Review of the Electoral Arrangements of the County Borough of Wrexham

Draft Proposals Report

November 2019
FOREWORD

This is our report containing our Draft Proposals for the County Borough of Wrexham.

In September 2013, the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 (the Act) came into force. This was the first piece of legislation affecting the Commission for over 40 years and reformed and revamped the Commission, as well as changing the name of the Commission to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales.

The Commission published its Council Size Policy for Wales’ 22 Principal Councils, its first review programme and a new Electoral Reviews: Policy and Practice document reflecting the changes made in the Act. A glossary of terms used in this report can be found at Appendix 1, with the rules and procedures at Appendix 4.

This review of the County Borough of Wrexham is the fifteenth of the programme of reviews conducted under the new Act and Commission’s policy and practice. The issue of fairness is set out clearly in the legislation and has been a key principle for our Policy and Practice. We are also required to look to the future and have asked the Council to give us predictions of the number of electors in five years’ time. We also look at the number of electors not registered to vote.

In working up our proposals, we have considered local ties and those who wish to retain current boundaries. We have looked carefully at every representation made to us. However, we have had to balance these issues and representations against all the other factors we have to consider, and the constraints set out above. In particular, the requirement for electoral parity, democratic fairness for all electors, is the dominant factor in law and this is what we have tried to apply.

Finally, may I thank the Members and officers of the Principal Council for helping us develop our draft proposals, the Community and Town Councils for their contribution and all those who made representations.

We look forward to receiving any views you may wish to share.

Ceri Stradling
Interim Chair
LOCAL DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES

REVIEW OF THE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS OF COUNTY BOROUGH OF WREXHAM

DRAFT PROPOSALS REPORT

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The Commission welcomes correspondence and telephone calls in Welsh or English.
Mae’r ddogfen ar hon ar gael yn y Gymraeg.

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Chapter 1. INTRODUCTION

1. The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales (the Commission) is conducting a review of the electoral arrangements of the County Borough of Wrexham. This review is being conducted in accordance with the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 (the Act), specifically Sections 29, 30 and 34-36.

2. The Commission has a duty to conduct a review of all 22 of Wales’ Principal Councils every ten years. This ten-year programme was due to commence in January 2014. However, due to the uncertainties in local government at the time the Commission suspended its programme. This programme of reviews has come as a result of the former Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government’s Written Statement of 23 June 2016. The Commission was asked to restart its programme of reviews with an expectation that all 22 electoral reviews be completed in time for the new arrangements to be put in place for the 2022 local government elections. The Written Statement can be found at Appendix 6.

3. The rules and procedures the Commission follows can be found in the Commission’s Electoral Reviews: Policy and Practice [2016] and outlined in Appendix 4.

4. A Glossary of Terms can be found at Appendix 1, providing a short description of some of the common terminology used within this report.

5. The Commission is now seeking views on the proposed electoral arrangements identified at Chapter 4 in this report. On receipt of these views the Commission will consider the representations and make final proposals to Welsh Government. It will then be for Welsh Government Ministers to make the Order, if they deem it appropriate, with or without modification.

6. The Commission welcomes representations that are based on evidence and facts which are relevant to the proposals under consideration.
Chapter 2. SUMMARY OF DRAFT PROPOSALS

- The Commission proposes a change to the arrangement of electoral wards that will achieve a significant improvement in the level of electoral parity across the County Borough of Wrexham.

- The Commission proposes a council of 55 members, an increase from the current size of 52. This results in a proposed county average of 1,834 electors per member.

- The Commission proposes 48 electoral wards, an increase from the 47 existing wards.

- The largest under-representation (in terms of electoral variance) within the proposals is Gresford East and West (25% above the proposed county average). At present the greatest under-representation is in Brymbo (69% above the proposed county average).

- The largest over-representation (in terms of electoral variance) within the proposals is Rhosnesni (21% below the proposed county average). At present the greatest over-representation is in Plas Madoc (33% below the proposed county average).

- The Commission is proposing seven multi-member wards in the county consisting of seven two-member electoral wards.

- The Commission has proposed to retain 22 electoral wards.

- The Commission proposes to have five electoral wards within the county which combines a part of a warded community, along with its neighbouring community.

- The Commission received ten representations from Wrexham County Borough Council, five community councils, two county councillors, the Clwyd South Conservative Association and one member of the public. The Commission considered the representations carefully before it formulated its proposals. A summary of these representations can be found at Appendix 5.

Summary Maps

1. On the following pages are thematic maps illustrating the current and proposed arrangements and their variances from the proposed county average of 1,834 electors per member. Those areas in green are within +/-10% of the county average; yellow and hatched yellow between +/-10% and +/-25% of the county average; orange and hatched orange between +/-25% and +/-50% of the county average; and, those in red and hatched red are over +/-50% of the county average.

2. As can be seen from these maps, the proposed arrangements provide for a significant improvement in electoral parity across the county.
Chapter 3. ASSESSMENT

Council size

1. The number of elected members for the County Borough of Wrexham has been determined by the Commission’s Council Size Policy and methodology. This policy can be found in our Electoral Reviews: Policy and Practice document. At present, the size of the council at 52 members is three members below the methodology’s overall aim. The methodology sets out a size of the Council of 55 for this review.

2. The Commission reviewed the electoral arrangements for the County Borough of Wrexham, in light of its methodology and took into account the representations which had been made. For the reasons given below, the Commission believes that in the interests of effective and convenient local government a council of 55 members would be appropriate to represent the County Borough of Wrexham.

3. The Commission has provided a set of arrangements that provides for effective and convenient local government. The Commission is restrained by the building blocks that it can use to create new electoral wards. The current building blocks in the County Borough of Wrexham have led the Commission to creating the proposals as set out in Chapter 4 of this report.

Number of electors

4. The numbers shown as the electorate for 2018 and the estimates for the electorate in the year 2023 are those submitted by the County Borough of Wrexham. The forecast figures supplied by the County Borough of Wrexham show a forecasted increase in the electorate of Wrexham from 100,850 to 104,845. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) has also provided their estimated number of persons eligible to vote but who are not on the electoral register. This showed an estimated 6,509 more people eligible to vote than the 2018 electorate.

5. The Commission is aware that there are Welsh Government proposals to legislate to extend the franchise to include 16 and 17 year olds and foreign nationals, not currently eligible to vote, at the 2022 local government elections. The Commission’s Council Size Policy utilises the entire population to determine Council Size and these two groups were included in the Council Size deliberations.

6. While 16 and 17 year olds are not in the existing electoral figures provided by the County Borough of Wrexham, they will have been included in the forecasted figures provided by the Council. These figures have been included in the Commission’s deliberations on its recommendations.

7. Foreign nationals are included in the census data provided by the ONS. Consideration of this data has been included as part of the Commission’s deliberations on its recommendations.

Councillor to electorate ratio

8. In respect of the number of electors per councillor in each electoral ward, there is a wide variation from the current county average of 1,939 electors per councillor ranging from 37% below (1,222 electors – Plas Madoc) to 60% above (3,107 electors – Brymbo). The determination of the council of 55 members (see paragraph 2) results in an average of 1,834 electors being represented by each councillor.

9. The Commission considered the ratio of local government electors to the number of councillors to be elected, with a view to proposing changes to ensure that the number of local
government electors shall be, as near as may be, the same in every ward in the principal area. The size and character of the council was also considered as were a wide range of other factors including local topography, road communications and local ties.

Judgement and Balance

10. In producing a scheme of electoral arrangements, the Commission must have regard to a number of issues contained in the legislation. In the proposed scheme, the Commission has placed emphasis on achieving improvements in electoral parity whilst maintaining community ties wherever possible. The Commission has made every effort to ensure that the revised electoral wards are an appropriate combination of existing communities and community wards.

11. In some areas, because of the number of electors in a community or community ward, the Commission has considered the retention or creation of multi-member wards in order to achieve appropriate levels of electoral parity. This issue often arises in urban areas where the number of electors is too high to form a single-member ward. It also may arise in more rural wards where the creation of single-member wards would result in substantial variances in electoral parity.

12. The Commission has looked at each area and is satisfied that it would be difficult to achieve electoral arrangements that keep the existing combination of communities and community wards without having a detrimental effect on one or more of the other issues that the Commission must consider. The Commission recognises that there may be different combinations of communities and community wards that better reflect community ties and it would welcome any alternative suggestions that comply with the legislation.

Electoral Ward Names

13. The Commission is naming electoral wards and not the places within the proposed electoral wards. In the creation of these draft proposals, the Commission has considered the names of all the electoral wards proposed in Welsh and English, where appropriate. For these draft proposals we have selected names of either electoral wards or communities that appear in Orders, where they exist, as these are considered to be the existing legal names. Views are welcomed on the proposed names and any alternative names suggested will be considered.

14. The Commission consulted with the Welsh Language Commissioner on the suitability of the names in their draft form prior to the publication of these draft proposals, with a particular focus on the Welsh language names. This recognises the Welsh Language Commissioner’s responsibility to advise on the standard forms of Welsh place-names and specialist knowledge in the field. At each proposal an indication is given of the Welsh Language Commissioner’s recommendation and, where they differ, the specific recommendation and why the Commissioner proposed an alternative to the Commission’s proposed name. It is hoped that this process will encourage debate on the proposed names and will ensure the eventual, final proposals of the Commission are accurate and meet local wishes.

Community and Town Council Arrangements

15. The Commission wishes to highlight that this review of electoral arrangements is seeking to make improvements to electoral representation within Wrexham County Borough Council. This process, except where specifically described in Chapter 6, is independent from any changes to arrangements concerning community or town councils. Where combinations of communities or their wards are used to create electoral wards, the individual communities in
question will retain their existing community council arrangement. These councils will remain independent following the outcome of this review, any precepts generated, or assets contained with a community or town council will remain art of that community council.

16. Change to community arrangements are dealt with under a separate section of the legislation, as part of a community review led by the Council.
Chapter 4. THE DRAFT PROPOSALS

1. The Commission’s proposals are described in detail in this chapter. For each new proposal the report sets out:

- The name(s) of the existing electoral wards which wholly or in part constitute the proposed ward;
- A brief description of the existing electoral wards in terms of the number of electors now and projected and their percentage variance from the proposed county average;
- Key arguments made during the initial consultation (if any). Although not all representations are mentioned in this section, all representations have been considered and a summary can be found in Appendix 5;
- The views of the Commission;
- The composition of the proposed electoral ward and the proposed name;
- A map of the proposed electoral ward (see key on page 10).

Retained Electoral Wards

2. The Commission has considered the electoral arrangements of the existing electoral wards and the ratio of local government electors to the number of councillors to be elected. It is proposed that the existing arrangements should be retained within the following electoral wards. Names displayed in bold within the list below denote the electoral wards where the existing geography and electoral ward names have been prescribed within Orders, and which the Commission is proposing to retain.

- Borras Park
- Cartrefle
- Chirk North
- Chirk South
- Coedpoeth
- Ceiriog Valley
- Esclusham
- Garden Village
- Gresford East and West
- Grosvenor
- Gwersyllt North
- Hermitage
- Little Acton
- Llangollen Rural
- Marchwiel
- Marford and Hoseley
- Minera
- Penycae
- Penycae and Ruabon South
- Queensway
- Ruabon
- Stansty

3. Whilst the Commission is recommending to preserve the geographical arrangements within the electoral wards listed above, it is proposing to introduce new electoral ward names for the following:

- The electoral ward of Borras Park to retain the English language name of Borras Park based on The County Borough of Wrexham (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998, and to be given the Welsh language name of Parc Borras. The Welsh Language Commissioner considered the name and is in agreement with the proposed Welsh language name.
- The electoral ward of Chirk North to retain the English language name of Chirk North based on The County Borough of Wrexham (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998, and to be given
the Welsh language name of Gogledd y Waun. The Welsh Language Commissioner considered the name and is in agreement with the proposed Welsh language name.

- The electoral ward of Chirk South to retain the English name of Chirk South based on The County Borough of Wrexham (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998, and to be given the Welsh language name of De’r Waun. The Welsh Language Commissioner recommends the Welsh language name of De’r Waun; and the English language name of Chirk South. The contracted form of the Welsh definite article is used here as part of a phrase.

