



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

3rd SEPTEMBER 2018

**REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS BY THE LOCAL DEMOCRACY
AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES**

**JOINT REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL SERVICES AND THE INTERIM
DIRECTOR OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES AND COMMUNICATIONS**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 Following the commencement of the initial phase of the consultation process in respect of the review of the Council's electoral arrangements, which is being undertaken by the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales, the aim of the report is to consider proposals developed by Officers in accordance with the terms of reference agreed by this Committee for revised Council Electoral Ward boundaries.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Consider the Officer proposals relating to the Council's electoral arrangements, namely:
- 2.1.1 In accordance with the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales' Council Size Policy that the number of Elected Members for this Council remains at 75;
 - 2.1.2 A proposed reduction in Electoral Wards from 52 to 44 resulting in the Electoral Wards shown in Appendix 3 to the report;
 - 2.1.3 No changes are proposed to be made to 24 existing Electoral Wards as detailed in paragraph 6.3 of the report;

2.1.4 Retaining 4 existing Electoral Wards but increasing or decreasing the number of Members representing the particular Electoral Ward as detailed in paragraph 6 of the report;

2.1.5 Revised Electoral Ward boundaries for 18 existing Electoral Wards through merging existing Electoral Wards (and associated Community Wards) and any associated changes in Member representation as detailed in paragraph 6 of the report thereby creating 9 new Electoral Wards;

2.1.6

2.1.6.1 Revised Electoral Ward boundaries for 6 existing Electoral Wards through revising Community Ward boundaries and any associated changes in Member representation as detailed in paragraphs 6.19 and 6.20 of the report and shown on the maps set out in Appendix 4 to the report; and

2.1.6.2 Creation of 1 new Electoral Ward as a consequential effect of a revision to the existing Electoral Ward boundaries (and associated constituent Community Wards) of Hawthorn and Rhydfelen Central/Ilan as detailed in paragraph 6.20 of the report and shown on the maps set out in Appendix 4 to the report;

thereby creating 7 new Electoral Wards.

2.2 Subject to any comments Members may have, to recommend to Full Council that the proposals be subject to a period of stakeholder engagement prior to further consideration by Full Council at its October meeting and submission of a final Council proposal to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales by 26th October 2018.

3. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

3.1 Section 29 of the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 places a duty upon the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales (the 'Boundary Commission') to review the electoral arrangements for each principal area at least once every ten years.

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

- 3.3 Members will recall that at the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 27th June 2018, consideration was given to the urgent report in respect of the Review of Electoral Arrangements by the Boundary Commission. It was resolved that, in accordance with Minute No.139 of the Council Meeting held on the 25th April 2018, commentary upon a review of electoral arrangements include a Working Group comprising all Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an invitation extended to all Members.
- 3.4 At this Committee's meeting held on Thursday 12th July 2018 Members resolved to agree key terms of reference for the Working Group review as set out in paragraph 4 of this report, acknowledging that community boundaries should be used as the building blocks for the review.
- 3.5 Members also resolved to instruct Officers to develop proposals and appropriate feedback mechanisms in accordance with the principles set out in the report to Council on the 27th June 2018.
- 3.6 Council subsequently also received a presentation from the Boundary Commission in respect of the electoral review at its meeting held on the 25th July 2018.
- 3.7 The initial phase of the electoral review itself commenced on 1st August 2018 and lasts until 23rd October 2018. After this date the Commission will prepare Draft Proposals for the electoral arrangements for the County Borough and this will present a further opportunity for comments and representations to be made. Details can be found on the Boundary Commission website via the following link: [RCT CBC ELECTORAL REVIEW](#) | [RCT CBC ELECTORAL REVIEW - CYMRAEG](#)
- 3.8 The review of Electoral Arrangements for a principal area includes consideration of:-
- The number of Members for that principal area
 - The number, type and boundaries of Electoral Wards
 - The number of Members for any Electoral Ward in the principal area.
 - The name of any Electoral Ward.
- 3.9 The principles of the review are a consideration of:-
- Electoral parity
 - The number of Councillors remaining at 75
 - To discourage multi member wards beyond a maximum of 3
 - Natural boundaries to be used as far as possible

- Community Ward boundaries should not be revised unless absolutely necessary
- Each Ward should have one name which should be bilingual

4. TERMS OF REFERENCE

4.1 Members agreed the following key terms of reference for the review and for Officers in respect of developing proposals, namely:

4.1.1 To acknowledge the use of Community Boundary Wards as the essential building blocks for the review;

4.1.2 To keep change to a minimum;

4.1.3 To acknowledge that some Electoral Wards will need to be amended in some formal way within the parameters outlined in the Boundary Commission guidance;

4.1.4 To instruct Officers to develop options based on these principles; and

4.1.5 To instruct Officers to develop appropriate feedback mechanisms with the timetable set out below.

5. ELECTORAL REVIEW TIMETABLE

5.1 **Stage 1 – Official Start** – this is the 12 Week Initial Consultation Period currently underway and which commenced 1st August 2018 and ending on 23rd October 2018:

