

GWYNEDD COUNCIL CABINET



Report to a meeting of Gwynedd Council Cabinet

Date of Meeting:	10 April 2018
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn
Contact Officer:	Dilwyn Williams, Chief Executive
Contact Telephone Number	32001
Title of Item:	A survey of Gwynedd Council's electoral arrangements.

1. THE DECISION SOUGHT

To approve the Council's response to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission's draft proposals (published January 2018).

2. THE REASON FOR THE NEED FOR A DECISION

As a response is required to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission consultation by 23 April 2018, the Cabinet, in accordance with the decision of the Full Council, must approve the response to the Boundary Commission based on the clear guidance given by the Council.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 All Council members will be aware that the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission has published its draft proposals for the survey of the electoral arrangements for Gwynedd Council.

3.2 We are required to respond by 23 April 2018.

3.3 At its meeting on 8 March 2018, the Council decided to respond to the draft proposals of the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission by

- Restating the Council's proposals and urging the Commission to accept the content of our original proposals
- Authorise the Chief Executive to hold discussions with local members in the areas where the local members consider it would be prudent to propose an alternative option, and
- Authorise the Cabinet to include this alternative option in the formal response if all local members are unanimous in their opinion.
- Authorise the Cabinet to make alternative suggestions to the names of the electoral wards that are in the Commission's proposals if there is a local desire to do so.

Contact:

01286 679868

01286 679490

cabinet@gwynedd.llyw.cymru



- 3.4 A draft response is included in the full report in Appendix 1. The Council's opinion and the local members' response were incorporated where a unanimous alternative option has been included.
- 3.5 It was noted that discussions were held in the following areas:
- Gerlan and Ogwen - unanimous opinion from the local members on an alternative proposal (incorporated in the report)
 - Pen Llŷn Area - unanimous opinion from the local members on continuing to support the Council's original proposal
 - Bethel and Felinheli - unanimous opinion from the local members on continuing to support the Council's original proposal
 - Harlech, Ardudwy and Llanbedr - the Council's opinion was against a multi-member seat, and there was a unanimous opinion from the local members in favour of the Boundary Commission's proposal
 - Dolgellau - unanimous opinion from the local members on an alternative proposal (incorporated in the report)

4. RECOMMENDATION

That the Cabinet approves the response to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission's draft proposals as noted in Appendix 1.

Views of Statutory Officers:

i. **Chief Finance Officer**

No comments to add regarding financial propriety.

ii. **Monitoring Officer**

Following the Council's decision at its meeting on 8 March, the Cabinet was set a specific task, which was to verify that the Commission's proposed response was in accordance with its decision. The report outlines the completed work and the status of the local opinion on the alternative proposals in the response in a way that meets the requirements of the Full Council.

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