- The electoral ward of Coedpoeth to retain the English language name of Coedpoeth based on The Wrexham (Communities) Order 2009, and to be given the Welsh language name of Coed-poeth. The Welsh Language Commissioner recommends the single name of Coed-poeth. Coed-poeth is the form recommends in the national standard reference work, A Gazetteer of Welsh Place-Names (University of Wales Press, 1967). The hyphen is used in Welsh place-names in order to aid pronunciation by showing that stress does not fall on the penultimate syllable. The stress falls on the final syllable of this name and is therefore preceded by a hyphen.

- The electoral ward of Duffryn Ceiriog to retain the English language name of Ceiriog Valley based on the County Borough of Wrexham (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998 and to be given the Welsh language name of Dyffryn Ceiriog. The Welsh Language Commissioner considered the name and is in agreement with the proposed Welsh language name.

- The electoral ward of Gresford East and West to retain the English language name of Gresford East and West based on The County Borough of Wrexham (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998, and to be given the Welsh language name of Dwyrain a Gorllewin Gresffordd. The Welsh Language Commissioner considered the name and is in agreement with the proposed Welsh language name.

- The electoral ward of Gwersyllt North to be given the English language name of Gwersyllt North West based on The County Borough of Wrexham (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998, and to be given the Welsh language name of Gogledd-orllewin Gwersyllt. The Welsh Language Commissioner considered the name and is in agreement with the proposed Welsh language name.

- The electoral ward of Little Acton to retain the English language name of Little Acton based on The County Borough of Wrexham (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998 and to be given the Welsh language name of Acton Fechan. The Welsh Language Commissioner considered the name and is in agreement with the proposed Welsh language name.

- The electoral ward of Llangollen Rural to retain the single name of Llangollen Rural based on The County Borough of Wrexham (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998 and to be given the Welsh language name of Llangollen Wledig. The Welsh Language Commissioner recommends the Welsh language name of Llangollen Wledig and the English language name of Llangollen Rural. The Welsh form is well-established and is used by the community council.

- The electoral ward of Marford and Hoseley to retain the English language name of Marford and Hoseley based on The County Borough of Wrexham (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998, and to be given the Welsh language name of Marford a Hoseley. The Welsh Language Commissioner considered the name and is in agreement with the proposed Welsh language name.
The electoral ward of Penycae to retain the English language name of Penycae based on The County Borough of Wrexham (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998, and to be given the Welsh language name of Pen-y-cae. The Welsh Language Commissioner considered the name and is in agreement with the proposed Welsh language name.

The electoral ward of Penycae and Ruabon South to retain the English language name of Penycae and Ruabon South based on The County Borough of Wrexham (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998, and to be given the Welsh language name of Pen-y-cae a De Rhiwabon. The Welsh Language Commissioner considered the name and is in agreement with the proposed Welsh language name.

The electoral ward of Ruabon to retain the English language name of Ruabon based on The County Borough of Wrexham (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1998, and to be given the Welsh language name of Rhiwabon based on the 2017 elections. The Welsh Language Commissioner considered the name and is in agreement with the proposed Welsh language name.

4. The Commission has consulted the Welsh Language Commissioner with regard to the named of the retained electoral wards, and the Welsh Language Commissioner has recommended the following changes:

- The Welsh Language Commissioner recommends the single name of Marchwiel. The Commissioner’s Place-names Standardisation Panel has agreed to counter the form recommended in the Gazetteer of Welsh Place-names (University of Wales Press, 1967) as this form is well-established and represents the local pronunciation. The Commission agreed to accept the Welsh Language Commissioner’s recommendation.

5. The Commission would welcome any comments on the ward names mentioned in this section.

Proposed Electoral Wards

6. The Commission considered changes to the remaining electoral wards. Details of the current electoral arrangements can be found at Appendix 2. The Commission’s proposed arrangements can be found at Appendix 3.
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Cefn and Plas Madoc

7. The existing Cefn electoral ward is composed of Acrefair and Penybryn, Cefn and, Rhosymedre and Cefn Bychan wards of the Community of Cefn. It has 3,789 electors (4,086 projected) represented by two councillors which is 3% above the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 4,115 eligible voters.

8. The existing Plas Madoc electoral ward is comprised of the Plas Madoc ward of the Community of Cefn. It has 1,222 electors (1,222 projected) represented by one councillor which is 33% below the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 1,453 eligible voters.

9. The Commission received two representations concerning these wards from Wrexham County Borough Council and Councillor Derek Wright (Cefn).

10. Wrexham County Borough Council proposed a series of boundary changes to the Plas Madoc and Cefn electoral wards to create three new single-member electoral wards to address the over-representation in the Plas Madoc electoral ward.

11. The Council proposes that the boundaries of the Plas Madoc community ward are extended into the Acrefair and Penybryn community ward along the length of Chapel Street and Bethania Road to a small country road that begins just prior to Bethania Road’s junction with the A539 transferring 417 electors from Acrefair and Penybryn to Plas Madoc.

12. In addition, the Council proposed that the community ward of Acrefair and Penybryn realign its boundary with Cefn community ward along Queen St, Oxford St and the B5096. This would transfer 397 electors from Cefn to Acrefair and Penybryn. Further that it amends its boundary with Rhosymedre and Cefn Bychan along High St and the B5605 transferring 379 electors from Rhosymedre and Cefn Bychan to Acrefair and Penybryn.

13. Cllr Derek Wright expressed his support for the proposal recommended by Wrexham County Borough Council.

14. The Commission proposes to apply the boundaries as proposed by Wrexham County Borough Council and illustrated on page 14 be applied to the Plas Madoc ward of the Community of Cefn to form an electoral ward of 1,639 electors which, if represented by one councillor, would result in a level of representation that is 11% below the proposed county average.

15. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the Welsh language name of Gogledd Acre-fair; and the English language name of Acrefair North. The Welsh Language Commissioner recommends the Welsh language name of Gogledd Acre-fair; and the English language name of Acrefair North. Acre-fair is the Welsh form given in the national standard reference work, A Gazetteer of Welsh Place-Names (University of Wales Press, 1967). The hyphen is used in this case as the stress does not fall on the penultimate syllable. As the main stress falls on the final syllable, a hyphen precedes the final syllable to indicate this clearly to the reader. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

16. The Commission proposes to apply the boundaries proposed by Wrexham County Borough Council as illustrated on page 16 to the Acrefair and Penybryn ward of the Community of Cefn to form an electoral ward of 1,703 electors which, if represented by one councillor, would result in a level of representation that is 7% below the proposed county average.

17. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the Welsh language name of Gorllewin Cefn; and the English language name of Cefn West. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any
18. The Commission proposes to apply the boundaries as proposed by Wrexham County Borough Council as illustrated on page 15 that the remainder of the Cefn and, Rhosymedre and Cefn Bychan wards of the Community of Cefn are combined to form an electoral ward of 1,669 electors which, if represented by one councillor, would result in a level of representation that is 9% below the proposed county average.

19. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the Welsh language name of **Dwyrain Cefn**; and the English language name of **Cefn East**. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

20. These proposals provide for a significant improvement to electoral variance in the wards and has the support of all the representations received.

21. The Council has made no suggestions as to the consequential arrangements for the Community of Cefn; these have been considered by the Commission in Chapter 6.
Johnstown and Pant

22. The existing Johnstown electoral ward is comprised of the Johnstown ward of the Community of Rhosllanerchrugog. It has 2,471 (2,462 projected) electors represented by one councillor which is 35% above the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 2,558 eligible voters.

23. The existing Pant electoral ward is comprised of the Pant ward of the Community of Rhosllanerchrugog. It has 1,601 electors (1,601 projected) represented by one councillor which is 13% below the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 1,752 eligible voters.

24. The Commission received one representation with regard to these wards from Wrexham County Borough Council. Wrexham County Borough Council proposed a boundary change along Stryt Las and Ruabon Road transferring 183 electors from Johnstown to Pant.

25. The Commission proposes that the Johnstown and Pant wards of the Community of Rhosllanerchrugog are combined to form an electoral ward of 4,072 electors (4,063 projected) which, if represented by two councillors, would result in a level of representation that is 11% above the proposed county average.

26. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the Welsh language name of Johnstown a Phant; and the English language name of Johnstown and Pant. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

27. The Commission considered the representation made by Wrexham County Borough Council. The Commission agrees that the proposal put forward for a boundary change to move Pant Glas and Brandy Brook electors between Johnstown and Pant would break the communication link between those electors and the Pant electoral ward.

28. The Commission considered therefore that in the interest of electoral parity and ensuring that communication links within electoral wards be maintained that both Johnstown and Pant be combined into a two-member electoral ward.

29. The Commission would welcome alternative proposals to create single member wards that would improve electoral variance within both wards and that would not disrupt community ties.
Ponciau

30. The existing Ponciau electoral ward is composed of the Aberoer and Pentrebychan wards of the Community of Esclusham and the Ponciau North, Ponciau South and Rhos wards of the Community of Rhosllanerchrugog. It has 3,531 electors (3,838 projected) represented by two councillors which is 4% below the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 3,877 eligible voters.

31. The Commission received one representation concerning this ward from Wrexham County Borough Council.

32. Wrexham County Borough Council proposed creating two single-member wards in place of the current multi-member Ponciau ward by combining the current community wards of Aberoer and Rhos to form the electoral ward of Rhos while also combining the Pentrebychan, Ponciau North and Ponciau South community wards to form the electoral ward of Ponciau.

33. They also proposed realigning the boundary between Rhos, Ponciau North and Ponciau South community wards from the junction between Queen Street and the B5426 along Broad Street, New Street and Peter Street to South Lane. Then from its junction with Johnson Street along Australia Street and Bank Street to the B5097 transferring 451 electors from Ponciau to Rhos.

34. The Commission proposes to apply the boundaries as proposed by Wrexham County Borough Council but amended by the Commission, as set out in paragraph 35 to combine the Aberoer ward of the Community of Esclusham and the Rhos ward of the Community of Rhosllanerchrugog to form an electoral ward of 1,691 electors which, if represented by one councillor, would result in a level of representation that is 8% below the proposed county average.

35. The Commission proposes to amend the suggested boundary change between Broad Street, New Street and Peter Street. To a boundary to the east of the Hafod Colliery Social Centre to join with the path at the east end of Peter Street illustrated on page 21. This would ensure the communication links within the area would remain unaffected.

36. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the single name of Rhos. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

37. The Commission proposes to apply the boundaries as proposed by Wrexham County Borough Council and illustrated on page 21 to combine the Pentrebychan ward of the Community of Esclusham and the Ponciau North and Ponciau South wards of the Community of Rhosllanerchrugog to form an electoral ward of 1,840 electors which if represented by one councillor, would result in a level of representation six electors above the proposed county average.

38. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the single name of Ponciau. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

39. The Commission agrees with the Council’s representation and their desire to establish single-member electoral wards whilst providing for appropriate levels of electoral parity.

40. The Council has made no suggestions as to the consequential arrangements for the Community of Rhosllanerchrugog; these have been considered by the Commission in Chapter 6.
**Brymbo**

41. The existing Brymbo electoral ward is comprised of the Brymbo and Vron wards of the Community of Brymbo. It has 3,107 electors (3,274 projected) represented by one councillor which is 69% above the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 3,240 eligible voters.

42. The Commission received one representation concerning this ward from Wrexham County Borough Council. They proposed to add one additional member to increase the number of councillors to two.

43. The Commission proposes that the Brymbo and Vron wards of the Community of Brymbo forms an electoral ward of 3,107 electors (3,274 projected) which, if represented by two councillors (an addition of one councillor), would result in a level of representation that is 15% below the proposed county average.

44. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the single name of **Brymbo**. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

45. The Commission considered alternative arrangements in the area and has proposed an electoral ward that is recognisable to the electorate and which would retain the established community, communication and social links within the area, as well as significantly improve the electoral parity.
Bryn Cefn, Gwenfro and New Broughton

46. The existing Bryn Cefn electoral ward is comprised of the Bryn Cefn ward of the Community of Broughton. It has 1,562 electors (1,562 projected) represented by one councillor which is 15% below the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 1,792 eligible voters.