- 19th September 2018 – Full Council – consideration of preferred option proposal from Overview and Scrutiny Committee and initiation of stakeholder engagement
- 20th September 2018 – 5th October 2018 – Stakeholder engagement on the Council's preferred option
- 24th October 2018 – Full Council – consideration of feedback from stakeholder engagement, agreement of preferred option and submission to the Boundary Commission. Members should note that due to the October Council meeting falling the day after the closure of the consultation period the Council has received agreement from the Boundary Commission to submit any Council proposal by 5p.m. Friday 26th October. Any individual responses made by Members would need to be submitted by the closure date of 23rd October.

Stage 2 – Commission's Draft Proposals

Commission develops and then publishes Draft Proposals - 12 Week Consultation Period during Summer 2019 – The Council will obviously be a

consultee and be able to respond to those draft proposals should it resolve to do so.

Stage 3 – Commission formulating a Final Proposals report

Submission to Welsh Government in spring 2020.

Stage 4 – Welsh Government Consideration

Six weeks after receipt of the Boundary Commission's Final Proposals WG may make an Order in respect of the future electoral arrangements (n.b. there is an opportunity to write to Welsh Government regarding minor modifications at this point).

Stage 5 – New Electoral Wards come into force for May 2022 Local Government elections.

6. OFFICER ELECTORAL WARD PROPOSALS

- 6.1 Appendix 1 shows the current electoral arrangements in Rhondda Cynon Taf. This shows that currently across the 52 Electoral Wards there is a ratio of 2,302 electors per Member (based on 75 Members and an electorate of 172,673 as at 1st June 2018).
- 6.2 Appendix 2 is a map of the Electoral Wards highlighting the existing variance (from the County Borough average of 2,302) in electoral representation for each Ward.
- 6.3 No changes are proposed to be made to the following 24 existing Electoral Wards:

ELECTORAL WARD	MEMBERS	CURRENT VARIANCE
Abercynon	2	-3%
Aberdare East	2	6%
Aberdare West/Llwydcoed	3	4%
Cilfynydd	1	-9%
Cwm Clydach	1	-16%
Cymmer	2	-14%
Gilfach Goch	1	6%
Glyncoch	1	-12%
Hirwaun	1	36%*
Llantwit Fardre	2	4%
Penrhiwceiber	2	-11%
Pentre	2	-16%
Pen-Y-Graig	2	-15%
Pen-Y-Waun	1	-13%
Pontypridd Town	1	-6%
Porth	2	-7%
Rhigos	1	-39%*
Taffs Well	1	23%
Tonypandy	1	15%

Tonyrefail East	2	-7%
Trallwng	1	21%
Treforest	1	26%*
Treherbert	2	-10%
Ystrad	2	-8%

* See paragraph 6.21 and 6.22 for commentary on reasoning behind proposal to retain existing Electoral Wards of Hirwaun, Rhigos and Treforest

6.4 Changes are proposed to be made to the following existing Electoral Wards as follows.

6.5 **Aberaman North & South**

Proposal: Merge existing Electoral Wards of Aberaman North and Aberaman South to create a single three Member Ward (Aberaman)

Member Consequence: Loss of one Member

Reason: Improve levels of representation. Both wards are currently -10% to -25% below the County Borough average of 2,302. Adoption of the proposal would take representation levels to between +/- 10%.

6.6 **Cwmbach**

Proposal: Make the existing Ward a two Member ward

Member Consequence: Additional Member

Reason: Cwmbach has been highlighted by the Boundary Commission as a Ward that must be addressed in the review, with the current representation level exceeding +50%. The additional Member would see the Ward fall to -10% to -25%.

6.7 **Mountain Ash East & West**

Proposal: Merge existing Electoral Wards of Mountain Ash East and Mountain Ash West to create a single two Member Ward (Mountain Ash).

Member Consequence: Loss of one Member

Reason: Mountain Ash West has been identified as a ward with -25% to -50% below the representation requirements. Whilst Mountain Ash East is currently satisfying the Commission's representation levels at +/-10%, the only realistic option to address the issue is to merge the two Wards. A merger would take the new representation to between +10% to +25%.

6.8 **Ynysybwl**

Proposal: Make the existing Ward a two Member Ward

Member Consequence: Additional Member

Reason: Ynysybwl has been highlighted by the Boundary Commission as a Ward that must be addressed in the review, with the current representation level at +50%. An additional Member would see the representation level fall to -10% to -25%.

6.9 **Trealaw & Llwyn-Y-Pia**

Proposal: Merge existing Electoral Wards of Trealaw & Llwyn-Y-Pia to create a single two Member ward

Member Consequence: None

Reason: Llwyn-Y-Pia is currently considered to be -25% to -50% below the desired representation level. The transition between Trealaw and Llwyn-Y-Pia appears to be the most natural (A4058 and Ynyscynon Road both cross the boundaries). A merger would also see the representation level fall into the +/- 10% classification.

