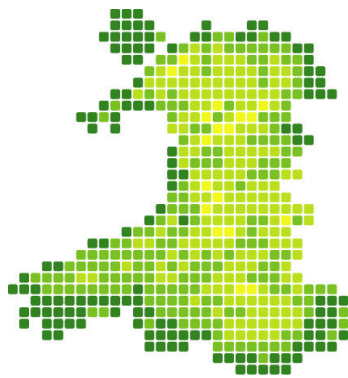


LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES



Comisiwn Ffiniau
Llywodraeth Leol
i Gymru



Local Government
Boundary Commission
for Wales

**REVIEW OF COMMUNITY BOUNDARIES IN
THE COUNTY OF POWYS**

REPORT AND PROPOSALS

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REPORT AND PROPOSALS

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REVIEW OF COMMUNITY BOUNDARIES IN THE COUNTY OF POWYS

REPORT AND PROPOSALS

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Powys County Council have conducted a review of the community boundaries and community electoral arrangements under Sections 55(2) and 57 (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994 (the Act). In accordance with Section 55(2) of the Act Powys County Council submitted a report to the Commission detailing their proposals for changes to a number of community boundaries in their area (Appendix A).
- 1.2 We have considered Powys County Council's report in accordance with Section 55(3) of the Act and submit the following report on the Council's recommendations.

2. POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL'S PROPOSALS

- 2.1 Powys County Council's proposals were submitted to the Commission on 7 November 2006 (Appendix A). The Commission have not received any representations about the proposals.
- 2.2 As a result of their review the Council have recommended changes to the boundaries between the following communities: Brecon and Glyn Tarell, Crickhowell and The Vale Of Grwyney, Duhonw and Builth, Hay and Llanigon, Glyn Tarell and Llanfrynach, Tawe-Uchaf and Ystradfellte, Castle Caereinion and Llanfair Caereinion, Kerry and Churchstoke, Llandyssil and Newtown and Llanllwchaiarn, Llangedwyn and Llansantffraid, Llanidloes and Llangurig, Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant, Montgomery and Churchstoke, Whitton and Knighton. They also have recommended a change to the boundary between the County of Powys and the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil.
- 2.3 In their report Powys County Council included maps detailing four of the recommended boundary changes. For the remaining changes the Commission Secretariat produced maps interpreted from the descriptions in the text of the report. These maps were sent to Powys County Council who then confirmed that the recommended changes had been correctly interpreted.

3. THE COMMISSION'S CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 We first considered whether the County Council had conducted their review in accordance with the procedure set out in the Act. We then considered whether the proposals recommended were apt for securing effective and convenient local government.

4. PROCEDURE

- 4.1 Section 60 of the Act requires the Council to take such steps as they think fit to secure that persons who may be interested in the review are informed of the proposal to conduct the review and subsequently of the draft proposals which are to be placed on deposit at the Council's offices. The final proposals report is also required to be placed on deposit at the Council's offices for a period of six months.
- 4.2 We are satisfied that the Powys County Council have conducted the review in accordance with the procedure set out in Section 60 of the Act.

5. PROPOSALS

Brecon and Glyn Tarell

- 5.1 The recommended change to the community boundary involves the transfer of a small area that includes a single industrial unit from the Community of Glyn Tarell to the Community of Brecon. We noted that no electors are affected by the recommended change and that Powys County Council had received no representations in respect of the proposal. We have inspected the relevant maps and made a site visit to the area and consider that the recommended boundary follows identifiable geographical features. We are of the view that the recommended change is of benefit in terms of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose a change to the boundary between the Community of Brecon and the Community of Glyn Tarell as illustrated on the map at Appendix B.

