

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES



Comisiwn Ffiniau
Llywodraeth Leol
i Gymru



Local Government
Boundary Commission
for Wales

**REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS
REPORT AND PROPOSALS**

COUNTY OF ISLE OF ANGLESEY

May 2012

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES
REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COUNTY OF
ISLE OF ANGLESEY

REPORT AND PROPOSALS

1. INTRODUCTION
2. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS
3. SCOPE AND OBJECT OF THE REVIEW
4. DRAFT PROPOSALS
5. REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED IN RESPONSE TO THE DRAFT PROPOSALS
6. ASSESSMENT
7. PROPOSALS
8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
9. RESPONSES TO THIS REPORT

APPENDIX 1	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
APPENDIX 2	EXISTING COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP
APPENDIX 3	PROPOSED COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP
APPENDIX 4	MINISTER'S DIRECTIONS
APPENDIX 5	SUMMARY OF REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED IN RESPONSE TO DRAFT PROPOSALS
APPENDIX 6	OUTLINE MAP

The Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales
Caradog House



1-6 St Andrews Place
CARDIFF CF10 3BE
Tel Number: (029) 2039 5031
Fax Number: (029) 2039 5250
E-mail lgbc.wales@wales.gsi.gov.uk
www.lgbc-wales.gov.uk



BUDDSODDWYR | INVESTORS
MEWN POBL | IN PEOPLE

FOREWORD

COUNTY OF ISLE OF ANGLESEY - PROPOSALS.

We published our original Final Proposals for the Isle of Anglesey County Council on 31st August 2010. Those proposals were not implemented as subsequently, on 28th March 2011, the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government issued a new Direction to the Commission to undertake a further review of the electoral arrangements for the Isle of Anglesey County Council, and in so doing expressly withdrawing the 2009 Directions under which the original Final Proposals were prepared.

This new Direction is specific to the Isle of Anglesey and requires that we should, in the first instance, consider the desirability of multi-member electoral divisions throughout the County and that we should aim to propose a councillor to electorate ratio which is as close as possible to 1:1,750.

We had regard to both of these criteria in drawing up our Draft Proposals whilst also taking into account the evidence and representations received in earlier stages of this review. These Draft Proposals were published on 21 November 2011 and by the end of the consultation on 3 January 2012 we had received 63 representations. This level of representations is indicative of a high level of interest in the review process and compares favourably with the same stage of the initial review when 25 representations were received.

In preparing these Final Proposals, we considered all of the representations made to us in the light of the legislation that binds us and the Directions to which we have to have regard.

In considering the length of time taken by the two reviews, the process of arriving at electoral arrangements for the Isle of Anglesey has been a protracted one. We are of the view that these Final Proposals will contribute to effective and convenient local government for the island.

Max Caller CBE

**Interim Chair
Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales**

May 2012

**Mr. Carl Sargeant
Minister for Local Government and Communities
Welsh Government**

REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COUNTY OF ISLE OF ANGLESEY

REPORT AND PROPOSALS

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. In accordance with the directions issued by the Minister on 28 March 2011, we, the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales (the Commission), have completed the review of electoral arrangements for the County of Isle of Anglesey and present our Final Proposals for the future electoral arrangements. A glossary of terms used in this report can be found at Appendix 1. In 2011 the County of Isle of Anglesey had an electorate of 49,484. At present it is divided into 40 electoral divisions all of which are single-member and thus returning 40 councillors with an average for the County of 1,237 electors to each councillor. The existing electoral arrangements have a level of representation that ranges from 48% below to 40% above the current county average. The present electoral arrangements are set out in detail in Appendix 2.

2. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

- 2.1. Having regard to the Minister's Direction we propose a reduction in the council size from 40 to 30 elected members and a change to the current pattern of electoral divisions being represented by a single member to one of multi-member electoral divisions. The proposed change to the electoral arrangements will achieve a significant improvement in the level of electoral parity across the County of Isle of Anglesey. The average number of electors to each councillor for the County is proposed to be 1,649. The proposed electoral arrangements have a level of representation that ranges from the Ynys Cybi electoral division at 18% below the proposed county average to the Canolbarth Môn electoral division at 25% above the proposed county average. The proposed electoral arrangements are set out in detail in Appendix 3.

3. SCOPE AND OBJECT OF THE REVIEW

- 3.1. Section 57 of the Local Government Act 1972 (the 1972 Act) lays upon the Commission the duty, at intervals of not less than ten and not more than fifteen 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.