6.10 **Ferndale & Maerdy**

Proposal: Merge existing Electoral Wards of Maerdy & Ferndale to create a single two Member Ward

Member Consequence: Loss of one Member

Reason: Ferndale has been identified as falling within -25% to -50% of the Commission's preferred representation level. Consideration was given to merging Ferndale with Tylorstown, although the objections raised in the last set of boundary reform proposals remain valid and, taking these into account, it is proposed instead to merge the Electoral Wards of Maerdy and Ferndale, despite the Maerdy Ward currently satisfying the Commission's preferred level of representation. The proposed Ward would have a +10% to +25% representation level.

6.11 **Tylorstown & Ynyshir**

Proposal: Merge existing Electoral Wards of Tylorstown and Ynyshir to create a single two Member Ward

Member Consequence: Loss of one Member

Reason: Like Ferndale, Tylorstown has been identified as an area that requires action to be undertaken during this review (-25% to -50%). In

assessing options for the Rhondda Fach, it is felt that the community ties between Tylorstown and Ynyshir are more consistent - particularly given the proximity between Pontygwaith and Wattstown. The merger would see the Ward classified at +10% to +25%.

6.12 **Treorchy**

Proposal: Reduce from a three Member to two Member Ward

Consequence: Loss of one Member

Reason: Currently classified as -10% to -25%. With growing populations in the south of the County Borough, it is necessary to take Members from the north given that any reforms must maintain the 75 Councillors. The removal of a Member from the Treorchy Ward will take the representation levels to +10% to +25%.

6.13 **Beddau & Tyn-Y-Nant**

Proposal: Merge existing Electoral Wards of Beddau and Tyn-Y-Nant to create a single two Member Ward

Member Consequence: None

Reason: The Beddau Ward is considered to be under-represented (+25% to +50%), whilst the neighbouring Tyn-Y-Nant Ward is perfectly balanced. Given the close community ties and the need to address the representation issues in the Beddau Ward, it is proposed that both existing Wards are merged thereby creating a single two Member Ward that has a representation level of +10% to +25%.

6.14 **Brynna & Llanharan**

Proposal: Merge existing Electoral Wards of Brynna and Llanharan to create a single three Member Ward

Member Consequence: Addition of one Member

Reason: The Communities of Llanharan and Brynna are closely linked, with the current boundary dividing Brynna Road between streets. The proposal to merge the wards would originally see the Ward fall to a -10% to -25% classification, although by 2023 it is forecasted that the proposed Ward would be within +/-10% of the preferred ratio of representation.

6.15 **Graig & Rhondda**

Proposal: Merge existing Electoral Wards of Graig & Rhondda to create a single two Member ward

Member Consequence: Loss of one Member

Reason: Both Graig and Rhondda are considered to have an under-representation level of -10% to -25%. Merging the two Wards would take the representation level to +10% to +25%, thus improving the general level of representation in the upper Pontypridd area.

6.16 **Llantrisant Town & Talbot Green**

Proposal: Merge existing Electoral Wards of Llantrisant Town and Talbot Green to create a single two Member Ward

Member Consequence: None

Reason: A merger would help to address the current representation issues in both Wards. Presently, Llantrisant Town is under-represented at a level of +25% to +50%, whilst Talbot Green is over-represented at -10% to -25%. A merger of the two closely linked communities would see the new Ward situated within the +10% to +25% representation level.

6.17 **Tonyrefail West**

Proposal: Make the existing Ward a two Member ward

Member Consequence: Addition of one Member

Reason: The Ward has been highlighted by the Commission as one that must be addressed by the review, with the current population, which is forecast to grow considerably over the next five years, over 100% greater than the representation level desired. The addition of a Member into the Ward would see the new Ward situated within the +10% to +25% representation level.

6.18 **Church Village & Ton-teg**

Proposal: Reduce the existing Electoral Ward of Ton-teg to a single Member Ward and add an additional Member into the Church Village Ward whilst realigning the boundary of the Church Village Ward to incorporate the wider Upper Church Village area.

Member Consequence: Church Village – Addition of one Member; Ton-teg - Loss of one Member

Reason: Church Village has been identified as a ward with a severe level of under-representation, whilst the neighbouring Ton-teg ward is deemed as being over-represented. The proposal would address both representation issues whilst realigning the current inconsistent boundary of the two Wards by incorporating the wider Upper Church Village area into the Church Village Ward. Under the proposals, both Wards would satisfy the Commission's

requirements by falling to within +/-10% of the preferred representation ratio. Appendix 4 shows the proposed revised Electoral Ward boundaries of Church Village and Ton-teg. This proposal would also require a change to the Community Ward boundaries of Church Village and Ton-teg.