Crickhowell and The Vale Of Grwyney

- 5.2 The recommended change to the community boundary involves the transfer of an area that includes the Elvicta factory site, the town's sewage works and the town's sports fields from the Community of The Vale of Grwyney to the Community of Crickhowell. We have inspected the relevant maps and made a site visit to the area and consider that the recommended boundary follows identifiable geographical features. We noted that in the course of the review, The Vale of Grwyney Community Council opposed the proposal. We are however of the view that, as no residential properties are affected by the recommended change and the area appears to have a close affinity with the Community of Crickhowell, the recommended change is of benefit in terms of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose a change to

the boundary between the Community of Crickhowell and the Community of The Vale of Grwyney as illustrated on the map at Appendix C.

Duhonw and Builth

- 5.3 The recommended change to the community boundary involves the transfer of an area including the property of Erwhelm from the Community of Builth to the Community of Duhonw. During our site visit to the area it was noted that the lane to the north of the boundary that leads to Builth becomes unmetalled shortly after Erwhelm. This made it difficult for a standard motor vehicle to use the lane to access the property from the direction of Builth and it would appear therefore that the main access to the property is via the Community of Duhonw. We also noted that the proposed boundary follows well-defined fence lines. It appears to us that the property of Erwhelm has a closer affinity to the Community of Duhonw than with the Community of Builth. We are of the view that the recommended change is of benefit in terms of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose a change to the boundary between the Community of Duhonw and the Community of Builth as illustrated on the map at Appendix D.

Hay and Llanigon

- 5.4 The recommended change to the community boundary involves the transfer of that part of the community of Llanigon that abuts the western boundary of the town of Hay-on-Wye at Gipsy Castle Farm and The Burlands into the Community of Hay. We noted that during the course of the review, Powys County Council did not receive any representations in respect of this proposed change. Following a site visit made to the area we are content that the recommended boundary follows identifiable geographical features. We are of the view that the recommended change is of benefit in terms of effective and convenient local government and therefore propose a change to the boundary between the Community of Hay and the Community of Llanigon as illustrated on the map at Appendix E.

Glyn Tarell and Llanfrynach

- 5.5 The recommended change to the community boundary involves the transfer of an area that includes the property known as the Held from the Glyn Tarell Community in the Community of Llanfrynach. The Council considered that the property known as The Held lies in a salient of the Community of Glyn Tarell and that the only access to this property was via the Community of Llanfrynach. During our site visit it was established that the only access to The Held was via Llanfrynach Community. We are of the view that the property has a greater community of interest with the Community of Llanfrynach than the Community of Glyn Tarell. We have inspected the relevant maps and made a site visit to the area and consider that the recommended boundary follows identifiable geographical features. We are of the view that the recommended change is of benefit in terms of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose a change to the boundary between the

Community of Glyn Tarell and the Community of Llanfrynach as illustrated on the map at Appendix F.

Tawe-Uchaf and Ystradfellte

- 5.6 Powys County Council recommended that the eastern boundary with Ystradfellte Community be adjusted to take in the following farms, Tonyfildre, Cefnwaunynog and Nant-y-fedwen and in order to achieve this a more appropriate eastern boundary for the community Tawe-Uchaf would be Nant-y-Moel. The Council considered that the geography and the lie of local roads suggest these three dwellings are more closely associated with the settlement of Coelbren than with Pontneddfechan. We noted that during the review the Council received no representations in respect of this change. During our site visit it was established that the most direct access to the farms in question was via the Community of Tawe-Uchaf rather than the Community of Ystradfellte. We also consider that the recommended boundary follows identifiable geographical features. We are of the view that the recommended change is of benefit in terms of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose a change to the boundary between the Community of Tawe Uchaf and the Community of Ystradfellte as illustrated on the map at Appendix G.

Castle Caereinion and Llanfair Caereinion

- 5.7 In their report Powys County Council recommended that properties along Fronhaul Lane (Tanycoed, Tynewydd, The Grange, Glynhwog, The Ochr and Ty'n y Brwydd) should be transferred to the Community of Castle Caereinion from the community of Llanfair Caereinion. The Council considered that the residents of Fronhaul Lane look to Castle Caereinion for local services and there is no direct access to the Community of Llanfair Caereinion. We noted that during the review Powys Council did not receive any representations in respect of this change. During our site visit we confirmed that access to Fronhaul Lane was from the Community of Castle Caereinion and also confirmed that the recommended boundary follows identifiable geographical features. We are of the view that the recommended change is of benefit in terms of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose a change to the boundary between the Community of Castle Caereinion and the Community of Llanfair Caereinion as illustrated on the map at Appendix H.