- 3.2. In 2009 the Commission began a review of electoral arrangements for the Isle of Anglesey and submitted its report to the Minister on 31 August 2010. In a Statement to the National Assembly for Wales on 16 March 2011, the Minister stated his intention to issue a fresh Direction to us to conduct a further review of the electoral arrangements for the Isle of Anglesey. This Direction was issued to us on 28 March 2011.
- 3.3. Our Review is now at the Final Proposals stage and our proposals demonstrate an improvement on the existing arrangements by bringing more of the electoral divisions on the Isle of Anglesey closer to the 1,750 electors per councillor ratio mentioned in the Direction. It is appreciated that this Direction requires a completely new structure and the consultation stage offered interested parties the opportunity to propose further alternative arrangements that both satisfy the rules laid out below and take heed of the guidance included in the Minister's Direction the full text of which is at Appendix 4.

Electoral Arrangements

- 3.4. The "electoral arrangements" of a principal area are defined in section 78 of the 1972 Act as:
- i) *the total number of councillors to be elected to the council;*
 - ii) *the number and boundaries of electoral divisions;*
 - iii) *the number of councillors to be elected for each electoral division; and*
 - iv) *the name of any electoral division.*

Rules to Be Observed Considering Electoral Arrangements

- 3.5. We are required by Section 78 to comply, so far as is reasonably practicable, with the Rules set out in Schedule 11 to the 1972 Act. These require us to provide for there to be a single member for each electoral division. However, the Welsh Government may direct the Commission to consider the desirability of providing for multi-member electoral divisions for the whole or part of a principal area.
- 3.6. The Rules also require that:

Having regard to any change in the number or distribution of local government electors of the principal area likely to take place within the period of five years immediately following consideration of the electoral arrangements:

- i) *subject to paragraph (ii), the number of local government electors shall be, as nearly as may be, the same in every electoral division in the principal area;*
- ii) *where there are one or more multi-member divisions, the ratio of the number of local government electors to the number of councillors to be elected shall*

be, as nearly as may be, the same in every electoral division in the principal area (including any that are not multi-member divisions);

- iii) every ward of a community having a community council (whether separate or common) shall lie wholly within a single electoral division; and*
- iv) every community which is not divided into community wards shall lie wholly within a single electoral division.*

Subject to these Rules, and to those Rules referred to in paragraph 3.4, when considering the electoral arrangements we must have regard to (a) the desirability of fixing boundaries which are and will remain easily identifiable; and (b) any local ties which would be broken by the fixing of any particular boundary.

Minister's Directions

- 3.7. The Minister gave the following Directions to us for our guidance in conducting the review:
- (a) the Commission should in the first instance consider the desirability of multi-member electoral divisions throughout the County;*
 - (b) the Commission should aim to propose a councillor to electorate ratio which is as close as is possible to 1:1,750.*

The full text of the Directions is at Appendix 4.

Local Government Changes

- 3.8. The current electoral arrangements are, in the main, those that were in place when the Isle of Anglesey Council was set up in 1996. Since then there have been two changes to local government boundaries:
- The Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn/ Isle of Anglesey County Council review of electoral arrangements (Tysilio and Cadnant Wards Menai Bridge and Llangefni Town Council) Order 1998. This Order made changes to the boundary between the Cadnant and Tysilio Wards of the Community of Menai Bridge. Although this Order made changes to the Community ward boundaries of Cadnant and Tysilio the boundaries of the electoral divisions of Cadnant and Tysilio electoral divisions remained unchanged. This means that since 1998 there has been an anomaly between the boundary of the Community wards and the boundary of the electoral divisions. In our consideration of the electoral arrangements we will aim to remove this anomaly in accordance with the Rules (see paragraph 3.6.iii above).
 - The County of Isle of Anglesey (Holyhead, Trearddur, Cwm Cadnant, Penmynydd, Pentraeth, and Llanfair-Mathafarn-Eithaf Communities) Order 2009. This Order made consequential changes to the boundaries of electoral divisions in these areas.

Procedure

- 3.9. Section 60 of the Act lays down procedural guidelines which are to be followed in carrying out a review. In compliance with Section 60 of the Act we wrote on 7 April 2011 to the Isle of Anglesey County Council, all the community councils in the area, the Member of Parliament for the local constituency, the Assembly members for the area and other interested parties to inform them of our intention to conduct the review.
- 3.10. The Minister's Direction set a limit for completion of the review which meant that it was not possible to carry out the normal process of having an initial period of consultation at the start of the review. We therefore produced Draft Proposals and wrote on 21 November 2011 to the Isle of Anglesey County Council, all the community councils in the area, the Member of Parliament for the local constituency, the Assembly members for the area and other interested parties to invite representations in respect of these proposals. We asked the Isle of Anglesey County Council to display a number of public notices in the area announcing the Draft Proposals and we published the announcement on our web site.

