

Meeting of:	Council
Date of Meeting:	Monday, 09 March 2026
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	No Relevant Scrutiny Committee
Report Title:	Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru – Vale of Glamorgan Electoral Arrangements Review Final Recommendations
Purpose of Report:	To present to Full Council the Final Recommendations of the Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru – Electoral Arrangements for the Vale of Glamorgan
Report Owner:	Rob Thomas, Chief Executive
Responsible Officer:	Rob Thomas, Chief Executive
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	This report has Council wide implications, and no Ward Member consultation has been undertaken
Policy Framework:	This is an Executive decision by Cabinet, but the final outcome of the review by the Commission is reported to Full Council for information.
Executive Summary: - The Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru etc. Act 2013 requires the Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru (“the Commission”) to review the electoral arrangements for each principal area in Wales at least once every 12 years. - The electoral arrangements are defined as: a. The number of members of the Council for the principal area; b. The number, type and boundaries of the electoral wards into which the principal area is for the time being divided for the purpose for the election of members; c. The number of members to be elected for any electoral ward in the principal area; and d. The name of any electoral ward. - The Commission commenced the Electoral Review for the Vale of Glamorgan on 5th June 2025. - The Commission published the Final Recommendations on 29th January 2026 which can be found here.	

- Cabinet considered a report on the 26th February 2026 found [here](#).
- The final recommendations have been submitted to Welsh Government Ministers and any further comments concerning the Commission's Final Recommendations should be addressed to Welsh Government and submitted by no later than 12th March 2026.
- The Commission has notified all mandatory consultees of the publication of their Final Recommendations.
- The purpose of this report is to update Full Council of the Commission's Final Recommendations.

Recommendation

1. That the Final Recommendations as set in paragraphs 2.1 to 2.9 of the report to Cabinet and as recommended by Cabinet are accepted by Full Council and that this is conveyed to Welsh Ministers in advance of 12th March 2026.

Reason for Recommendation

1. To note and accept the Commission's Final Recommendations and allow consideration by Council, whilst being mindful that all Members are able to submit their own comments if they so wish.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru etc. Act 2013 requires the Commission to review the electoral arrangements for each principal area in Wales at least once every 12 years.
- 1.2 The Commission commenced the Electoral Review for the Vale of Glamorgan on 5th June 2025.
- 1.3 The Commission published their Final Recommendations on 29th January, 2026.
- 1.4 A report was presented to Cabinet on 26th February, 2026, and that report is available [here](#).

2. Key Issues for Consideration

- 2.1 In summary, there are changes to specific electoral wards with Llandow to retain boundaries and increase to two Councillors, Cosmeston and Plymouth to combine into a three Member ward. Changes in Cowbridge and Penllyn will see the creation of a single Member ward for Penllyn and Cowbridge becoming a two Member ward.
- 2.2 Wards to be retained – 22 wards are retained as set out in the Cabinet report/reference.
- 2.3 Electoral Ward names – the Commission recommends retention or amendment of ward names, promoting single Welsh language names where deemed acceptable whilst others will retain names in both Welsh and English.
- 2.4 As stated above the Commission's Final Recommendations have been submitted to Welsh Government Ministers. All those with an interest in the matter can also make further comments by no later than 12th March 2026. These should be addressed to Elections Division, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ or by email to etholiadau.elections@gov.wales.
- 2.5 The Commission has notified mandatory consultees.

- 2.6** Whilst all Members are encouraged to submit representations directly to the Welsh Government, either individually or as Groups, it is considered appropriate that the Council also provides a stance of the final recommendations. To this end, and on balance, it is considered that the final recommendations represent an appropriate and balanced approach and should be supported. It is therefore recommended that the Welsh Government Minister be advised that there are no objections to the final report from this Council.

3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?

- 3.1** The review of Electoral Arrangements safeguards the long-term needs of local residents to ensure an effective and convenient local government and electoral equality.

4. Climate Change and Nature Implications

- 4.1** There are no direct climate change implications associated with the undertaking of the review.

5. Resources and Legal Considerations

Financial

- 5.1** There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Employment

- 5.2** There are no employment implications arising as a result of this report.

Legal (Including Equalities)

- 5.3** The statutory requirements relating to an electoral arrangements review are set out in The Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru etc. Act 2013.

6. Background Papers

Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru – Vale of Glamorgan Electoral Arrangements Review Final Recommendations Cabinet Report – 26/2/2026.