6.19 **Llanharry & Pont-y-clun**

Proposal: Transfer Tyla Garw Community from the Llanharry Ward into the Pont-y-clun Ward. Pont-y-clun Ward becomes a three Member ward; Llanharry remains a one Member ward.

Member Consequence: Addition of one Member (Pont-y-clun Ward)

Reason: Both wards are currently classified as having an undesirable level of representation (+25% to +50%). Pont-y-clun is a Ward where there is forecasted to be significant growth over the next five years, and the inclusion of the Tyla Garw Community, which has closer community ties with Pont-y-clun than Llanharry, would take Pont-y-clun within +/-10% of the ideal representation level. Consequently, Llanharry would also achieve the same level of representation. The proposal to move the Tyla Garw Community which currently forms part of Llanharry Community Council from the Llanharry Electoral Ward into the Pont-y-clun Electoral Ward would see the Tyla Garw Community becoming part of Pont-y-clun Community Council. Appendix 4 shows the proposed revised Electoral Ward boundaries of Llanharry and Pont-y-clun

6.20 **Hawthorn & Rhydfelen Central/Ilan**

Proposal: Creation of a new ward

Member Consequence: Additional single Member Electoral Ward (Upper Rhydfelen/Glyntaf area)

Reason: The existing Electoral Wards of Hawthorn and Rhydfelen Central/Ilan are classified as being +25% to 50% in terms of representation and, with a combined population of over 6000 electors, it is proposed that a new Electoral Ward be created covering the upper Rhydfelen/Glyntaf area as shown in Appendix 4 to the report. This Appendix also shows the proposed revised Electoral Ward boundaries of Hawthorn and Rhydfelen Central/Ilan. Based on this, the below table illustrates that the representation issues would be adequately addressed by adopting this proposal, with two wards falling between -10% to -25% of the desired representation ratio and the remaining ward achieving a +/-10% level of representation:

<u>PROPOSED WARD</u>	<u>ELECTORATE</u>
Hawthorn	1,803
Rhydfelen Central/Ilan	1,949
Upper Rhydfelen/Glyntaf	2,397
TOTAL	6,149

This proposal would also require a change to the Community Ward boundaries of Ilan, Hawthorn, Rhydfelen Central and Rhydfelen Lower.

6.21 **Hirwaun & Rhigos**

Proposal: Retain both existing Electoral Wards

Member Consequence: None

Reason: Hirwaun is classified as being +25 % to 50% in terms of representation and Rhigos as being -25% to 50%. Given the levels of variance a proposal to retain both existing Wards would therefore need to be justified and accepted by the Boundary Commission. It could be substantiated that the rural nature of the Rhigos Electoral Ward, including its situation within the Brecon Beacons National Park, is sufficient to ensure that the integrity and special characteristics of the ward are maintained in future proposals. Consideration was given to an arrangement between the three wards at top of the Cynon Valley (Rhigos, Hirwaun and Pen-Y-Waun), although it was felt that the aforementioned nature of the Rhigos Electoral Ward, and the planned development of the A465 would see a clearer boundary between Hirwaun and Pen-Y-Waun.

6.22 **Treforest**

Proposal: Retain existing Electoral Ward

Member Consequence: None

Reason: Despite being between +25% and +50% over the preferred level of representation, it is proposed that the Treforest Electoral Ward be retained in its current form. This is justified by the highly transient nature of the population, which owes substantially to the high concentration of student accommodation in the area.

7. **MEMBER SUBMISSIONS**

- 7.1 Following queries from Members about how they can submit comments and their own proposals in relation to the Working Group's review and to the Boundary Commission's initial phase of consultation a dedicated mailbox was

setup to facilitate this - LGBReview@rctcbc.gov.uk . Members are, of course, able to respond to the Boundary Commission's consultation individually although it is considered one agreed Council proposal would carry more weight with the Boundary Commission. It is important to also highlight that the Boundary Commission have said they would like to receive responses in support of any proposal in addition to those which may be against. A number of representations have been received. In the main, the comments received requested that options take into consideration future and planned development proposals in the south of the County Borough. In addition, comments received also highlighted a general preference to create distinct new electoral divisions as a solution instead of multi-member wards represented by more than two members.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The Electoral Review is being conducted by the Boundary Commission under the provisions of the Local Government (Democracy)(Wales) Act 2013.

9. CONSULTATION

- 9.1 The Boundary Commission is currently undertaking a 12 Week initial Consultation Period which commenced on the 1st August 2018 and ends on 23rd October 2018 to invite proposals ahead of publishing its own draft proposals in Summer 2019. As part of the approach agreed by Council, a period of stakeholder engagement is proposed to be undertaken on any proposal Council may agree prior to its submission to the Boundary Commission.
- 9.2 Unless it receives representations, the Boundary Commission will shape the future electoral arrangements in Rhondda Cynon Taf. By submitting a Council proposal, the knowledge and wishes of local members and stakeholders will be taken into account.

10. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 A full equality and diversity assessment is not required at this time. This position will be re-evaluated on an ongoing basis as related actions are delivered.

11. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 There would be some financial implications from 2022 because of the proposal to move the Tyla Garw Community (which currently forms part of Llanharry Community Council) from the Llanharry Electoral Ward into the Pont-y-clun Electoral Ward and consequently Pont-y-clun Community Council. This may mean a variance in council tax because of varying Community Council precept rates.

12. CONCLUSION

- 12.1 Officers have formulated a set of proposals in respect of the review of the Council's electoral arrangements for Members consideration.
- 12.2 In accordance with the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales' Council Size Policy the proposal brought forward keeps the number of Elected Members for this Council at 75.
- 12.3 There is a proposed reduction in Electoral Wards from 52 to 44 resulting in the Electoral Wards shown in Appendix 3 to the report;
- 12.4 No changes are proposed to be made to 24 existing Electoral Wards. It is proposed to retain 4 existing Electoral Wards but increase or decrease the number of Members representing the particular Electoral Ward as detailed in paragraph 6 of the report.
- 12.5 Revised Electoral Ward boundaries are proposed for 18 existing Electoral Wards through merging existing Electoral Wards (and associated Community Wards) and any associated changes in Member representation as detailed in paragraph 6 of the report thereby creating 9 new Electoral Wards.
- 12.6 Revised Electoral Ward boundaries are proposed for 6 existing Electoral Ward through revising Community Ward boundaries and any associated changes in Member representation as detailed in paragraphs 6.19 and 6.20 of the report and shown on the maps set out in Appendix 4 to the report, together with the creation of 1 new Electoral Ward as a consequential effect of a revision to the existing Electoral Ward boundaries (and associated constituent Community Wards) of Hawthorn and Rhydfelen Central/Ilan.
- 12.7 Subject to any comments Members may have, it is recommended that the proposals be commended to Council so that they may be subject to a period of stakeholder engagement, prior to further consideration by full Council at its October meeting and submission of a final Council proposal to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales by 26th October 2018.

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RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
EXISTING COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

No.	NAME	DESCRIPTION	No. OF COUNCILLORS	ELECTORATE 2018	2018 RATIO	% variance from County average	ELECTORATE 2023	2023 RATIO	% variance from County average	Population Eligible to Vote
1	Aberaman North	The Community of Aberaman North	2	3,648	1,824	-21%	3,781	1,891	-20%	4,143
2	Aberaman South	The Community of Aberaman South	2	3,463	1,732	-25%	3,609	1,805	-24%	3,758
3	Abercynon	The Community of Abercynon	2	4,487	2,244	-3%	4,537	2,269	-5%	4,968
4	Aberdare East	The Community of Aberdare East	2	4,900	2,450	6%	5,077	2,539	7%	5,243