4. DRAFT PROPOSALS

- 4.1 Prior to the formulation of our Draft proposals we received correspondence from Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones AM, and 13 town and community councils which commented on the Minister's original Direction dated 18 March 2011 and these have been forwarded to the Minister.
- 4.2 In considering our Draft Proposals we noted that in some areas across the County there is a wide variation in the level of representation and that many of the electoral divisions have levels of representation that are below 1,750 electors per councillor, some of them significantly so. We therefore considered alternative electoral arrangements across the County. The following paragraphs are a summary of our Draft Proposals.

Holyhead Electoral Divisions (Holyhead Town, Kingsland, London Road, Maeshyfyd, Morawelon, Parc a'r Mynydd and Porthyfelin) and Trearddur

- 4.3 The Community of Holyhead is divided into the Community wards of Town, Kingsland, London Road, Maeshyfyd, Morawelon, Parc-a'r-Mynydd and Porthyfelin. These Community wards each form an electoral division. The existing Holyhead Town electoral division consists of the Town ward of the Community of Holyhead with 640 electors (666 projected) represented by one councillor which gives a level of representation which is 48% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 63% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Kingsland electoral division consists of the Kingsland ward of the Community of Holyhead with 974 electors (1,003 projected) represented by one councillor which gives a level of representation 21% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 44% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing London Road electoral division consists of the London Road ward of the Community of Holyhead with 914 electors (939 projected)

represented by one councillor which gives a level of representation which is 26% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 48% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Maeshyfryd electoral division consists of the Maeshyfryd ward of the Community of Holyhead with 1391 electors (1,428 projected) represented by one councillor which gives a level of representation that is 12% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 21% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Morawelon electoral division consists of the Morawelon ward of the Community of Holyhead with 923 electors (953 projected) represented by one councillor which gives a level of representation which is 25% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 47% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Parc-a'r-Mynydd electoral division consists of the Parc-a'r-Mynydd ward of the Community of Holyhead with 898 electors (923 projected) represented by one councillor which gives a level of representation which is 27% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 49% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Porthyfelin electoral division consists of the Porthyfelin ward of the Community of Holyhead with 1,462 electors (1,508 projected) represented by one councillor which gives a level of representation that is 18% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 16% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Trearddur electoral division consists of the Communities of Trearddur 1,272 electors (1,313 projected) and Rhoscolyn 428 electors (443 projected) represented by one councillor giving a level of representation of 1,700 electors (1,756 projected) per councillor which is 37% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 3% below 1,750 electors per councillor.

- 4.4 In considering the Community of Holyhead we noted that there is wide variation in the level of representation between electoral divisions formed from wards of the same community, ranging from Holyhead Town at 48% below the current county average to Porthyfelin at 18% above. All of these electoral divisions have levels of representation that are below 1,750 electors per councillor, many of them significantly so. We therefore proposed alternative arrangements for the area.
- 4.5 We proposed combining the existing electoral divisions of Holyhead Town 640 electors (666 projected); London Road 914 electors (939 projected); Morawelon 923 electors (953 projected); Parc a'r Mynydd 898 electors (927 projected); and Porthyfelin 1,462 electors (1,508 projected) to form an electoral division with 4,837 electors (4,993 projected) which, if represented by three councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,612 electors per councillor which is 2% below the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 8% below 1,750 electors per councillor. This improves the level of electoral parity in the area and we put this forward as a proposal. We gave the proposed electoral division a working name of **Holy Island Port**. We welcomed any suggestions for alternative names.
- 4.6 We also proposed combining the existing electoral divisions of Kingsland 974 electors (1,003 projected); Maeshyfryd 1,391 electors (1,428 projected); and the Communities of Trearddur 1,272 electors (1,313 projected) and Rhoscolyn 428 electors (443 projected) to form an electoral division with 4,065 electors (4,187 projected) which, if represented by three councillors, would result in a level of

representation of 1,355 electors per councillor which is 18% below the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 23% below 1,750 electors per councillor. This improved the level of electoral parity in the area and we put this forward as a proposal. We gave the proposed electoral division a working name of **Holy Island Rural** and we welcomed any suggestions for alternative names.