Kerry and Churchstoke

- 5.8 The recommended change to the community boundary involves the transfer of Lower House, Sarn from the community of Churchstoke to the Community of Kerry. During the site visit to the area we confirmed that access to Lower House was via the Community of Kerry and that the proposed boundary follows clearly defined geographical features. During the visit we also spoke to the residents of Lower House who confirmed that they were happy with the proposed community boundary change and also confirmed that the proposed boundary was appropriate. We are of the view that the recommended change is of benefit in terms of effective and convenient local government. We therefore

propose a change to the boundary between the Community of Kerry and the Community of Churchstoke as illustrated on the map at Appendix I.

Llandyssil and Newtown and Llanllwchaiarn

- 5.9 The Council recommended the transfer of the whole of the small village of Aberbechan into the Community of Llandyssil from the Community of Newtown and Llanllwchaiarn. This change would involve the properties of Ponbechan (six dwellings), Glen Coe, The Swallows and Tynllwyn. We noted that during the review no representations were received in respect of this change. On visiting Aberbechan village it was noted that two further properties to the rear of Glen Coe, The Swallows and Tynllwyn, had not been included in the change recommended by Powys County Council. We noted that access to these two properties (Neuadd-fraith and Bryn Bechan) is via the same road as Glen Coe, The Swallows and Tynllwyn and we considered that these two properties were also part of Aberbechan. We therefore considered an alternative, more extensive, boundary change than that recommended by Powys County Council. We sent details of our amendment to Powys County Council and the occupiers of the two additional properties and asked for their views. At their meeting on 3 April 2007, the Board of Powys County Council accepted this change and we had a response from the occupiers of one of the properties who stated that they had no problems with the boundary changes. We are of the view that the recommended change as amended by the Commission is of benefit in terms of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose a change to the boundary between the Community of Llandyssil and the Community of Newtown and Llanllwchaiarn as illustrated on the map at Appendix J.

Llangedwyn and Llansantffraid

- 5.10 The recommended change to the community boundary involves the transfer of that part of the settlement of Penybont Llanerchemrys currently in the Community of Llansantffraid into the Community of Llangedwyn. Powys County Council considered that the properties of Old New Inn and 1 & 2 Old New Inn cottages, which are currently outside the settlement area of the village of Penybont Llanerchemrys, are closely associated with the village. The Council proposed that the new boundary follow the old railway line from near to Penisarmynydd to Penybont Hall. On visiting the area it was noted however that in parts the old railway line did not constitute a clearly defined geographical feature. We therefore considered an alternative boundary that transfers a smaller area but that still included the properties of Old New Inn and 1 & 2 Old New Inn cottages. We sent details of our amendment to Powys County Council and asked for their views. At their meeting on 3 April 2007, the Board of Powys County Council also accepted this change. We are of the view that the recommended change is of benefit in terms of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose a change to the boundary between the Community of Llangedwyn and the Community of Llansantffraid as illustrated on the map at Appendix K.

Llanidloes and Llangurig

- 5.11 Powys County Council recommended the transfer of the part of the Parc Hafren general employment site currently in the Community of Llangurig to the Community of Llanidloes. During our site visit we noted that the Parc Hafren industrial estate is on the outskirts of Llanidloes whereas it lies approximately four miles from Llangurig. We also noted that the recommended boundary follows a well-defined fence line and that the area within the industrial estate has scope for future expansion. We also noted that no electors are affected by the recommended change and the Council received no representations during the period of their review. We are of the view that the recommended change is of benefit in terms of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose a change to the boundary between the Community of Llanidloes and the Community of Llangurig as illustrated on the map at Appendix L.

Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant

- 5.12 The recommendation is for the amalgamation of the existing communities of Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant (in the former district of Glyndwr) and Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant (in the former district of Montgomery) to form a single new community. Having made a site visit to the area it is clear that the village of Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant is one cohesive village. We therefore consider the proposed merger of the two communities is of benefit in terms of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose that the two existing Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant Communities be merged to form a single Community named Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant (see map at Appendix M).

Montgomery and Churchstoke

- 5.13 The recommendation is for the transfer of the Western Madoc area, presently a detached part of the community of Churchstoke, from that Community to the Community of Montgomery. We noted that Powys County Council reported that they had received no objections to the proposed change during the period of their review. On visiting the area it was our view that the area of Churchstoke (detached) has an affinity with Montgomery. It was also noted that to travel to Churchstoke (detached) from Churchstoke, by the most direct road route, it is necessary to travel through part of England. We consider therefore that the change proposed by Powys County Council is of benefit in terms of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose that the area currently known as Churchstoke (detached) is removed from the Community of Churchstoke and is merged with the existing Community of Montgomery (see map at Appendix N).

Whitton and Knighton

- 5.14 The recommendation is for the transfer of the whole of the unclassified settlement of Rhos y Meirch from the Community of Knighton to the Community of Whitton. We noted that Powys County Council reported that they had received no objections to the proposed change during the period of

their review. On visiting the settlement of Rhos y Meirch it was noted that part of the proposed Offa's Dyke boundary was not a clearly defined geographical feature. It was noted that at this point the Offa's Dyke Path has been diverted away from the line of the Dyke to follow the roads. We considered that this line would create a more clearly defined boundary whilst still encompassing all of the properties in the original proposal. We sent details of our amendment to Powys County Council and asked for their views. At their meeting on 3 April 2007, the Board of Powys County Council also accepted this change. We are of the view that the recommended change is of benefit in terms of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose a change to the boundary between the Community of Whitton and the Community of Knighton as illustrated on the map at Appendix O.

Powys and Merthyr Tydfil Boundary

- 5.15 In their report Powys County Council recommended a change to the boundary between the County of Powys and the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil. As the consideration of principal area boundaries falls outside the terms of Section 55(2) we intend to conduct a review of the boundary between the County of Powys and the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil at a later date.

6. CONSEQUENTIAL ARRANGEMENTS

- 6.1 In considering the various changes to the community boundaries it was also necessary for us to take account of the effects on the electoral arrangements for community councils and the principal authority, which would result from these changes. This section of our report details our proposals for consequential changes to the electoral arrangements. The electoral statistics used in this report were provided by Powys County Council.

Community Council Electoral Arrangements

- 6.2 The proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Brecon and the Community of Glyn Tarell does not involve the transfer of any electors. There are therefore no consequential changes required to the community council electoral arrangements of either the Community of Brecon or the Community of Glyn Tarell as a consequence of this change.
- 6.3 The proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Crickhowell and the Community of The Vale Of Grwyney does not involve the transfer of any electors. There are therefore no consequential changes required to the community council electoral arrangements of either the Community of Crickhowell or the Community of The Vale Of Grwyney as a consequence of this change.
- 6.4 The proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Builth to the Community of Duhonw involves the transfer of one property with 2 electors. We consider that this small change to the number of electors does not merit a change to the number of councillors representing either of these communities.