47. The existing Gwenfro electoral ward is comprised of the Gwenfro ward of the Community of Broughton. It has 1,274 electors (1,274 projected) represented by one councillor which is 31% below the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 1,341 eligible voters.

48. The existing New Broughton electoral ward is composed of the Brynteg and New Broughton wards of the Community of Broughton. It has 2,872 electors (3,023 projected) represented by one councillor which is 57% above the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 2,858 eligible voters.

49. The Commission received two representations concerning these wards from Wrexham County Borough Council and the Clwyd South Conservative Association.

50. The Clwyd South Conservative Association wanted to raise their concerns over the renaming of the Bryn Cefn ward to Broughton as it would erode the historical and community identity of the area.

51. Wrexham County Borough Council proposed to re-align the boundary of the Brynteg and Bryn Cefn community wards this would transfer 404 electors into the Bryn Cefn electoral ward.

52. The Council also proposed re-aligning the boundary between Gwenfro and Brynteg and between Gwenfro and New Broughton transferring 231 electors from Brynteg and 320 electors from New Broughton in to the Gwenfro community ward.

53. The Commission proposes to apply the boundaries as proposed by Wrexham County Borough Council and illustrated on page 28 to the Bryn Cefn ward of the Community of Broughton to form an electoral ward of 1,966 electors which, if represented by one councillor would result in a level of representation that is 7% above the proposed county average.

54. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the single name of **Bryn Cefn**. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

55. The Commission proposes to apply the boundaries as proposed by Wrexham County Borough Council and illustrated on page 29 to the Gwenfro ward of the Community of Broughton to form an electoral ward of 1,825 electors which, if represented by one councillor would result in a level of representation nine electors below the proposed county average.

56. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the single name of **Gwenfro**. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

57. The Commission proposes to apply the boundaries as proposed by Wrexham County Borough Council to combine the Brynteg and New Broughton wards of the Community of Broughton to form an electoral ward of 1,917 electors which, if represented by one councillor would result in a level of representation that is 5% above the proposed county average.

58. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the single name of **New Broughton**. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.
59. The Commission considered the representation made by the Council. It is the view of the Commission that these arrangements best address the existing levels of electoral variance whilst maintaining their desire for single member wards.

60. The Council has made no suggestions as to the consequential arrangements for the Community of Broughton; these have been considered by the Commission in Chapter 6.
Gwersyllt East and South and Gwersyllt West

61. The existing Gwersyllt East and South electoral ward is composed of the East and South wards of the Community of Gwersyllt. It has 3,688 electors (4,236 projected) represented by two councillors which is 1% above the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 3,922 eligible voters.

62. The existing Gwersyllt West electoral ward is comprised of the West ward of the Community of Gwersyllt. It has 2,292 electors (2,328 projected) represented by one councillor which is 25% above the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 2,602 eligible voters.

63. The Commission received two representations concerning these wards from Wrexham County Borough Council and Councillor Tina Mannering (Gwersyllt East and South)

64. Wrexham County Borough Council proposed splitting the Gwersyllt East and South ward into Gwersyllt South and Gwersyllt East. The Council also proposed a boundary change to transfer 166 electors from Gwersyllt South to Gwersyllt East.

65. Councillor Tina Mannering (Gwersyllt East and South) expressed their support for Wrexham County Borough Council’s proposal that the Gwersyllt East and South Ward be split.

66. The Commission proposes to apply the boundaries to the East ward of the Community of Gwersyllt as proposed by Wrexham County Borough Council and illustrated on page 32 to form an electoral ward of 1,961 electors which, if represented by one councillor would result in a level of representation that is 7% above the proposed county average.

67. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the Welsh language name of Gogledd-ddwyrain Gwersyllt; and the English language name of Gwersyllt North East. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

68. The Commission proposes as a consequence to apply the boundaries as proposed by Wrexham County Borough Council to the South ward of the Community of Gwersyllt and to combine it with the West ward of the Community of Gwersyllt to form an electoral ward of 4,019 electors which, if represented by two councillors, would result in a level of representation that is 10% above the proposed county average.

69. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the Welsh language name of De Gwersyllt; and the English language name of Gwersyllt South. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

70. The Commission agrees with the recommendation made within the representations to split the Gwersyllt East and South electoral ward. It is the view of the Commission that it would be best to combine the South and West wards of the Community of Gwersyllt to resolve the inappropriate electoral variance in the Gwersyllt West ward. The proposed electoral wards share a common identity and combining the areas as proposed would provide for effective electoral wards, which would build on the established community, communication and social links within the area.

71. The Council has made no suggestions as to the consequential arrangements for the Community of Gwersyllt; these have been considered by the Commission in Chapter 6.
Holt, Smithfield, Whitegate and Wynnystay

72. The existing Holt electoral ward is composed of the Communities of Abenbury, Holt and Isycoed. It has 2,571 electors (3,564 projected) represented by one councillor which is 40% above the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 2,745 eligible voters.

73. The existing Smithfield electoral ward is comprised of the Smithfield ward of the Community of Caia Park. It has 1,784 electors (1,784 projected) represented by one councillor which is 3% below the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 2,316 eligible voters.

74. The existing Whitegate electoral ward is comprised of the Whitegate ward of the Community of Caia Park. It has 1,818 electors (1,818 projected) represented by one councillor which is 1% below the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 1,953 eligible voters.

75. The existing Wynnystay electoral ward is comprised of the Wynnystay ward of the Community of Caia Park. It has 1,324 electors (1,324 projected) represented by one councillor which is 28% below the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 1,560 eligible voters.

76. The Commission received three representations concerning these wards from Wrexham County Borough Council, Caia Park Community Council and Sesswick Community Council.

77. Wrexham County Borough Council proposed amendments to the boundary between Whitegate and Abenbury to transfer 351 electors from Abenbury to Whitegate. The Council also proposed to transfer the Nant Silyn site (320 electors) from Whitegate to Smithfield as well as transferring 301 electors from Smithfield to Wynnystay.

78. Caia Park Community Council stated their support for the retention of the existing arrangement of five councillors and wards. They recognised that the boundaries could be changed to reduce the electoral disparity and expressed their support for the proposal submitted by Wrexham County Borough Council for Caia Park and Holt as it did not overall affect the number of wards and councillors. They additionally asked that the Commission consider the large number of non-registered voters in the area and the effect this has on the councillor’s workload.

79. Sesswick Community Council expressed their concern over any proposal to combine the Community with any of the surrounding communities asking that the Commission take into consideration the wider community connections of the area and stated that the Marchwiel ward was already close to the Commission’s recommended variance. They also expressed the view that considering Wrexham County Borough Council’s budget cuts it would not be the right time to add three additional members.

80. The Commission proposes to apply the boundaries as proposed by Wrexham County Borough Council and illustrated on page 38 to the Whitegate ward of the Community of Caia Park to form an electoral ward of 1,850 electors which, if represented by one councillor would result in a level of representation that is 1% above the proposed county average.

81. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the single name of Whitegate. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

82. The Commission proposes as a consequence to apply the boundaries as proposed by Wrexham
County Borough Council to the Communities of Abenbury, Holt and Isycoed to form an electoral ward of 2,219 electors which, if represented by one councillor would result in a level of representation that is 21% above the proposed county average.

83. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the single name of **Holt**. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

84. The Commission proposes to apply the boundaries as proposed by Wrexham County Borough Council and illustrated on page 37 to the Smithfield ward of the Community of Caia Park to form an electoral ward of 1,803 electors which, if represented by one councillor, would result in a level of representation that is 2% below the proposed county average.

85. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the single name of **Smithfield**. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

86. The Commission proposes to apply the boundaries as proposed by Wrexham County Borough Council and illustrated on page 39 to the Wynnstay ward of the Community of Caia Park to form an electoral ward 1,625 electors which, if represented by one councillor, would result in a level of representation that is 11% below the proposed county average.

87. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the single name of **Wynnstay**. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

88. The Commission agrees with the recommendations made within the representations and the improvement in electoral parity. It is the view of the Commission that this arrangement best addresses the existing levels of electoral variance while addressing the representations received.

89. The Council has made no suggestions as to the consequential arrangements for the Community of Caia Park; these have been considered by the Commission in Chapter 6.
Llay and Rossett

90. The existing Llay electoral ward is comprised of the Community of Llay. It has 3,587 electors (4,334 projected) represented by two councillors which is 2% below the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 3,692 eligible voters.

91. The existing Rossett electoral ward is comprised of the Community of Rossett. It has 2,617 electors (2,842 projected) represented by one councillor which is 43% above the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 2,592 eligible voters.

92. The Commission received two representations regarding these wards from Wrexham County Borough Council and Rossett Community Council.

93. Wrexham County Borough Council proposed to maintain the existing arrangements.

94. Rossett Community Council objected to any changes being made to the area as it is their view that any changes would be detrimental to community ties.

95. The Commission proposes that the Community of Llay is combined with the Burton ward of the Community of Rossett to form an electoral ward of 4,378 electors (5,125 projected) which, if represented by two councillors, would result in a level of representation that is 19% above the proposed county average.

96. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the Welsh language name of Burton a Llai and the English language name of Burton and Llay. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

97. The Commission proposes that the Allington ward of the Community of Rossett form an electoral ward of 1,826 electors (2,051 projected) which, if represented by one councillor, would result in a level of representation that is eight electors below the proposed county average.

98. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the Welsh language name of Yr Orsedd and the English language name of Rossett. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

99. The existing electoral ward of Rosset has a highly inappropriate level of variance and alternative arrangements are necessary in this area. It is the view of the Commission that these arrangements best address the existing levels of electoral variance. The Commission considers that the proposed electoral wards avoid the only viable alternative to create a three-member electoral ward.
Brynyffynnon, Erddig and Offa

100. The existing Brynyffynnon electoral ward is comprised of the Brynyffynnon ward of the Community of Offa. It has 2,609 electors (2,635 projected) represented by one councillor which is 42% above the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 2,868 eligible voters.

101. The existing Erddig electoral ward is comprised of the Erddig ward of the Community of Offa. It has 1,580 electors (1,580 projected) represented by one councillor which is 14% below the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 1,815 eligible voters.

102. The existing Offa electoral ward is comprised of the Offa ward of the Community of Offa. It has 1,716 electors (1,724 projected) represented by one councillor which is 6% below the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 2,007 eligible voters.

103. The Commission received two representations concerning these wards from Wrexham County Borough Council and Offa Community Council.

104. Wrexham County Borough Council proposed boundary changes across the community to improve levels of electoral parity: by transferring 108 electors from Offa to Brynyffynnon; and, 691 electors from Brynyffynnon to Offa.

105. In addition Wrexham County Borough Council proposed boundary changes transferring 39 electors from the northern part of Offa along Bridge St, High Street and St Giles Way and a further 182 electors from the southern area of Offa from the housing estate off Green Park Road to the West of Erddig Road to the Erddig electoral ward.

106. Offa Community Council wrote to affirm the proposal made for the area, detailed in both their own and the Council’s representation. They also expressed their view that the size of the Council should not be increased at this time.

107. The Commission proposes to apply the boundaries as submitted by Wrexham County Borough Council and as illustrated on page 47 to the Erddig ward of the Community of Offa to form an new electoral ward with 1,801 electors which, if represented by one councillor, would result in a level of representation that is 2% below the proposed county average.

108. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the single name of Erddig. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

109. The Commission proposes as a consequence to apply the boundaries as submitted by Wrexham County Borough Council and as illustrated on page 48 to the Offa ward of the Community of Offa to form a new electoral ward with 2,078 electors which, if represented by one councillor, would result in a level of representation that is 13% above the proposed county average.

110. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the single name of Offa. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

111. The Commission proposes that as a consequence the Brynyffynnon ward of the Community of Offa to form an electoral ward of 2,026 electors which, if represented by one councillor, would result in a level of representation that is 10% above the proposed county average.
112. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the single name of Brynyffynnon. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

113. It is the view of the Commission that these arrangements best address the existing levels of electoral variance within the area and are supported by all representations received.