Aberffraw, Bodorgan and Rhosyr

4.7 The existing Aberffraw electoral division consists of the Community of Aberffraw with 498 electors (517 projected) and the Maelog ward of the Community of Llanfaelog 579 electors (596 projected) with a total of 1,077 electors (1,113 projected) represented by one councillor which is 13% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 38% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Bodorgan electoral division consists of the Community of Bodorgan with 699 electors (720 projected) and the Llangristiolus ward of the Community of Llangristiolus with 576 electors (595 projected) with a total of 1,275 electors (1,315 projected) represented by one councillor which is 3% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 27% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Rhosyr electoral division consists of the Community of Rhosyr with 1,658 electors (1,711 projected) represented by one councillor that is 34% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 5% below 1,750 electors per councillor.

4.8 We proposed combining the Communities of Aberffraw 498 electors (518 projected); Bodorgan 699 electors (720 projected); and Rhosyr 1,658 electors (1,711 projected) to form an electoral division with 2,855 electors (2,949 projected) which, if represented by two councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,428 electors per councillor which is 13% below the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 18% below 1,750 electors per councillor. We considered that this improved the level of electoral parity in the area. We put this forward as a proposal and we gave the proposed electoral division a working name of **Southern Anglesey**. We welcomed any suggestions for alternative names.

Beaumaris, Cwm Cadnant, Llangoed and Pentraeth

4.9 The existing Beaumaris electoral division consists of the Community of Beaumaris with 1,370 electors (1,407 projected) represented by one councillor which is 10% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 22% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Cwm Cadnant electoral division consists of the Community of Cwm Cadnant with 1,710 electors (1,761 projected) represented by one councillor which is 38% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 2% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Llangoed electoral division consists of the Community of Llangoed with 981 electors (1,016 projected) represented by one councillor that is 21% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 44% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Pentraeth electoral division consists of the Community of Llanddona with 517 electors (536 projected) and the Community of Pentraeth with 906 electors (935 projected) with a total of 1,423 electors (1,471 projected) represented by one councillor which is 15% above the existing county

average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 19% below 1,750 electors per councillor.

- 4.10 We proposed combining the Communities of Beaumaris 1,370 electors (1,407 projected); Cwm Cadnant 1,710 electors (1,761 projected); Llanddona 517 electors (536 projected) and Llangoed with 981 electors (1,016 projected) to form an electoral division with 4,578 electors (4,720 projected) which, if represented by three councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,526 electors per councillor which is 7% below the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 13% below 1,750 electors per councillor. We considered that this improved the level of electoral parity in the area and we put this forward as a proposal. We gave the proposed electoral division a working name of **Eastern Anglesey**. We welcomed any suggestions for alternative names.

Brynteg, Llanddyfnan, Llanbedrgoch, Moelfre and Pentraeth

- 4.11 The existing Brynteg electoral division consists of the Benllech “B” 1,141 electors (1,183 projected) and the Brynteg 360 electors (372 projected) wards of the Community of Llanfair-Mathafarn-Eithaf with a total of 1,501 electors (1,555 projected) represented by one councillor which is 22% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 14% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Llanddyfnan electoral division consists of the Community of Llanddyfnan with 827 electors (843 projected) and the Community of Llaneugrad with 211 electors (217 projected) with a total of 1,038 electors (1,060 projected) represented by one councillor which is 16% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 41% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Llanbedrgoch electoral division consists of the Benllech “A” 764 electors (790 projected) and the Llanbedrgoch 377 electors (391 projected) wards of the Community of Llanfair-Mathafarn-Eithaf with 1,141 electors (1,181 projected) represented by one councillor which is 8% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 35% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Moelfre electoral division consists of the Community of Moelfre with 779 electors (809 projected) represented by one councillor that is 37% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 55% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Pentraeth electoral division consists of the Community of Llanddona with 517 electors (536 projected) and the Community of Pentraeth with 906 electors (935 projected) with 1,423 electors (1,471 projected) represented by one councillor which is 15% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 19% below 1,750 electors per councillor.
- 4.12 We proposed combining the Communities of Moelfre 779 electors (809 projected); Llaneugrad 211 electors (217 projected); Llanfair-Mathafarn-Eithaf 2,642 electors (2,736 projected); Pentraeth 906 electors (935 projected); and the Llanfihangel Tre'r Beirdd ward of the Community of Llanddyfnan 198 electors (202 projected) to form an electoral division with 4,736 electors (4,899 projected) which, if represented by three councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,579 electors per councillor which is 4% below the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 10% below 1,750 electors per councillor. We considered that this improved the level of electoral parity in the area and we put this forward as a proposal. We gave the proposed electoral division a working

name of **North-Eastern Anglesey**. We welcomed any suggestions for alternative names.