- 6.5 The proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Hay and the Community of Llanigon involves the transfer of 3 electors. We consider that this small change to the number of electors does not merit a change to the number of councillors representing either of these communities.
- 6.6 The proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Glyn Tarell and the Community of Llanfrynach involves the transfer of one property with 2 electors. We consider that this small change to the number of electors does not merit a change to the number of councillors representing either of these communities.
- 6.7 The proposed change to the boundary between the Coelbren Ward of the Community of Tawe Uchaf and the Community of Ystradfellte involves the transfer of 6 electors. We consider that this small change to the number of electors does not merit a change to the number of councillors representing either of these communities.
- 6.8 The proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Castle Caereinion and the Community of Llanfair Caereinion involves the transfer of 10 electors. We consider that this small change to the number of electors does not merit a change to the number of councillors representing either of these communities.
- 6.9 The proposed change to the boundary between the Sarn Ward of the Community of Kerry and the Community of Churchstoke involves the transfer of one property with 3 electors. We consider that this small change to the number of electors does not merit a change to the number of councillors representing either of these communities.
- 6.10 The proposed change to the boundary between the Abermule Ward of the Community of Llandyssil and the Llanllwchaiarn North Ward of the Community of Newtown and Llanllwchaiarn involves the transfer of 17 electors. We consider that this small change to the number of electors does not merit a change to the number of councillors representing either of these communities.
- 6.11 The proposed change to the boundary between the Pool Ward of the Community of Llansantffraid into the Community of Llangedwyn involves the transfer of 3 electors. We consider that this small change to the number of electors does not merit a change to the number of councillors representing either of these communities.
- 6.12 The proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Llanidloes and the Community of Llangurig does not involve the transfer of any electors. There are therefore no consequential changes required to the community council electoral arrangements of either the Community of Llanidloes or the Community of Llangurig as a consequence of this change.

- 6.13 Under our proposals a new Community of Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant will be formed by the amalgamation of the existing communities of Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant (in the former district of Glyndwr) and Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant (in the former district of Montgomery). The existing community of Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant (in the former district of Glyndwr) has 602 electors represented by 10 councillors and the existing community of Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant (in the former district of Montgomery) has 378 electors represented by 8 councillors. We noted that in their review report adopted in August 2006, Powys County Council proposed that the new community be represented by 11 councillors. We consider that 11 councillors representing 980 electors is an appropriate level of representation for this area and so propose.
- 6.14 Under our proposals the area currently known as Churchstoke (detached) will be removed from the Community of Churchstoke and merged with the existing Community of Montgomery. The existing area of Churchstoke (detached) has 36 electors. Whilst we consider that the decrease of 36 electors in the Community of Churchstoke may merit a consequential change to the electoral arrangements, we have noted that Powys County Council have made proposals for a substantive change to the electoral arrangements of the Community of Churchstoke and intend to make the relevant order when the issue of the boundary of the community has been resolved. We are content therefore not to make a recommendation for a consequential change to the electoral arrangements of the Community of Churchstoke and to await the order for a substantive change to be made by Powys County Council. In respect of the electoral arrangements for the Community of Montgomery, the existing area has 992 electors represented by 11 councillors. We consider that the increase of 36 electors does not merit a change to the number of councillors representing the Community of Montgomery.
- 6.15 The proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Whitton and the Community of Knighton involves the transfer of 15 electors. We consider that this small change to the number of electors does not merit a change to the number of councillors representing either of these communities.

County Council Electoral Arrangements

- 6.16 The St. David Within Electoral Division consists of the St. David Within Ward of the Community of Brecon. The proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Brecon and the Community of Glyn Tarell only involves a small change to the boundary of the St. David Within Ward and does not involve the transfer of any electors. We therefore propose a change to the boundary but no change to the number of councillors in respect of the St. David Within Electoral Division.
- 6.17 We noted Powys County Council's recommendation in respect of the St John Electoral Division (which consists of the existing St. John Ward of the Community of Brecon). This recommendation arises from the Council's intended change to the electoral arrangements of the Community of Brecon. We are unable to consider this recommendation as a change consequential to the proposed change to the boundary between the Communities of Brecon and

Glyn Tarell as this change does not involve the St. John Electoral Division. The changes to the electoral arrangements of the Community of Brecon that will arise from the order intended to be made by Powys County Council will be considered in our forthcoming review of electoral arrangements (see paragraph 6.32).