114. The Council has made no suggestions as to the consequential arrangements for the Community of Offa; these have been considered by the Commission in Chapter 6.
115. The existing Bronington electoral ward is composed of the Communities of Bangor Is-Y-Coed, Bronington and Willington Worthenbury. It has 2,570 electors (2,570 projected) represented by one councillor which is 40% above the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 2,609 eligible voters.

116. The existing Overton electoral ward is composed of the Communities of Hanmer, Maelor South and Overton. It has 2,670 electors (2,758 projected) represented by one councillor which is 46% above the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 2,729 eligible voters.

117. The Commission received two representations concerning these wards from Wrexham County Borough Council and Sesswick Community Council.

118. Wrexham County Borough Council proposed to retain the existing arrangements.

119. Sesswick Community Council expressed their concern over any proposal to combine their community with Bangor Is-y-Coed asking that the Commission take into consideration the wider community connections of the area and that the Marchwiel ward is already close to the Commission’s recommended variance. They also expressed their view that in light of Wrexham County Borough Council’s budget cuts it would not be the right time to add three additional members.

120. The Commission proposes to combine the Communities of Bangor Is-y-Coed and Willington Worthenbury to form an electoral ward with 1,628 electors (1,628 projected) which, if represented by one councillor, would result in a level of representation that is 11% below the proposed county average.

121. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the single name of Bangor Is-y-Coed. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

122. The Commission proposes to combine the Communities of Bronington and Hanmer to form an electoral ward with 1,466 electors (1,466 projected) which, if represented by one councillor, would result in a level of representation that is 20% below the proposed county average.

123. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the Welsh language name of Bronington a Hanmer and the English language name of Bronington and Hanmer. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

124. The Commission proposes to combine the Communities of Maelor South and Overton to form an electoral ward with 2,146 electors (2,234 projected) which, if represented by one councillor, would result in a level of representation that is 17% above the proposed county average.

125. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the Welsh language name of Owrtyn a De Maelor and the English language name of Overton and Maelor South. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

126. The existing electoral wards of Bronington and Overton both have highly inappropriate levels of variance and alternative arrangements are necessary in this area. It is the view of the
Commission that these arrangements best address the existing levels of electoral variance whilst providing for single member electoral wards. The Commission considers that the proposed electoral wards avoid the only viable alternative to create a three-member electoral ward.
Rhosnesni

127. The existing Rhosnesni electoral ward is comprised of the Rhosnesni ward of the Community of Acton. It has 2,887 electors (2,887 projected) represented by one councillor which is 57% above the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 2,887 eligible voters.

128. The Commission received two representations concerning this ward from Wrexham County Borough Council and Acton Community Council. Wrexham County Borough Council proposed to retain the existing arrangements. Acton Community Council emailed stating that they will await the draft proposals before commenting.

129. The Commission proposes that the Rhosnesni ward of the Community of Acton forms an electoral ward of 2,887 electors (2,887 projected) which, if represented by two councillors (an addition of one councillor), would result in a level of representation that is 21% below the proposed county average.

130. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the single name of Rhosnesni. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

131. The Commission considered alternative arrangements in the area and has proposed an electoral ward that is recognisable to the electorate and which would retain the established community, communication and social links within the area, as well as significantly improve the electoral parity.
Acton and Maesydre

132. The existing Acton electoral ward is composed of the Acton Central and Acton Park wards of the Community of Acton. It has 2,335 electors (2,335 projected) represented by one councillor which is 27% above the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 2,492 eligible voters.

133. The existing Maesydre electoral ward is comprised of the Maesydre ward of the Community of Acton. It has 1,489 electors (1,597 projected) represented by one councillor which is 19% below the proposed county average. The electoral ward has an estimated population of 1,589 eligible voters.

134. The Commission received two representations concerning these wards from Wrexham County Borough Council and Acton Community Council. Wrexham County Borough Council proposed no changes to these wards. Acton Community Council stated they will await the draft proposals.

135. The Commission proposes that the Acton Central, Acton Park and Maesydre wards of the Community of Acton are combined to form an electoral ward of 3,824 electors (3,932 projected) which, if represented by two councillors, would result in a level of representation that is 4% above the proposed county average.

136. The Commission has given the proposed electoral ward the Welsh language name of Gwaunyterfyn a Maes-y-dre and the English language name of Acton and Maesydre. The Welsh Language Commissioner is in agreement with the proposed name. The Commission would welcome any suggestions for alternative names.

137. The Commission is of the view that this arrangement best addresses the existing levels of electoral variance. The Commission considers that the proposed electoral wards share a common identity and combine areas that would provide for an effective electoral ward, which would build on the established community, communication and social links within the area.
Chapter 5. SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS

1. The existing electoral arrangements (as shown in Appendix 2) provide for the following levels of electoral representation within the County Borough of Wrexham:
   - Electoral variance ranges from 37% below the current county average (Plas Madoc) to 60% above the current county average (Brymbo) of 1,939 electors per councillor.
   - One electoral ward had levels of representation more than 50% above or below the current county average of 1,939 electors per councillor.
   - 11 electoral wards have levels of representation more than 25% and 50% above or below the current county average of 1,939 electors per councillor.
   - 17 electoral wards have levels of representation between 10% and 25% above or below the current county average of 1,939 electors per councillor.
   - 18 electoral wards have levels of representation less than 10% above or below the current county average of 1,939 electors per councillor.

2. In comparison with the existing electoral arrangements shown above, the proposed electoral arrangements (as shown in Appendix 3) illustrate the following improvements to the electoral representation across the County Borough of Wrexham:
   - Electoral variance ranges from 21% below the proposed county average (Rhosnesni) to 25% above the proposed county average (Gresford East and West) of 1,834 electors per councillor.
   - None of the electoral wards have levels of representation more than 25% above or below the proposed county average of 1,834 electors per councillor.
   - 21 electoral wards have levels of representation between 10% and 25% above or below the proposed county average of 1,834 electors per councillor.
   - 27 electoral wards have levels of representation less than 10% above or below the proposed county average of 1,834 electors per councillor.

3. As described in Appendix 4, in producing a scheme of electoral arrangements the Commission must have regard to a number of issues contained in the legislation. It is not always possible to resolve all of these, sometimes conflicting, issues. In the Commission’s proposed scheme, it has placed emphasis on achieving improvements in electoral parity whilst maintaining community ties wherever possible.

4. The Commission recognises that the creation of electoral wards which depart from the pattern which now exists may impact upon existing ties between communities and straddle multiple community councils. As such, the Commission has made every effort to ensure that the revised electoral wards are appropriate combinations of existing communities and community wards.

5. The Commission has looked at each area and is satisfied that it would be difficult to achieve electoral arrangements that keep the existing combination of communities and community wards without having a detrimental effect on one or more of the other issues that it must consider. The Commission recognises however that there may be different combinations of communities and community wards that better reflect community ties and it would welcome any alternative suggestions that comply with the legislation.
6. In this document the proposed electoral wards have been given working names 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, 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 Welsh or English.

7. This draft scheme represents the Commission’s preliminary views on the electoral arrangements for the County Borough of Wrexham. It welcomes any representations in respect of these proposals. The Commission will consider carefully all representations made to it before formulating our final proposals and submitting them to the Welsh Government.
Chapter 6. CONSEQUENTIAL ARRANGEMENTS

1. In considering the changes to electoral wards where the Commission has proposed boundary changes, it has also been necessary to consider the consequence of these changes to the boundaries and electoral arrangements of the community and town councils. This section of the report details our proposals for such consequential changes. The electoral statistics used in this section were provided by Wrexham County Borough Council.

Community and Community Ward Boundaries

2. There are a number of changes to electoral wards which, as a consequence, the Commission must consider the underlying community and community ward arrangements. The proposed changes to community and community ward boundaries are as follows:

Broughton Community Council

3. The proposed electoral ward of **Bryn Cefn** is proposed to have the same consequential change to the Bryn Cefn community ward within the Broughton Community Council, as illustrated on the map at page 28.

4. The proposed electoral ward of **Brynteg** is proposed to have the same consequential change to the Brynteg community ward within the Broughton Community Council, as illustrated on the map at page 30.

5. The proposed electoral ward of **Gwenfro** is proposed to have the same consequential change to the Gwenfro community ward within the Broughton Community Council, as illustrated on the map at page 29.

6. The proposed electoral ward of **New Broughton** is proposed to have the same consequential change to the New Broughton community ward within the Broughton Community Council, as illustrated on the map at page 30.

Caia Park Community Council

7. The proposed electoral ward of **Smithfield** is proposed to have the same consequential change to the Smithfield community ward within the Caia Park Community Council, as illustrated on the map at page 37.

8. The proposed electoral ward of **Whitegate** is proposed to have the same consequential change to the Whitegate community ward within the Caia Park Community Council, as illustrated on the map at page 38.

9. The proposed electoral ward of **Wynnstay** is proposed to have the same consequential change to the Wynnstay community ward within the Caia Park Community Council, as illustrated on the map at page 39.

Cefn Community Council

10. The proposed electoral ward of **Acrefair North** is proposed to have the same consequential change to the Plas Madoc community ward within the Cefn Community Council, as illustrated on the map at page 14.

11. The proposed electoral ward of **Cefn East** is proposed to have the same consequential change to the warding arrangements within the Cefn and, Rhosymedre and Cefn Bychan community wards of the Cefn Community Council, as illustrated on the map at page 15.

12. The proposed electoral ward of **Cefn West** is proposed to have the same consequential
change to the Acrefair and Penybryn community ward within the Cefn Community Council, as illustrated on the map at page 16.

Gwersyllt Community Council

13. The proposed electoral ward of **Gwersyllt North East** is proposed to have the same consequential change to the East community within the Gwersyllt Community Council, as illustrated on the map at page 32.

14. The proposed electoral ward of **Gwersyllt South** is proposed to have the same consequential change to the South community ward within the Gwersyllt Community Council, as illustrated on the map at page 33.

Offa Community Council

15. The proposed electoral ward of **Brynyffynnon** is proposed to have the same consequential change to the Brynffynnon community ward within the Offa Community Council, as illustrated on the map at page 46.

16. The proposed electoral ward of **Erddig** is proposed to have the same consequential change to the Erddig community ward within the Offa Community Council, as illustrated on the map at page 47.

17. The proposed electoral ward of **Offa** is proposed to have the same consequential change to the Offa community ward within the Offa Community Council, as illustrated on the map at page 48.

Rhosllanerchrugog Community Council

18. The proposed electoral ward of **Ponciau** is proposed to have the same consequential change to the warding arrangements within the Ponciau North and Ponciau South community wards of the Rhosllanerchrugog Community Council, as illustrated on the map at page 20.

19. The proposed electoral ward of **Rhos** is proposed to have the same consequential change to the Rhos community ward of the Rhosllanerchrugog Community Council, as illustrated on the map at page 21.

Town and Community Council Electoral Arrangements

20. The Commission are required to consider the consequential changes to the community electoral arrangements that would occur following the proposals detailed above. The existing electoral arrangements and the proposed changes to those arrangements are shown below:
21. The Commission is satisfied that these proposed changes are appropriate and are in the interests of effective and convenient local government.

Caia Park Community Council

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<tr>
<th>Wards</th>
<th>Electors</th>
<th>Community Councillors</th>
<th>Electors per Councillor</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>Electors</th>
<th>Community Councillors</th>
<th>Electors per Councillor</th>
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<td>14%</td>
<td>8,572</td>
<td>15</td>
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22. The Commission is satisfied that these proposed changes are appropriate and are in the interests of effective and convenient local government.
Cefn Community Council

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<th>Electors per Councillor</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>Proposed Electors</th>
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<td>1,222</td>
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<td>244</td>
<td>-22%</td>
<td>1,639</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>328</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhosymedre and Cefn Bychan</td>
<td>585</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>-7%</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>-34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,011</strong></td>
<td><strong>16</strong></td>
<td><strong>313</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>5,011</strong></td>
<td><strong>16</strong></td>
<td><strong>313</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

23. The Commission is satisfied that these proposed changes are appropriate and are in the interests of effective and convenient local government.