5	Aberdare West/Llwydcoed	The Communities of Aberdare West (5,943) [6,295] and Llwydcoed (1,233) [1,266]	3	7,176	2,392	4%	7,561	2,520	6%	7,601
6	Beddau	The Beddau ward of the Community of Llantrisant	1	3,167	3,167	38%	3,174	3,174	34%	3,575
7	Brynna	The Brynna (2,025) [2,084] and Llaniliad (1,416) [2,153] wards of the Community of Llanharan	1	3,441	3,441	49%	4,237	4,237	78%	3,496
8	Church Village	The Church Village ward of the Community of Llantwit Fardre	1	4,313	4,313	87%	4,350	4,350	83%	3,898
9	Cilfynydd	The Cilfynydd ward of the Town of Pontypridd	1	2,095	2,095	-9%	2,136	2,136	-10%	2,260
10	Cwm Clydach	The Community of Cwm Clydach	1	1,944	1,944	-16%	2,049	2,049	-14%	2,177
11	Cwmbach	The Community of Cwmbach	1	3,679	3,679	60%	3,959	3,959	67%	3,940
12	Cymmer	The Communities of Cymmer (3,406) [3,427] and Trehafod (565) [585]	2	3,971	1,986	-14%	4,012	2,006	-16%	4,417
13	Ferndale	The Community of Ferndale	2	3,037	1,519	-34%	3,072	1,536	-35%	3,369
14	Gilfach Goch	The Community of Gilfach Goch	1	2,434	2,434	6%	2,495	2,495	5%	2,723
15	Glyncoch	The Glyncoch ward of the Town of Pontypridd	1	2,021	2,021	-12%	2,023	2,023	-15%	2,310
16	Graig	The Graig ward of the Town of Pontypridd	1	1,853	1,853	-20%	1,910	1,910	-20%	1,901
17	Hawthorn	The Hawthorn (1,684) [1,684] and Rhydfelen Lower (1,432) [1,432] wards of the Town of Pontypridd	1	3,116	3,116	35%	3,116	3,116	31%	3,138
18	Hirwaun	The Hirwaun ward of the Community of Hirwaun	1	3,123	3,123	36%	3,239	3,239	36%	3,374
19	Llanharan	The Llanharan ward of the Community of Llanharan	1	2,730	2,730	19%	2,783	2,783	17%	2,717
20	Llanharry	The Community of Llanharry	1	3,121	3,121	36%	3,167	3,167	33%	2,999
21	Llantrisant Town	The Llantrisant Town ward of the Community of Llantrisant	1	3,162	3,162	37%	3,247	3,247	37%	3,935
22	Llantwit Fardre	The Efail Isaf (1,025) [1,029] and Llantwit Fardre (3,778) [3,785] wards of the Community of Llantwit Fardre	2	4,803	2,402	4%	4,814	2,407	1%	4,795
23	Llwyn-y-Pia	The Community of Llwyn-y-Pia	1	1,632	1,632	-29%	1,713	1,713	-28%	1,858
24	Maerdy	The Community of Maerdy	1	2,287	2,287	-1%	2,398	2,398	1%	2,387
25	Mountain Ash East	The Community of Mountain Ash East	1	2,158	2,158	-6%	2,381	2,381	0%	2,335
26	Mountain Ash West	The Community of Mountain Ash West	2	3,120	1,560	-32%	3,197	1,599	-33%	3,608
27	Pen-y-Graig	The Community of Pen-y-graig	2	3,924	1,962	-15%	3,983	1,992	-16%	4,307
28	Pen-y-Waun	The Community of Pen-y-waun	1	2,011	2,011	-13%	2,122	2,122	-11%	2,345
29	Penrhiwceiber	The Community of Penrhiwceiber	2	4,114	2,057	-11%	4,136	2,068	-13%	4,561
30	Pentre	The Community of Pentre	2	3,857	1,929	-16%	3,885	1,943	-18%	4,147
31	Pont-y-clun	The Community of Pont-y-clun	2	6,014	3,007	31%	6,873	3,437	45%	6,470
32	Pontypridd Town	The Town ward of the Town of Pontypridd	1	2,153	2,153	-6%	2,217	2,217	-7%	2,279
33	Porth	The Community of Porth	2	4,301	2,151	-7%	4,426	2,213	-7%	4,799
34	Rhigos	The Penderyn ward (658) [658] of the Community of Hirwaun and the Community of Rhigos (741) [785]	1	1,399	1,399	-39%	1,443	1,443	-39%	1,441