- 6.18 The Crickhowell Electoral Division consists of the Communities of Crickhowell and the Vale of Grwyney. The proposed change to the boundary between these two communities will therefore require no consequential changes to the electoral arrangements for Powys County Council.
- 6.19 The Builth Electoral Division consists of the Community of Builth with 1,934 electors represented by 1 councillor and the Llanafanfawr Electoral Division consists of the Communities of Cilmerly, Duhonw, Llanafanfawr and Llanwrthwl with 1,147 electors represented by 1 councillor. As the proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Builth to the Community of Duhonw involves the transfer of only 2 electors, we propose a change to the boundary but no change to the number of councillors in respect of the electoral arrangements of the Builth and Llanafanfawr Electoral Divisions.
- 6.20 The Hay Electoral Division consists of the Community of Hay with 1,328 electors represented by 1 councillor. The Gwernyfed Electoral Division consists of the Communities of Gwernyfed and Llanigon with 1,229 electors represented by 1 councillor. As the proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Hay and the Community of Llanigon involves the transfer of only 3 electors, we propose a change to the boundary but no change to the number of councillors in respect of the electoral arrangements of the Hay and Gwernyfed Electoral Divisions.
- 6.21 The Talybont-on-Usk Electoral Division consists of the Communities of Glyn Tarell, Llanfrynach and Talybont-on-Usk. The proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Glyn Tarell and the Community of Llanfrynach will therefore require no consequential changes to the electoral arrangements for Powys County Council. The proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Brecon and the Community of Glyn Tarell involves a small change to the boundary but does not involve the transfer of any electors. We therefore propose a change to the boundary but no change to the number of councillors in respect of the Talybont-on-Usk Electoral Division.
- 6.22 The Tawe-Uchaf Electoral Division consists of the Communities of Tawe-Uchaf and Ystradfellte. The proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Tawe Uchaf and the Community of Ystradfellte will therefore require no consequential changes to the electoral arrangements for Powys County Council.
- 6.23 The Guilsfield Electoral Division consists of the Communities of Castle Caereinion and Guilsfield with 1,787 electors represented by 1 councillor and the Llanfair Caereinion Electoral Division consists of the Community of Llanfair Caereinion with 1,266 electors represented by 1 councillor. As the

proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Castle Caereinion and the Community of Llanfair Caereinion involves the transfer of only 10 electors, we propose a change to the boundary but no change to the number of councillors in respect of the electoral arrangements of the Guilsfield and Llanfair Caereinion Electoral Divisions.

- 6.24 The Churchstoke Electoral Division consists of the Community of Churchstoke with 1,285 electors represented by 1 councillor. As a result of the proposed changes to the boundaries between the Community of Churchstoke and the Communities of Kerry and Montgomery the number of electors will reduce to 1,282. We do not consider the change to the number of electors to be so significant as to require a change to the electoral arrangements other than the indicated changes to the boundaries.
- 6.25 The Dolforwyn Electoral Division consists of the Communities of Bettws and Llandyssil with 1,418 electors represented by 1 councillor and the Newtown Llanllwchaiarn North Electoral Division consists of the Llanllwchaiarn North Ward of the Community of Newtown and Llanllwchaiarn with 1,666 electors represented by 1 councillor. As the proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Llandyssil and the Llanllwchaiarn North Ward of the Community of Newtown and Llanllwchaiarn involves the transfer of only 17 electors, we propose a change to the boundary but no change to the number of councillors in respect of the electoral arrangements of the Dolforwyn and Llanllwchaiarn North Electoral Divisions.
- 6.26 The Llansantffraid Electoral Division consists of the Communities of Llanfechain and Llansantffraid. As the proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Llansantffraid into the Community of Llangedwyn involves the transfer of only 3 electors, we propose a change to the boundary but no change to the number of councillors in respect of the electoral arrangements of the Llansantffraid Electoral Division.
- 6.27 The Llanidloes Electoral Division consists of the Community of Llanidloes and the Blaen Hafren Electoral Division consists of the Communities of Llangurig, Llanidloes Without and Trefeglwys. The proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Llanidloes and the Community of Llangurig does not involve the transfer of any electors and so we propose a change to the boundary but no change to the number of councillors in respect of the electoral arrangements of the Llanidloes and Blaen Hafren Electoral Divisions.
- 6.28 The Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant Electoral Division consists of the Communities of Llangynog, Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, Llanwddyn and Pen-y-Bont-Fawr (in the former District of Montgomeryshire) with 1,225 electors represented by 1 councillor and the Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant/Llansilin Electoral Division consists of the Communities of Llangedwyn, Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant and Llansilin (in the former District of Glyndŵr) with 1,386 electors represented by 1 councillor. As a consequence of the proposal to merge the two Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant Communities and the proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Llansantffraid into the