Gwersylt Community Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wards</th>
<th>Existing Electors</th>
<th>Existing Community Councillors</th>
<th>Electors per Councillor</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>Proposed Electors</th>
<th>Proposed Community Councillors</th>
<th>Electors per Councillor</th>
<th>Variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>1,795</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>-24%</td>
<td>1,961</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North</td>
<td>2,009</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>402</td>
<td>-14%</td>
<td>2,009</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>402</td>
<td>-9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>1,893</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>631</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>1,727</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>-3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>2,292</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>573</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>2,292</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>458</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,989</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
<td><strong>470</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>7,989</strong></td>
<td><strong>18</strong></td>
<td><strong>444</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

24. The Commission is satisfied that these proposed changes are appropriate and are in the interests of effective and convenient local government.
## Offa Community Council

### Offa Community Council Electoral Arrangements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wards</th>
<th>Electors</th>
<th>Community Councillors</th>
<th>Electors per Councillor</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>Electors</th>
<th>Community Councillors</th>
<th>Electors per Councillor</th>
<th>Variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brynyffynnon</td>
<td>2,609</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>522</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>2,026</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>-5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erddig</td>
<td>1,580</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>-7%</td>
<td>1,801</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hermitage</td>
<td>1,762</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>-17%</td>
<td>1,762</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>441</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offa</td>
<td>1,716</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>429</td>
<td>-17%</td>
<td>2,078</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>-2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,667</strong></td>
<td><strong>18</strong></td>
<td><strong>426</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>7,667</strong></td>
<td><strong>18</strong></td>
<td><strong>426</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

25. The Commission is satisfied that these proposed changes are appropriate and are in the interests of effective and convenient local government.

## Rhosllanerchrugog Community Council

### Rhosllanerchrugog Community Council Electoral Arrangements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wards</th>
<th>Electors</th>
<th>Community Councillors</th>
<th>Electors per Councillor</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>Electors</th>
<th>Community Councillors</th>
<th>Electors per Councillor</th>
<th>Variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Johnstown</td>
<td>2,471</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>494</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>2,471</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>494</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pant</td>
<td>1,601</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>-14%</td>
<td>1,601</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>-14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ponciau North</td>
<td>1,037</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>519</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>897</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>449</td>
<td>-4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ponciau South</td>
<td>912</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>456</td>
<td>-2%</td>
<td>581</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>581</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhos</td>
<td>952</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>476</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1,423</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>474</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,973</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td><strong>465</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>6,973</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td><strong>465</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

26. The Commission is satisfied that these proposed changes are appropriate and are in the interests of effective and convenient local government.
Chapter 7. RESPONSES TO THIS REPORT

1. 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:

   consultations@boundaries.wales

   no later than 3 February 2020.
Chapter 8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

1. The Commission wishes to express its gratitude to the principal council, the Community Councils and other interested bodies and persons for their assistance during the course of developing these draft proposals. The Commission commend the draft proposals contained within this report.

CERI STRADLING (Interim Chair)

DAVID POWELL (Interim Deputy Chair)

JULIE MAY (Member)

THEODORE JOLOZA (Member)

SHEREEN WILLIAMS (Chief Executive)

November 2019
## APPENDIX 1 – GLOSSARY OF TERMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commission</td>
<td>The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community (area)</td>
<td>The unit of local government that lies below the level of the Principal Council.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Council</td>
<td>An elected council that provides services to their particular community area. A Community Council may be divided for community electoral purposes into community wards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community / Town ward</td>
<td>An area within a Community Council created for community electoral purposes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directions</td>
<td>Directions issued by Welsh Ministers under Section 48 of the Act.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electoral wards</td>
<td>The areas into which Principal Councils are divided for the purpose of electing county councillors, previously referred to as electoral divisions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electoral review</td>
<td>A review in which the Commission considers the electoral arrangements for a Principal Council.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electoral variance</td>
<td>How far the number of electors per councillor in a ward varies from the county average; expressed as a percentage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electorate</td>
<td>The number of persons registered to vote in a local government area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Population of Eligible Voters</td>
<td>The estimated number of eligible persons (18+) within a local government area who are eligible to vote. These figures have been sourced from the Office of National Statistics’ 2015 Ward population estimated for Wales, mid-2015 (experimental statistics).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interested party</td>
<td>Person or body who has an interest in the outcome of an electoral review such as a community or town council, local MP or AM or political party.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Order</td>
<td>Order made by an implementing body, giving effect to proposals made by the Principal Council or the Commission.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over-representation</td>
<td>Where there are fewer electors per councillor in a ward compared to the county average.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal area</td>
<td>The area governed by a Principal Council: in Wales a county or county borough.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Principal council</strong></td>
<td>The single tier organ of local government, responsible for all or almost all local government functions within its area. A county or county borough council.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Projected electorate</strong></td>
<td>The five-year forecast of the electorate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Split Community</strong></td>
<td>A Community which is divided between two, or more, Electoral Wards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Town Council</strong></td>
<td>A Community Council with the status of a town are known as Town Councils. A Town Council may be divided for community electoral purposes into wards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Under-representation</strong></td>
<td>Where there are more electors per councillor in a ward compared to the county average.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>NAME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Acton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Borras Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Bromington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Brymbo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Bryn Cefn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Brynffynnon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Cartrefle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Cefn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Chirk North</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Chirk South</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Coedpoeth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Dwyfryn Ceiriog/Ceiriog Valley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Edding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Ellesmere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Garden Village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Greystoke East and West</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Groes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Gwersyllt East and South</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Gwersyllt West</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Holt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Johnstown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Llangollen Rural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Maesyddra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Marchwiel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Marford and Hesley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Minera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>New Broughton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Offa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Oswestry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Pant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Penyffordd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Penycae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Pisgah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Ponciau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>NAME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Queensway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Rhosnesni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Rossett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Ruabon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Smithfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Stansty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Whitegate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Wynnstay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Council Size Aim: 55

Electoral figures supplied by Wrexham County Borough Council

- Greater than + or - 50% of County average: 1, 2%
- Between + or - 25% and + or - 50% of County average: 11, 23%
- Between + or - 10% and + or - 25% of County average: 17, 38%
- Between 0% and + or - 10% of County average: 18, 38%

2018 2023
- Greater than + or - 50% of County average: 1, 2% 2, 4%
- Between + or - 25% and + or - 50% of County average: 11, 23% 9, 19%
- Between + or - 10% and + or - 25% of County average: 17, 38% 21, 45%
- Between 0% and + or - 10% of County average: 18, 38% 15, 32%
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>NAME DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>No. OF COUNCILLORS</th>
<th>ELECTORATE 2018</th>
<th>2018 RATIO</th>
<th>% variance from Proposed County average</th>
<th>ELECTORATE 2023</th>
<th>2023 RATIO</th>
<th>% variance from Proposed County average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Acrefair North The Plas Madoc ward of the Community of Cefn</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,639</td>
<td>1,639</td>
<td>-11%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Acton and Maesydre The Action and Maesydyre wards of the Community of Acton</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3,824</td>
<td>1,912</td>
<td>-50%</td>
<td>3,932</td>
<td>1,966</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Bangor Is-y-Coed The Communities of Bangor Is-y-Coed and Willington Worthingbury</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,628</td>
<td>1,628</td>
<td>-11%</td>
<td>1,628</td>
<td>1,628</td>
<td>-15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Berris Park The Berris Park ward of the Community of Acton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,964</td>
<td>1,964</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>1,964</td>
<td>1,964</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Bronington and Hamner The Communities of Bronington and Hamner</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,466</td>
<td>1,466</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1,466</td>
<td>1,466</td>
<td>-23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Brymbo The Brymbo and Vron wards of the Community of Brymbo</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3,107</td>
<td>1,554</td>
<td>-15%</td>
<td>2,977</td>
<td>1,533</td>
<td>-14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Bryn Cefn The Bryn Cefn ward of the Community of Broughton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,968</td>
<td>1,968</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Brynyfynnon The Brynyfynnon ward of the Community of Offa</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,026</td>
<td>2,026</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Burton and Liey The Burton ward of the Community of Rossett and the Community of Llay.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4,378</td>
<td>2,189</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>5,125</td>
<td>2,563</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Cartrefie The Cartrefie ward of the Community of Caia Park</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,636</td>
<td>1,636</td>
<td>-11%</td>
<td>1,636</td>
<td>1,636</td>
<td>-14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Cefn East The Cefn and, Rhosymedre and Cefn Bychan wards of the Community of Cefn</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,669</td>
<td>1,669</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Cefn West The Acrefair and Penyffynnon ward of the Community of Cefn</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,703</td>
<td>1,703</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Chirk North The North ward of the Community of Chirk</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,836</td>
<td>1,836</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1,836</td>
<td>1,836</td>
<td>-4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Chirk South The South ward of the Community of Chirk</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,552</td>
<td>1,552</td>
<td>-15%</td>
<td>1,552</td>
<td>1,552</td>
<td>-19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Coedpoeth The Community of Coedpoeth</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3,532</td>
<td>1,766</td>
<td>-4%</td>
<td>3,532</td>
<td>1,766</td>
<td>-7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Ceriog Valley The Communities of Ceriog Ucha, Glyntwrain and Llansantffraid Glyn Ceiriog</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,679</td>
<td>1,679</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1,679</td>
<td>1,679</td>
<td>-12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Eddigg The Eddigg ward of the Community of Offa</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,801</td>
<td>1,801</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Esclusham The Berris and Rhosydduen wards of the Community of Esclusham.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,099</td>
<td>2,099</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>2,154</td>
<td>2,154</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Garden Village The Garden Village ward in the Community of Rhosddu</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,844</td>
<td>1,844</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1,844</td>
<td>1,844</td>
<td>-14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Gresford East and West The Gresford East and Gresford West wards of the Community of Gresford</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,291</td>
<td>2,291</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>2,333</td>
<td>2,333</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Grosvenor The Grosvenor ward in the Community of Rhosddu</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,934</td>
<td>1,934</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>1,968</td>
<td>1,968</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Gwrin The Gwrolno ward of the Community of Broughton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,825</td>
<td>1,825</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Gwersillit North East The East ward of the Community of Gwersillit</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,961</td>
<td>1,961</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Gwersillit North West The North ward of the Community of Gwersillit</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,009</td>
<td>2,009</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>2,018</td>
<td>2,018</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Gwersillit South The South and West wards of the Community of Gwersillit</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4,019</td>
<td>2,010</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>4,185</td>
<td>2,093</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Hermitage The Hermitage ward of the Community of Offa</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,762</td>
<td>1,762</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1,762</td>
<td>1,762</td>
<td>-8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Holt The Communities of Abenbury, Holt and Isycoed.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,219</td>
<td>2,219</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Johnstown and Pant The Johnstown and Pant wards of the Community of Rhosllanerchrugog</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4,072</td>
<td>2,036</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>4,063</td>
<td>2,032</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Little Acton The Little Acton ward of the Community of Acton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,819</td>
<td>1,819</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1,819</td>
<td>1,819</td>
<td>-5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Llangollen Rural The Community of Llangollen Rural</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,601</td>
<td>1,601</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>1,601</td>
<td>1,601</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Marchwiel The Community of Marchwiel</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,855</td>
<td>1,855</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1,855</td>
<td>1,855</td>
<td>-3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Marford and Hooseley The Marford and Hooseley ward of the Community of Gresford</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,872</td>
<td>1,872</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1,872</td>
<td>1,872</td>
<td>-2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Minera The Brynmoor ward of the Community of Brynmo and the Community of Minera</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,844</td>
<td>1,844</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1,844</td>
<td>1,844</td>
<td>-3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>New Broughton The Brynteg and New Broughton wards of the Community of Broughton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,917</td>
<td>1,917</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Offa The Offa ward of the Community of Offa</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,078</td>
<td>2,078</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Overton and Maeror South The Communities of Maeror South and Overton</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,148</td>
<td>2,148</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>2,234</td>
<td>2,234</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Penycae The Edna ward of the Community of Penycae</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,561</td>
<td>1,561</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>1,561</td>
<td>1,561</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Penycae and Ruabon South The Groes ward of the Community of Penycae and the South ward of the Community of Ruabon</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,972</td>
<td>1,972</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>2,135</td>
<td>2,135</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Ponciau The Pentrebychan ward of the Community of Esclusham and the Ponciau North and Ponciau South wards of the Community of Rhosllanerchrugog</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,840</td>
<td>1,840</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Queensway The Queensway ward of the Community of Caia Park</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,534</td>
<td>1,534</td>
<td>-16%</td>
<td>1,534</td>
<td>1,534</td>
<td>-20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Wrexham County Council
#### Proposed Council Membership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>No. OF COUNCILLORS</th>
<th>ELECTORATE 2018</th>
<th>2018 RATIO</th>
<th>% variance from Proposed County average</th>
<th>ELECTORATE 2023</th>
<th>2023 RATIO</th>
<th>% variance from Proposed County average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Rhos</td>
<td>The Rhos ward of the Community of Rhosllanerchrugog and the Aberoer ward of the Community of Esclusham</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,691</td>
<td>1,691</td>
<td>-8%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Rhosnesni</td>
<td>The Rhosnesni ward of the Community of Acton</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2,887</td>
<td>1,444</td>
<td>-21%</td>
<td>2,887</td>
<td>1,444</td>
<td>-24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Rossett</td>
<td>The Allington ward of the Community of Rossett</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,826</td>
<td>1,826</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>2,051</td>
<td>2,051</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Ruabon</td>
<td>The North ward of the Community Ruabon</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,153</td>
<td>2,153</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>2,153</td>
<td>2,153</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Smithfield</td>
<td>The Smithfield ward of the Community of Caia Park</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,803</td>
<td>1,803</td>
<td>-2%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Stansty</td>
<td>The Stansty ward in the Community of Rhosddu</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,735</td>
<td>1,735</td>
<td>-5%</td>
<td>1,735</td>
<td>1,735</td>
<td>-9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Whitegate</td>
<td>The Whitegate ward of the Community of Caia Park</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,850</td>
<td>1,850</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Wynnstay</td>
<td>The Wynnstay ward of the Community of Caia Park</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,625</td>
<td>1,625</td>
<td>-11%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL:**