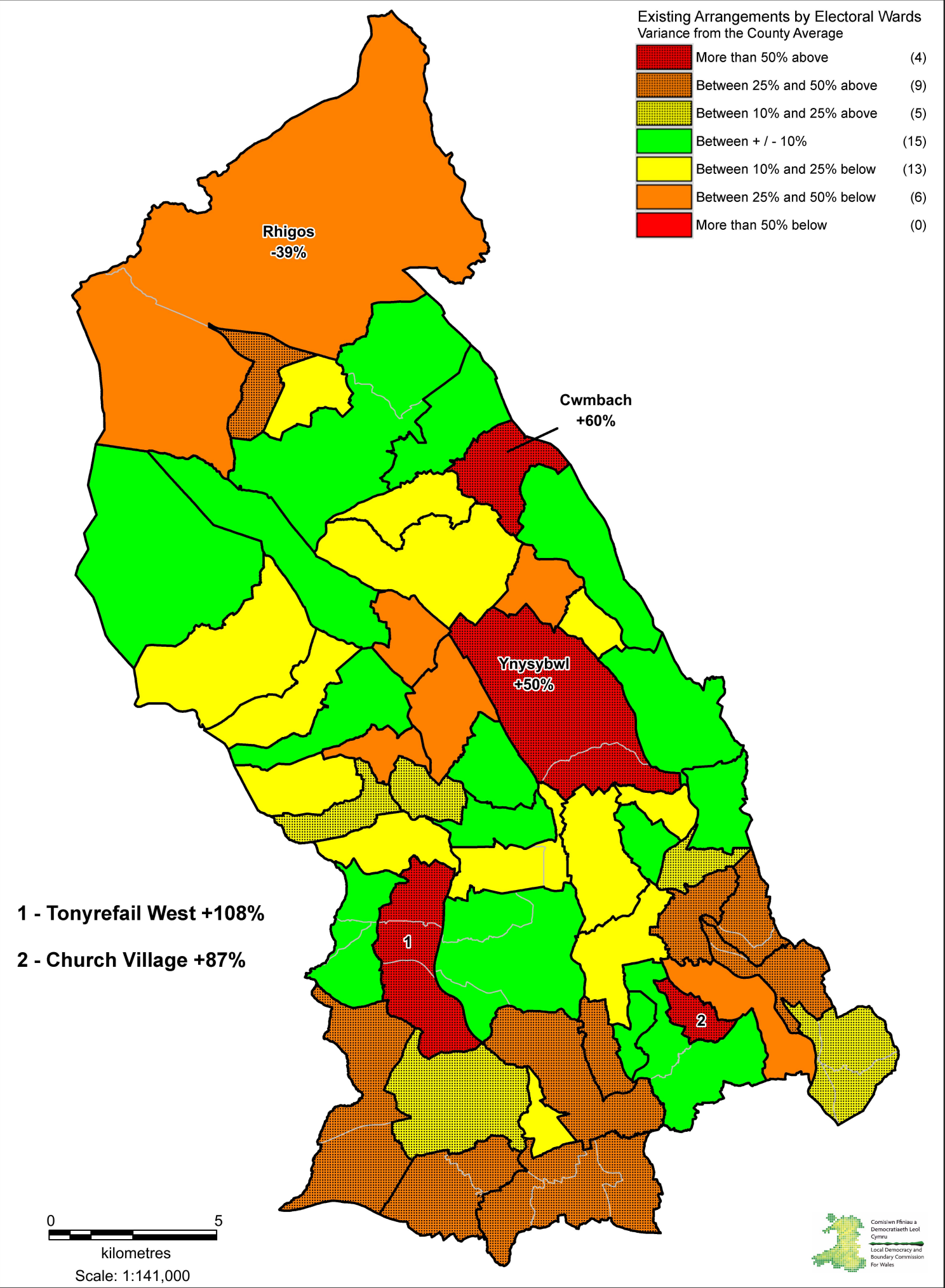
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No.	NAME	DESCRIPTION	No. OF COUNCILLORS	ELECTORATE 2018	2018 RATIO	% variance from County average	ELECTORATE 2023	2023 RATIO	% variance from County average	Population Eligible to Vote
35	Rhondda	The Rhondda ward of the Town of Pontypridd	2	3,481	1,741	-24%	3,520	1,760	-26%	3,703
36	Rhydfelen Central/Ilan	The Ilan (934) [934] and Rhydfelen Central wards (2,099) [2,101] of the Town of Pontypridd	1	3,033	3,033	32%	3,035	3,035	28%	3,435
37	Taffs Well	The Community of Taffs Well	1	2,826	2,826	23%	2,830	2,830	19%	3,123
38	Talbot Green	The Talbot Green ward of the Community of Llantrisant	1	1,956	1,956	-15%	1,991	1,991	-16%	2,302
39	Ton-Teg	The Ton-Teg ward of the Community of Llantwit Fardre	2	3,222	1,611	-30%	3,222	1,611	-32%	3,282
40	Tonypandy	The Community of Tonypandy	1	2,638	2,638	15%	2,695	2,695	13%	3,001
41	Tonyrefail East	The Coedely (1,347) [1,474], Collena (1,619) [1,623], and Tylcha (1,294) [1,312] wards of the Community of Tonyrefail	2	4,260	2,130	-7%	4,409	2,205	-7%	4,701
42	Tonyrefail West	The Penrhiw-fer (1,062) [1,066], Thomastown (1,307) [1,441], and Tynybryn (2,421) [2,718] wards of the Community of Tonyrefail	1	4,790	4,790	108%	5,225	5,225	120%	5,145
43	Trallwng	The Trallwng ward of the Town of Pontypridd	1	2,795	2,795	21%	2,819	2,819	19%	3,087
44	Trealaw	The Community of Trealaw	1	2,809	2,809	22%	2,840	2,840	19%	3,244
45	Treforest	The Treforest ward of the Town of Pontypridd	1	2,901	2,901	26%	2,997	2,997	26%	4,449
46	Treherbert	The Community of Treherbert	2	4,165	2,083	-10%	4,242	2,121	-11%	4,583
47	Treorchy	The Community of Treorchy	3	5,652	1,884	-18%	5,750	1,917	-19%	6,118
48	Tylorstown	The Community of Tylorstown	2	2,981	1,491	-35%	3,034	1,517	-36%	3,404
49	Tyn-y-Nant	The Tyn-y-Nant ward of the Community of Llantrisant	1	2,414	2,414	5%	2,414	2,414	2%	2,657
50	Ynyshir	The Community of Ynyshir	1	2,391	2,391	4%	2,398	2,398	1%	2,649
51	Ynysybwl	The Community of Ynysybwl and Coed-y-Cwm	1	3,457	3,457	50%	3,485	3,485	47%	3,619
52	Ystrad	The Community of Ystrad	2	4,248	2,124	-8%	4,266	2,133	-10%	4,630
TOTAL:			75	172,673	2,302		178,294	2,377		188,406