Community of Llangedwyn, Powys County Council have recommended two alternative Electoral Divisions as follows:

Llanwddyn – consisting of the Communities of Llangynog, Llanwddyn and Pen-y-Bont-Fawr with 836 electors represented by 1 councillor; and

Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant / Llansilin – consisting of The Communities of Llangedwyn and Llansilin and the (new) Community of Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant with 1,770 electors represented by 1 councillor.

- 6.29 We have concerns about the discrepancy between the levels of representation of the recommended Llanwddyn and Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant / Llansilin Electoral Divisions. We have noted however that, under the existing arrangements, there are a number of Electoral Divisions with fewer or similar numbers of electors as the recommended Llanwddyn Electoral Division and a number of Electoral Divisions with greater or similar number of electors as the recommended Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant / Llansilin Electoral Division. We will be addressing these issues as part of our forthcoming review of electoral arrangements for Powys County Council (see paragraph 6.31) We therefore agree that, in the short term, the recommended Llanwddyn and Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant / Llansilin Electoral Divisions provide appropriate electoral arrangements for the area.
- 6.30 The Montgomery Electoral Division consists of the Community of Montgomery with 992 electors represented by 1 councillor. As a result of the proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Churchstoke and the Community of Montgomery the number of electors will increase to 1,028. As we consider this to be an appropriate level of representation for the area, we propose a change to the boundary but no change to the number of councillors in respect of the Montgomery Electoral Division.
- 6.31 The Llangunllo Electoral Division consists of the Communities of Llanddewi Ystradenny, Llanfihangel Rhydithon, Llangunllo and Whitton with 1,046 electors represented by 1 councillor and the Knighton Electoral Division consists of the Community of Knighton with 2,415 electors represented by 1 councillor. As the proposed change to the boundary between the Community of Whitton and the Community of Knighton involves the transfer of only 15 electors, we propose a change to the boundary but no change to the number of councillors in respect of the electoral arrangements of the Llangunllo and Knighton Electoral Divisions.
- 6.32 Within the next few years we are due to conduct a review of the electoral arrangements for all of principal councils in Wales and we anticipate that we will receive directions from the Welsh Assembly Government to guide us in the conduct of the review. At that time we will look in detail at the electoral arrangements for Powys County Council and will take into account any changes that arise from these proposed changes to community boundaries.

7. RESPONSES TO THIS REPORT

- 7.1 Having completed our consideration of the review of the community boundaries in the County of Powys and submitted our recommendations to the Welsh Assembly Government, we have fulfilled our statutory obligation under the Act.
- 7.2 It now falls to the Welsh Assembly Government, if it thinks fit, to accept them or to direct either the Commission or the County Council to conduct a further review.
- 7.3 Any further representations concerning the matters in the report should be addressed to the Welsh Assembly Government. They should be made as soon as possible, and in any event not later than six weeks from the date that the Commission's recommendations are submitted to the Welsh Assembly Government. Representations should be addressed to:

Democracy Team
Local Government Policy Division
Welsh Assembly Government
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

MRS S G SMITH LLB (Chair)

D H ROBERTS BSc DMS MBCS MCMI (Deputy Chair)

REV. HYWEL MEREDYDD DAVIES BD (Member)

E H LEWIS BSc. DPM FRSA FCIPD (Secretary)

July 2007