| 55  | 100,850 | 1,834 | 104,845 | 1,906 |

Ratio is the number of electors per councillor.

Electoral figures supplied by Wrexham County Borough Council.

**2018**

- Greater than + or - 50% of County average: 0 0%
- Between + or - 25% and + or - 50% of County average: 0 0%
- Between + or - 10% and + or - 25% of County average: 21 44%
- Between 0% and + or - 10% of County average: 27 56%

**2023**

- Greater than + or - 50% of County average: 0 0%
- Between + or - 25% and + or - 50% of County average: 0 0%
- Between + or - 10% and + or - 25% of County average: 16 33%
- Between 0% and + or - 10% of County average: 15 31%
RULES AND PROCEDURES

Scope and Object of the Review

1. Section 29 (1) of the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 (the Act) lays upon the Commission the duty, at least once in every review period of ten years, to review the electoral arrangements for every principal area in Wales for the purpose of considering whether or not to make proposals to the Welsh Government for a change in those electoral arrangements. In conducting a review the Commission must seek to ensure effective and convenient local government (Section 21 (3) of the Act).

2. The former Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government of the Welsh Government has asked the Commission to submit a report in respect of the review of electoral arrangements for the County Borough of Wrexham before the 2022 local government elections.

Electoral Arrangements

3. The changes that the Commission may recommend in relation to an electoral review are:

   (a) such changes to the arrangements for the principal area under review as appear to it appropriate; and

   (b) in consequence of such changes:

      (i) Such community boundary changes as it considers appropriate in relation to any community in the principal area;

      (ii) Such community council changes and changes to the electoral arrangements for such a community as it considers appropriate; and

      (iii) Such preserved county changes as it considers appropriate.

4. The “electoral arrangements” of a principal area are defined in section 29 (9) of the Act as:

   i) the number of members for the council for the principal area;

   ii) the number, type and boundaries of the electoral wards;

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

   iv) the name of any electoral ward.
Considerations for a review of principal area electoral arrangements

5. Section 30 of the Act requires the Commission, in considering whether to make recommendations for changes to the electoral arrangements for a principal area, to:

(a) seek to ensure that the ratio of local government electors to the number of members of the council to be elected is, as nearly as may be, the same in every electoral ward of the principal area;

(b) have regard to:

(i) the desirability of fixing boundaries for electoral wards which are and will remain easily identifiable;

(ii) the desirability of not breaking local ties when fixing boundaries for electoral wards.

6. In considering the ratio of local government electors to the number of members account is to be taken of:

(a) any discrepancy between the number of local government electors and the number of persons that are eligible to be local government electors (as indicated by relevant official statistics); and

(b) any change to the number or distribution of local government electors in the principal area which is likely to take place in the period of five years immediately following the making of any recommendation.

Local government changes

7. Since the last local government Order in 1998 there has been some changes to local government boundaries in Wrexham:

• The Wrexham (Communities) Order 2009

Procedure

8. Chapter 4 of the Act lays down procedural guidelines which are to be followed in carrying out a review. In compliance with this part of the Act, we wrote on 15 October 2018 to Wrexham County Council, all the Community and Town Councils in the area, the Members of Parliament for the local constituencies, the Assembly Members for the area, and other interested parties to inform them of the Commission’s intention to conduct the review and to request their preliminary views. The Commission invited the County Council to submit a suggested scheme or schemes for new electoral arrangements. The Commission also asked Wrexham County Council to display a number of public notices in their area. The Commission also made available copies of our Electoral Reviews: Policy and Practice document.
In addition the Commission made a presentation to both County and Community councillors explaining the review process.

9. The boundaries of the proposed electoral wards are shown by continuous yellow lines on the map placed on deposit with this Report at the Offices of Wrexham County Council and the Office of the Commission in Cardiff as well as on the Commission’s website (http://ldbc.gov.wales).

Policy and Practice

10. The Commission published its *Electoral Reviews: Policy and Practice* document in November 2016. This document details its approach to resolving the challenge of balancing electoral parity and community ties; it sets out the issues to be considered and gives some understanding of the broad approach which the Commission takes towards each of the statutory considerations to be made when addressing a review’s particular circumstances. However, because those circumstances are unlikely to provide for the ideal electoral pattern, in most reviews compromises are made in applying the policies in order to strike the right balance between each of the matters we must consider.

11. The document also provides the overall programme timetable, and how this was identified, and the Commission’s Council Size Policy. The document can be viewed on the Commission’s website or are available on request.

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12. The maps included in this report and published on the Commissions website were produced by the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales under licence from Ordnance Survey. These maps are subject to © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction will infringe Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Any newspaper editor wishing to use the maps as part of an article about the draft proposals should first contact the copyright office at Ordnance Survey.
SUMMARY OF REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED FOR THE COMMISSION’S INITIAL CONSULTATION ON THE REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS IN THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF WREXHAM

1. Wrexham County Borough Council emailed 19 December 2018, they submitted a report detailing the Council’s view. Below is the email sent to the commission detailing their proposals.

---

REPORT TO: Council
REPORT NO: HCCS / 63 / 18
DATE: 12 December 2018
LEAD MEMBER: Councillor Mark Pritchard
Organisation - Finance, Performance, Health and Safety and Governance
CONTACT OFFICER: Morgan Jones (Tel. 292 263)
SUBJECT: Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales - Electoral Review - Wrexham
WARD: All

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To advise Council of the work currently being undertaken by the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales (the Commission) to review ward boundaries and submit recommendations for all 22 Principal Council areas to Welsh Government to be implemented with, or without modification, in time for the 2022 Local Government Elections.

To agree to submit the attached proposals to the Commission for them to consider in developing an initial proposal on which they will then consult with the Council, Community Councils and local communities and individuals.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2.1 The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales (the Commission) is to review ward boundaries and submit recommendations for all 22 Principal Council areas to Welsh Government.

2.2 This review will take place in four stages:

- An initial request for ‘any person or body having an interest in the review to send initial comments’ by 7 January 2019;
- The Commission develop draft proposals on which they will consult with the local authority, town and community councils, individuals and communities during Summer 2019;
• The Commission makes their final proposals to Welsh Government in Spring 2020; and
• Welsh Government receive the Commission’s final proposals and consider making an order. New wards would come into force for the next local government election in 2021 or 2022.

2.3 The Commission started the process of the review in Wrexham County Borough through a presentation and question and answer session to Members on 11th October 2018. This advised Members of the purpose, scope, criteria, the Commission’s areas of concern and the timetable for the process. A key point raised was the overall ambition of electoral equality and a consistent number of electors per Councillor across Wales. To support this, the Commission set out an overall aim that Wrexham County Borough Council be made up of 55 Members – an additional three Members on current arrangements.

2.4 Members raised concerns with the Commission over the timescales available for developing and collating suggestions and Council officers set out the next steps for collating the opinions and any proposals from Members to be considered by Council in December 2018.

2.5 This presentation was repeated later that same day for Local Town and Community Councils. The Council has written to all Town and Community Councils to highlight this review and to offer to include any submissions forwarded with the collated information that the Council will forward to the Commission.

2.6 The Council held a members workshop on the 22nd October to begin the process of canvassing members for proposals on specific wards. There was general concern and opposition to Commission proposals to increase the number of Members on Wrexham County Borough Council due to the additional costs this would bring at a time of budgetary and service cuts. However, other Councillors highlighted that local electors deserve electoral equality, and Wrexham County Borough residents should not be under-represented.

2.7 Concerns were also raised that the overall aim of achieving electoral equality was undermined by using figures based on electoral registrations. Organisations such as the Joseph Rowntree Foundation have highlighted that people in poor areas are less likely to be registered to vote - despite being eligible.

2.8 There was, however, an agreement that Members would be willing to work to identify ward proposals for the Commission to consider. These are set out at Appendix A I

2.9 If agreed, these proposals will be shared with the Commission who will then develop their own proposals for changes to wards in Wrexham County Borough. The Commission will then undertake formal consultation on their proposals.

2.10 Individual Members, political groups, Town and Community Councils and local communities and individuals can make proposals directly to the Commission.

3 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 That the Council supports the wards listed under Appendix A remaining as they currently are. These are wards which already reflect an appropriate level of electoral equality or, where this is not the case, where there are no clear and obvious options for change.

3.2 That the Council agrees to submit the proposals set out in Appendices B - E and requests that the Commission takes these proposals forward for public consultation.

3.3 That the Council agrees to submit the collated information set out in Appendices F - I for the Commission to consider in developing their own proposals for changes to electoral boundaries on which to consult.

3.4 That the Council also submits the additional information received from town and community councils which is collated at Appendix J.

3.5 That the Council does not propose any new ward areas within the County Borough.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

(i) Proposals for change have been made where all local Members are supportive of the potential boundary changes. These proposals are set out at appendices B - E, but it should be noted that whilst the proposed boundary changes set out under appendix C have been agreed by all relevant Members, the proposed ward names have not.

(ii) Information is to be submitted in those areas where no agreement has been reached between local Members on a single proposal. The alternative proposals suggested for each area are set out in appendices F - I.

(iii) Where there have been no proposals for change received from local Members, or Members have specifically supported current arrangements, these are set out in appendix A.

4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

4.1 The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales (the Commission) are responsible for reviewing principal council electoral arrangements and administrative boundaries. Their current programme of electoral reviews will aim to submit recommendations for all 22 Principal Council areas to Welsh Government to be implemented with, or without modification, in time for the 2022 local government elections.

4.2 The objective of an electoral review is to ensure that, within each local authority area, electoral arrangements seek to achieve parity. Utilising the existing community structure within a local authority, an electoral review will take into account community identities, electoral equality and consultation feedback to ensure that our proposals uphold the interests of effective and convenient local government for the electorate within Wales.

4.3 The Commission has produced a Policy and Practice document (available on their website) to help explain how the process for conducting the electoral reviews will work. The document covers both what the law says the Commission must do as
APPENDIX 5

part of the process, as well as the issues where the Commission has decided – as a matter of policy within its own discretion – to take a particular approach.