Ratio is the number of electors per councillor
Electoral figures supplied by Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council
Population figures supplied by the Office for National Statistics

	2018	2023
Greater than + or - 50% of County average	4 8%	4 8%
Between + or - 25% and + or - 50% of County average	15 29%	15 29%
Between + or - 10% and + or - 25% of County average	18 35%	23 44%
Between 0% and + or - 10% of County average	15 29%	10 19%

COUNTY BOROUGH OF RHONDDA CYNON TAF
EXISTING VARIANCE IN ELECTORAL REPRESENTATION



Rhondda Cynon Taf Proposed Electoral Ward & Electorate Figures				
Rhondda Cynon Taf Electoral Ward Electorate Figures 2018	Councillors	Electorate (as at 1st June 2018)	Electors per Councillor	Variance
Aberaman (Aberaman North & South)	3	7,111	2,370	3%
Abercynon	2	4,487	2,244	-3%
Aberdare East	2	4,900	2,450	6%
Aberdare West/Llwydcoed	3	7,176	2,392	4%
Beddau & Tyn-Y-Nant	2	5,581	2,791	21%
Brynna & Llanharan	3	6,171	2,057	-11%
Church Village	2	5,033	2,517	9%
Cilfynydd	1	2,095	2,095	-9%
Cwm Clydach	1	1,944	1,944	-16%
Cwmbach	2	3,679	1,840	-20%
Cymmer	2	3,971	1,986	-14%
Ferndale & Maerdy	2	5,324	2,662	16%
Gilfach Goch	1	2,434	2,434	6%
Glyncoch	1	2,021	2,021	-12%
Graig & Rhondda	2	5,334	2,667	16%
Hawthorn	1	1,803	1,803	-22%
Hirwaun	1	3,123	3,123	36%
Llanharry	1	2,523	2,523	10%
Llantrisant & Talbot Green	2	5,118	2,559	11%
Llantwit Fardre	2	4,803	2,402	4%
Llwyn-y-Pia & Trealaw	2	4,441	2,221	-4%
Mountain Ash (Mountain Ash East & West)	2	5,278	2,639	15%
Penrhiwceiber	2	4,114	2,057	-11%
Pentre	2	3,857	1,929	-16%
Pen-y-Graig	2	3,924	1,962	-15%
Pen-y-Waun	1	2,011	2,011	-13%
Pont-Y-Clun	3	6,612	2,204	-4%
Pontypridd Town	1	2,153	2,153	-6%
Porth	2	4,301	2,151	-7%
Rhigos	1	1,399	1,399	-39%
Rhydfelen Central/Ilan	1	1,949	1,949	-15%
Rhydfelen Upper/Glyntaf	1	2,397	2,397	4%
Taffs Well	1	2,826	2,826	23%
Ton-Teg	1	2,502	2,502	9%
Tonypandy	1	2,638	2,638	15%
Tonyrefail East	2	4,260	2,130	-7%
Tonyrefail West	2	4,790	2,395	4%
Trallwng	1	2,795	2,795	21%
Treforest	1	2,901	2,901	26%
Treherbert	2	4,165	2,083	-10%
Treorchy	2	5,652	2,826	23%
Tylorstown & Ynyshir	2	5,372	2,686	17%
Ynysybwl	2	3,457	1,729	-25%
Ystrad	2	4,248	2,124	-8%
Totals	75	172,673	2,302	

Electorate (5 Year Forecast 2023)			Electors per Councillor	Variance	Community Council	Key
7,390	2463	4%				
4,537	2269	-5%				+/- 10%
5,077	2539	7%				11% - 25% (+/-)
7,561	2520	6%				26% - 50% (+/-)
5,588	2794	18%			Llantrisant	
7,020	2340	-2%			Llanharan	
BOUNDARY CHANGE					Llantwit Fardre	
2,136	2136	-10%			Pontypridd Town	
2,049	2049	-14%				
3,959	1980	-17%				
4,012	2006	-16%				
5,470	2735	15%				
2,495	2495	5%			Gilfach Goch	
2,023	2023	-15%			Pontypridd Town	
5,430	2715	14%			Pontypridd Town	
BOUNDARY CHANGE					Pontypridd Town	
3,239	3239	36%			Hirwaun & Penderyn	
2,569	2569	8%			Llanharry	
5,238	2619	10%			Llantrisant	
4,814	2407	1%			Llantwit Fardre	
4,553	2277	-4%				
5,578	2789	17%				
4,136	2068	-13%				
3,885	1943	-18%				
3,983	1992	-16%				
2,122	2122	-11%				
7,471	2490	5%			Pont-Y-Clun / Llanharry (Tyla Garw)	
2,217	2217	-7%			Pontypridd Town	
4,426	2213	-7%				
1,443	1443	-39%			Rhigos	
BOUNDARY CHANGE					Pontypridd Town	
BOUNDARY CHANGE					Pontypridd Town	
2,830	2830	19%			Taffs Well	
BOUNDARY CHANGE					Llantwit Fardre	
2,695	2695	13%				
4,409	2205	-7%			Tonyrefail	
5,225	2613	10%			Tonyrefail	
2,819	2819	19%			Pontypridd Town	
2,997	2997	26%			Pontypridd Town	
4,242	2121	-11%				
5,750	2875	21%				
5,432	2716	14%				
3,485	1743	-27%			Ynysybwl & Coed-Y- Cwm	
4,266	2133	-10%				
178,294	2377					