4.4 Within the Policy and Practice the Commission has set out the programme of reviews for the 22 authorities, and the Council Size policy, and therefore the appropriate number of Councillors for each Authority.

4.5 As part of this process the Commission gave a presentation to Council Members, on 11th October, 2018 followed by a second presentation to Local Town and Community Councils to highlight the purpose, scope, criteria, their areas of concern and timetable for the process. These are part of the 12 Week Initial Consultation Period which will conclude in January 2019.

4.6 During the workshops the Commission set out the following details:-

- Proposals are based on population and where those people live.
- Councils are split into four categories – each category with a different number for population per councillor.
- All councils subject to a maximum of 75 and minimum of 30 Councillors
- Level of change is limited to 10% each review cycle.
- The latest CNS estimate has the population of Wrexham at 136,710 with a population density of more than 2 and less than 4.5 per hectare and less than 4% of the population living in settlements smaller than 10,000 people.
- The Commission has determined that this will place Wrexham into Category 3, which should have a councillor to population ratio of 1:2.500.

On this basis, the Commission would suggest that the ideal number of Councillors to represent Wrexham County Borough would be 55 members, an increase of 3.

- The proposals will utilise the existing community areas and community wards as the building blocks for each electoral ward.

The Commission believes that in the first instance it is desirable if a single member represents each electoral ward.

However, representation of up-to three members, in cases supported by evidence to the character of a ward, or in the interests of electoral parity could be considered.

- Each ward will ideally be as close as possible to 1,834 per councillor.

On this basis there are currently there are 13 wards with a variance of greater than 25%. These range from Brymbo (89% above) to Plas Madoc (33% below).

4.7 Further stages after this initial consultation will be as follows:-

- Draft Proposals - Commission develops and then publishes Draft Proposals 12 Week Consultation Period – Summer 2019.
- WG Consideration - After 6 weeks Welsh Government may make an Order (an opportunity to write to Welsh Government).
- Wards Into Force - New wards come into force for next local government election in 2021 or 2022.

4.8 When these details were considered a number of initial concerns were raised by local Members. Given the current period of austerity and with the prospect of further cuts in Council funding there were concerns expressed about proposals which would increase the number of Councillors. Additional allowances and related costs would be difficult to justify to a public that were seeing the services that they are provided reduced or cut. However, others highlighted the need for consistency and electoral equality across Wales and Wrexham, with no local communities being under-represented.

4.9 Members also challenged the Commission’s approach to defining electoral equality by the number of registered voters in each ward. Analysis by organisations such as the Joseph Rowntree Foundation have suggested that people struggling on their income are less likely to vote. Whilst it is recognised that not all resident adults are eligible to vote, a number of those wards within Wrexham that have a low number of electors per Councillor are also known to be less affluent and to have a significantly higher adult population (according to census information) than the electoral roll would predict.

4.9 The majority of Members were keen to move away from two member wards to single member wards. However, there was acceptance that there were current examples where this had proved workable and a number of Members sitting in two Member wards spoke up to support them.

4.10 There was, however, an agreement that Members would work together to make proposals to the Commission for changes where it is felt these will improve local representation. Those areas where there is a consensus that arrangements should remain as they are, are set out at appendix A. Areas where there is a consensus around proposed changes are set out at appendices B-E. Those areas where there are alternative proposals supported by different Members are set out at appendices F-J.

4.11 It is noted that electoral representation is an issue that has wider implications than the make-up of the Local Authority and the widest possible consideration by Community Councils, Community Groups and individuals should be encouraged and their views should be sought, fed in and considered as part of this review exercise.

5. IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Policy Framework – This report falls outside the Council’s policy framework as it is an initial response to a consultation from a statutory body.

5.2 Budget – There are no budgetary implications to the proposed changes put forward by the Council. However, if the Commission are to pursue proposals to increase the number of Wrexham County Borough Council Members this will lead require additional costs in terms of allowances, expenses and equipment.

5.3 Legal – The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales is undertaking this review to fulfil its statutory duties in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Democracy) Act 2013.

5.4 Staffing – There are no staffing implications within the report

5.5 Equality/Human Rights –

1 https://www.jf.org.uk/blog/poverty-you-are-less-likely-you-are-vote
Members are advised of their duty to consider the full Equality Impact Assessment which is available at http://ymv/neald/equalityisalive/Menu.aspx report number FIN/EIA00151/2018. Members of the public can request a copy of the full Equality Impact Assessment from the Contact Officer named in the header box of this report. A summary of the Equality Impact Assessment is attached.

5.6 Risks – The Council does not support the introduction of additional Members and has therefore made no proposals on where these could be accommodated. This leaves open the risk the Commission will nevertheless propose ward changes that accommodate the additional three Members.

6. CONSULTATION

6.1 The Commission have a consultation process in place, which the Council is responding to. The Council have requested submissions and opinions from Local Town and Community Councils and where these have been received they are included in the appendices.

6.2 Local Members have been consulted through an initial question and answer session with the Commission, a local workshop and then individual meetings and discussion between those Councillors whom proposed changes could affect.

7. EVALUATION OF OPTIONS

7.1 Option 1 – All those final proposals which the Council has received from Members are included as alternate options within the Appendices of this report. If agreed, these will all be supplied to the Commission to support them in developing their own proposals for further consultation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BACKGROUND PAPERS</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>WEBSITE INFO.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Appendix A

The following wards are those where Wrexham County Borough Council is proposing that the existing arrangements – ward names, geographies and representation – remain the same.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acton</th>
<th>Uptonfield Rural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Berris Park</td>
<td>Eglwys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bronington</td>
<td>Maestdrw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chirk North</td>
<td>Marchwiel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chirk South</td>
<td>Marford and Hooseley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Llangollen</td>
<td>Sirca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dyffryn Eifion</td>
<td>Gower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eglwys</td>
<td>Pen-Y-Cae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garden Village</td>
<td>Pen-Y-Cae and Ruabon South</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gresford East and West</td>
<td>Queensway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gronow</td>
<td>Rhosneigr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gwernydd North</td>
<td>Rossett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gwernydd West</td>
<td>Ruabon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henllan</td>
<td>Stclas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Llys Arfon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix B

Brynffynnon, Eddig and Offa Wards

In order to improve the electoral ratio within Brynffynnon ward, local members for Brynffynnon, Eddig, Hermitage and Offa Wards have proposed a realignment of the boundaries of the Wards. The proposal retains four single member wards, but offers a better level of electoral equality across all Wards. Following consideration, the boundary of the Hermitage ward would be unaffected by the suggested realignments.

The proposal suggests the following wards:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>Current electors</th>
<th>Proposed electors</th>
<th>Revised Variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brynffynnon</td>
<td>3605</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eddig</td>
<td>1762</td>
<td>1823</td>
<td>-0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hermitage</td>
<td>1762</td>
<td>1762</td>
<td>-3.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offa</td>
<td>1724</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consequential changes to the community ward boundaries of Offa would also be required.

A map showing the suggested new boundaries is attached.

Appendix C

New Broughton, Bryn Cefn and Guernfo Wards

In order to improve the electoral ratios within the three wards, local members for Bryn Cefn, Guernfo and New Broughton Wards have proposed a realignment of the boundaries of these Wards. The proposal retains three single member wards, but offers a better level of electoral equality across all Wards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>Current electors</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>Realigned wards (electors at Nov 2018)</th>
<th>Revised Variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bryn Cefn</td>
<td>1562</td>
<td>-14.9%</td>
<td>1934</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guernfo</td>
<td>1274</td>
<td>-30.5%</td>
<td>1860</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Broughton</td>
<td>2872</td>
<td>56.6%</td>
<td>1924</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consequential changes to the community ward boundaries of Broughton would also be required.

The local members for New Broughton and Guernfo have suggested that the new wards be renamed, Broughton South, Broughton Central and Broughton North.

The local member for Bryn Cefn does not support the suggested change of name for Bryn Cefn Ward, and supports retaining the existing ward name.

A map showing the suggested new boundaries is attached.
Johnstown and Pant Wards

The local members for Johnstown and Pant wards have suggested a proposal to realign the boundary of the existing wards of Johnstown and Pant. Electors within properties in Polling District JAA001 (comprising Brandy Brook, Pant Glas and one property on Ruabon Road), currently within Johnstown ward would be transferred to Pant Ward.

The proposal retains 2 single member wards with a better level of electoral equality across each Ward.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>Current Electors</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>Proposed Electors (at Nov 18)</th>
<th>New Variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Johnstown</td>
<td>2471</td>
<td>34.7%</td>
<td>2265</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pant</td>
<td>1601</td>
<td>-12.7%</td>
<td>1768</td>
<td>-12.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A supporting letter from the local member for Johnstown, outlining the reasons for the proposal is attached. Rhosllannerchrugog Community Council has also advised of its support for the proposal.

Consequential changes to the community ward boundaries of Rhosllannerchrugog would also be required.

A map showing the suggested new boundaries is attached.
The plan ward also has greater ties and community links to Rhos than Johnstown and this is vital in maintaining communities within the village of Rhos. The Plan ward also has several ties to Welsh schools, primary and secondary schools and the wider community facilities.

I have discussed this with David Maddocks and he is agreeable to this proposal.

Yours sincerely

Councillor David A Bithell
Cc: David Maddocks Cllr Pant Ward
Cc: Ian Banks Chief Executive Wrexham County Borough Council

Holt, Whitegate, Smithfield, Wynnstay and Cartrefle Wards

The local member for Holt ward, Councillor M Morris, has submitted two options which would each reduce the size of the Holt Ward, to improve electoral parity, which would impact on each of the boundaries of the above wards. Option 1 is supported by the other local Members, whilst option 2 is not.

Option 1 would remove Abenbury Fields development from Holt ward, and Option 2 would remove Llwyn Orn estate, as well as Abenbury Fields. The Holt ward is also expected to increase significantly within the next 5 years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>Current electors per councillor</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>Proposed electors (at Nov 18)</th>
<th>Revised variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Option 1:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holt</td>
<td>2571</td>
<td>40.2%</td>
<td>2202</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitegate</td>
<td>1818</td>
<td>-0.9%</td>
<td>1850</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smithfield</td>
<td>1784</td>
<td>-2.7%</td>
<td>1803</td>
<td>-2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wynnstay</td>
<td>1324</td>
<td>-27.8%</td>
<td>1625</td>
<td>-11.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cartrefle</td>
<td>1636</td>
<td>-10.8%</td>
<td>1653</td>
<td>-9.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An email from Councillor M Morris, Councillor for Holt explaining the two options is attached. Each option would require the redrawing of boundaries of the wards within Caia Community Council area to accommodate and equalise the electorate of those wards, and would require consequential changes to community ward boundaries.

Councillors for Cartrefle, Smithfield, Whitegate and Wynnstay wards have given their full consideration to the two options and have confirmed their support for Option 1. The councillors have submitted suggestions for the redrawing of boundaries based on this option. An email explaining their reasons and further details of the redrawn boundaries is attached, together with a map of the new boundaries. Agreement was not reached with the other local members on how the Llwyn Orn estate could reasonably be transferred to another ward or wards.

Queensway ward boundaries remain unaffected by the proposals, and the Councillor for Queensway has given her support to the proposed changes.
Emailed Proposal from Councillor M. Morris to reduce electorate of Holt and improve electoral parity of Caia Wards.

1. **OPTION 1: TRANSFER ELECTORS FROM ABENBURY FIELDS TO CAIA**

Transfer 17 electors to Cartrefle excluding Tyn Twll Farm and East Barn.

This would reduce Holt to 2002

After Caia as follows:
- Wynnstay: 1625
- Whitegate: 1850
- Smithfield: 1803
- Queensway: 1554
- Cartrefle: 1653 (after transferring 17 w)
- Add Abenbury Fields: 352
- Total: 8847 = 5 wards of 1769

Makes allowance for a higher number of non registered voters in Caia.

Risk does not address the new development in LDP and still leaves Holt above threshold plus all of the new development.

2. **OPTION 2: TRANSFER ABENBURY FIELDS AND LUWYN ONN AREA TO CAIA**

Transfer Abenbury Fields and Luwyn Onn estate to Caia
Transfer the 17 Holt to Cartrefle excluding Tyn Twll Farm and East Barn

This would reduce Holt to 1856, however, there was no agreement reached on how these additional areas would be transferred into other areas.

This approach makes allowance for a higher number of non registered voters in Caia whilst Holt would then be on the 1800 threshold does not address the new development in LDP and still leaves Holt at threshold plus all of the new development in the future.
3. Transfer from Holt to Caia (Cartrefle)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Road</th>
<th>Number of Properties</th>
<th>Number of Electors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bryn Estyn Road</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Re-adjust Smithfield/ Wynnstay (trans to Wynnstay)

This change of roads will mean that the parking issues that are currently across 2 wards will be able to be managed by one ward member.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Road</th>
<th>Number of Properties</th>
<th>Number of Electors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Holt Road</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montgomery Road</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilson Avenue</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portal Avenue</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field View</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crescent Close</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cunningham Avenue</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>232</td>
<td>301</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Llwyn Onn Estate remains in the Holt Ward

Unregistered voters

An important factor for consideration is the number of unregistered voters in Caia Park. The Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) notes that parts of Caia Park, are amongst the top 20% deprived areas in Wales. There is a well-established link between deprivation and voter registration and engagement as seen by the numbers below. This means that the elected member of these wards is often representing much larger numbers than are on the electoral register.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Smithfield</td>
<td>532</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitegate</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wynnstay</td>
<td>236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cartrefle</td>
<td>342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queensway</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Updated Ward numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>Current electors</th>
<th>Added electors</th>
<th>Removed electors</th>
<th>Revised electors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Holt</td>
<td>2571</td>
<td>369</td>
<td>2202</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whitegate</td>
<td>1818</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>1850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smithfield</td>
<td>1784</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>1803</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cartrefle</td>
<td>1636</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>3653</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wynnstay</td>
<td>1324</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>1625</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queensway</td>
<td>1534</td>
<td></td>
<td>1354</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Emailed comment from Councillor Malcom King (Wynnstay ward)

Smithfield and Wynnstay wards were previously joined together as a two member ward. Many residents in the streets which are now proposed to move into Wynnstay have always identified strongly with the rest of the community in Wynnstay and have many strong family ties. Community cohesion is often a more important factor in more deprived areas.

APPENDIX F

Cefn and Plas Madoc Wards

A local member for Cefn, Councillor D Wright and the local member for Plas Madoc, Councillor P Blackwell have proposed a realignment of the boundaries of these Wards, to improve the ratio to councillor ratio of the Plas Madoc ward, and to create single member wards, to replace the 2 member ward of Cefn.

The proposal creates three single member wards with a better level of electoral equality across all Wards. The proposal suggests that the wards be re-named, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>Current electors</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>Realigned wards (electors at Nov 2018)</th>
<th>Revised variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acrefair North</td>
<td>Plas Madoc: 1562</td>
<td>-14.8%</td>
<td>1602</td>
<td>-12.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cefn East</td>
<td>Cefn: 3789</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>1661</td>
<td>-9.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cefn West</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1716</td>
<td>-6.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consequential changes to the community ward boundaries of Cefn would also be required.

Councillor Wright and Blackwell suggest that the wards be renamed Acrefair North, Cefn East and Cefn West.

However, the other local member for Cefn, Councillor S Benbow-Jones, considers that the existing ward arrangements should be retained, and is supportive of a 2 member ward.

A map showing the suggested new boundaries is attached.
Appendix G

Penclaw Ward

A local member for Penclaw (Councillor K. Hughes) has suggested a proposal to create 2 single member wards in place of the current small member ward.

The proposal relocates the boundary of the existing community wards of Rhos, Penclaw North, Penclaw South, the community wards of Abercon and Penrosedychan wards of Ewloe Common council, creating 2 single member wards of Rhos and Penclaw, with improved electoral equality across both Wards. This proposal is in addition to the proposal relating to Chirnside and Plant Wards, enabling a single member wards covering the Community of Rhoslanerchugugg.

Consequential changes to the Community Wards of Rhoslanerchugugg would also be required.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>Current electors</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>Proposed electors (as Nov 18)</th>
<th>Revised Variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Penclaw</td>
<td>3551</td>
<td>-3.7%</td>
<td>1804</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhos</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-4.6%</td>
<td>1697</td>
<td>-7.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A map showing the suggested new boundaries is attached. A letter has been received from Rhoslanerchugugg Community Council in support of the above proposal.

The other local member for Penclaw (Councillor P Pemberton) considers that the existing 2 member ward arrangements should be retained.

Appendix H

Gwersyllt East and South Ward

A local member (Councillor T. Murrell) has submitted a proposal to make an adjustment of the boundary of the existing two member ward of Gwersyllt East and South Ward. Properties within Poileeg District (ERAG1) (comprising Bradley, Gwynedd, Keephalk Close, Hywell Close, Lechange, Shelburne Avenue and Thelridge Court), currently within Gwersyllt South community ward would be transferred to Gwersyllt East Ward.

Although the elector numbers are lower within the new Gwersyllt South ward, planned development would add electors to the Gwersyllt South Ward.

This would create two single member wards with a fairly good level of electoral equality across both Wards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>electors</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>Resigned wards (electors in Nov 2018)</th>
<th>Revised Variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gwersyllt East</td>
<td>1875</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>1883</td>
<td>-8.23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gwersyllt South</td>
<td>1855</td>
<td>5.07%</td>
<td>1927</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consequential changes to the community wards of Gwersyllt East and Gwersyllt South would also be required.

A map showing the suggested boundary to the wards is also attached.

The other local member for Gwersyllt East and South (Councillor D Griffiths) has expressed his support for the current electoral arrangements and considers that the existing 2 member ward arrangements should be retained.
Brymbo Ward

The local member for Brymbo ward, Councillor P Rogers, has submitted a proposal that would create a two member ward based on the existing boundaries of the Ward. However, in member workshops discussing the electoral review a number of Members spoke out informally to call for a move away from two member wards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward</th>
<th>Current electors per councillor</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>Proposed electors per councillor [at Nov 18]</th>
<th>Revised variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brymbo</td>
<td>3107</td>
<td>69.4%</td>
<td>1553</td>
<td>-15.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An email from Councillor Rogers explaining in detail the reason for the proposal, including the impact of planned development, is attached.

Appendix I

Proposal for Brymbo Ward

Further to recent discussions and having considered potential options for Brymbo Ward as part of the electoral review I reached the conclusions that it would make sense to create a two member ward based on the existing boundaries.

The current ward is the greatest number of electors over and above the target recommended and prior to the next Local Government elections there is likely to increase as a result of the implementation of existing planning permissions. Furthermore there has been a pre-planning application consultation by a developer regarding additional housing on land currently allocated for employment use. Without pre-determining the outcome, it is expected this application will be submitted in the coming months.

The commencement of existing and potential for further large developments development in this area would suggest that the electorate in Brymbo Ward is expected to increase to a figure which could justify a multi-member ward, similar to that of neighbouring Coedpoeth.

I have considered the potential to redraw boundaries to reduce the number of electors and in doing so looked at neighbouring communities.

Sub-division of the existing ward to create an additional member would in my opinion be against the principles of creating cohesive communities. It would also have implications on efforts to regenerate the former Steelworks site which sits in the centre of the ward.

Whilst there are some links with the Broughton Community (Bryn Cefn, Gwenfro and New Broughton), the boundaries can be redrawn between the wards to address the imbalance between electors in these wards.

The two member ward of Coedpoeth is adjacent however there is a limited affinity in both geography and infrastructure between the communities of Brymbo and Coedpoeth. The ward of Minera also has approximately the target number of electors.

Regards

Paul Rogers

Councillor for Brymbo Ward

Wrexham County Borough Council
Appendix J: Email from Councillor P Rogers

Proposal for Brymbo Ward

Further to recent discussions and having considered potential options for Brymbo Ward as part of the electoral review I reached the conclusions that it would make sense to create a two member ward based on the existing boundaries.

The current seat is has the greatest number of electors over and above the target recommended and prior to the next Local Government elections there is likely to increase as a result of the implementation of existing planning permissions. Furthermore there has been a pre-planning application consultation by a developer regarding additional housing on land currently allocated for employment use. Without pre-determining the outcome, it is expected this application will be submitted in the coming months.

The commencement of existing and potential for further large developments development in this area would suggest that the electorate in Brymbo Ward is expected to increase to a figure which could justify a multi member ward, similar to that of neighbouring Coedpoeth.

I have considered the potential to redraw boundaries to reduce the number of electors and in doing so looked at neighbouring communities.

Sub-division of the existing ward to create an additional member would in my opinion be against the principles of creating cohesive communities. It would also have implications or efforts to regenerate the former Steelworks site which sits in the centre of the ward.

Whilst there are some links with the Broughton Community (Bryn Cefn, Gwenffr and New Broughton), the boundaries can be redrawn between the wards to address the imbalance between electors in these wards.

The two member ward of Coedpoeth is adjacent however there is a limited affinity in both geography and infrastructure between the communities of Brymbo and Coedpoeth. The ward of Minera also has approximately the target number of electors.

Regards

Paul Rogers

Councillor for Brymbo Ward

Wrexham County Borough Council
2. **Caia Park Community Council** emailed on the 14 December 2018 to state their support for the retention of the existing number of wards and councillors currently representing the community. They asked that the Commission consider the large number of non-registered voters in the area and the effect this has on the councillor’s workload. They recognised that the boundaries could be changed to reduce the electoral disparity and expressed their support for the proposal submitted by Wrexham County Borough Council for Caia Park and Holt.

3. **Acton Community Council** emailed on the 14 December 2018 to state that they will await the outcome from the initial consultation before commenting on firmer proposals from the Commission.
4. Rossett Community Council emailed on the 12 December 2018 to raise their concerns over proposed changes to the Rossett ward on the basis that the proposed change will harm the community cohesion established in the area.

5. Offa Community Council emailed on the 12 December 2018 to propose several changes to the Brynyffynnnon, Erddig, Hermitage and Offa electoral wards outlined above in order to improve electoral variance within those wards. They also expressed concerns over increasing the number of Wrexham County Borough Council members by three.

6. Sesswick Community Council emailed on the 23 November 2018 to express their concerns of Sesswick being merged into the ward of Bangor on Dee. The Council asked that the Commission consider the wider cultural connections of the area during its review. They noted that the current Marchwiel ward is already close to the number of electors recommended by the Commission and that during a time of budget cuts it was not appropriate for Wrexham County Borough Council to take on three additional members. They did state their support for a preference for single member wards.

7. Clwyd South Conservative Association emailed on the 20 November 2018 to raise their concerns over the renaming of Bryn Cefn ward to Broughton as it would erode the historical and community identity of the area.

8. Cllr Derek Wright (Cefn) emailed on the 15 November 2018 to outline a proposal to improve the electoral ratio by realigning the boundaries of Cefn and Plas Madoc into three single member wards along identifiable boundary lines.

9. Cllr Tina Mannering (Gwersyllt East and South) emailed on the 8 November 2018 welcoming the review and proposed the dual ward of Gwersyllt South and East be split into two single member wards of Gwersyllt South and Gwersyllt East.

10. Dr John Marek emailed on the 16 October 2018 to state that Wrexham County Borough Council should have fewer councillors not more.
The Local Authority Elections (Wales) Order 2014 provided for local elections in Wales to be delayed for a year, from May 2016 to May 2017. This allowed the elections to be separated from the Assembly elections.

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

The Wales Bill, currently before Parliament, includes provisions which would enable the Assembly to legislate to determine the term of office for local government. As the Bill is currently in draft form and should these provisions, for any reason, not come into force, the Welsh Government could use the same powers under the Local Government Act 2000 as we did in 2014 to delay the elections by a year. This statement therefore provides clarity to local government as to the length of office of those to be elected next year.
In the light of this, I have considered the decision made last year in relation to the electoral arrangements of some principal councils. It was determined that reviews conducted by the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales in relation to nine principal areas would not be implemented, given the intention that councils elected in 2017 would only serve a short term prior to mergers.

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

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

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

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