Bodffordd, Mechell, Llannerch-y-medd, Llanfaethlu and Llanfair-yn-Neubwll

- 4.13 The existing Bodffordd electoral division consists of the Community of Bodffordd 751 electors (776 projected) and the Cerrigceinwen 432 electors (446 projected) ward of the Community of Llangristiolus with a total of 1,183 electors (1,222 projected) represented by one councillor which gives a level of representation that is 4% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 32% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Mechell electoral division consists of the Community of Mechell 958 electors (985 projected) and the Llanfairynghornwy ward of the Community of Cylch-y-Garn with 194 electors (200 projected) represented by one councillor giving a level of representation of 1,152 electors (1,185 projected) per councillor which is 7% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 34% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Llanfair-yn-Neubwll electoral division consists of the Communities of Bodedern with 764 electors (790 projected) and Llanfair-yn-Neubwll with 940 electors (961 projected) represented by one councillor giving a level of representation of 1,704 electors (1,751 projected) per councillor which is 38% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 3% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Llannerch-y-medd electoral division consists of the Communities of Llannerch-y-medd with 956 electors (990 projected) and Tref Alaw with 402 electors (416 projected) represented by one councillor giving a level of representation of 1,365 electors (1,406 projected) per councillor which is 10% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 22% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Llanfaethlu electoral division consists of the Communities of Llanfachraeth 423 electors (436 projected) and Llanfaethlu 397 electors (412 projected) and the Llanrhuddlad 400 electors (414 projected) ward of the Community of Cylch-y-Garn represented by one councillor giving a level of representation of 1,220 electors (1,262 projected) per councillor which is 1% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 30% below 1,750 electors per councillor.
- 4.14 We proposed combining the existing Communities of Bodedern 764 electors (790 projected); Cylch-y-garn 594 electors (614 projected); Llanfachraeth 423 electors (436 projected); Llanfaethlu 397 electors (412 projected); Llannerch-y-medd 956 electors (990 projected); Mechell 958 electors (985 projected); Tref Alaw 402 electors (416 projected) and the Bodwrog 207 electors (214) and Llandrygarn 137 electors (141 projected) wards of the Community of Bodffordd to form an electoral division with 4,838 electors (4,998 projected) which, if represented by three councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,613 electors per councillor which is 2% below the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 8% below 1,750 electors per councillor. We considered that this improved the level of electoral parity in the area and we put this forward as a proposal. We gave the proposed electoral division a working name of **North-Western Anglesey**. We welcomed any suggestions for alternative names.

Braint, Cadnant, Gwyngyll, Llanfihangel Ysceifiog and Tysilio

- 4.15 The existing Braint electoral division consists of the Braint ward of the Community of Llanfair Pwllgwyngyll with 1,145 electors (1,170 projected) represented by one councillor which is 8% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 35% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Cadnant electoral division consists of the Cadnant¹ ward of the Community of Menai Bridge with 822 electors (861 projected) represented by one councillor which is 34% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 53% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Gwyngyll electoral division consists of the Gwyngyll ward of the Community of Llanfair Pwllgwyngyll with 1,231 electors (1,282 projected) represented by one councillor which is around the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 30% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Llanfihangel Ysceifiog electoral division consists of the Community of Llanfihangel Ysceifiog with 1,137 electors (1,175 projected) and the Community of Penmynydd with 338 electors (348 projected) with a total of 1,475 electors (1,523 projected) represented by one councillor which gives a level of representation that is 19% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 16% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Tysilio electoral division consists of the Tysilio² ward of the Community of Menai Bridge with 1,499 electors (1,531 projected) represented by one councillor that is 21% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 14% below 1,750 electors per councillor.
- 4.16 We proposed combining the Communities of Llanfair Pwllgwyngyll 2,376 electors (2,452 projected); Menai Bridge 2,321 electors (2,392 projected); and Penmynydd 338 electors (348 projected); to form an electoral division with 5,035 electors (5,192 projected) which, if represented by three councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,613 electors per councillor which is 2% below the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 8% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing divisions to be amalgamated are of a similar character, closely adjoining each other with good communications and other social and cultural links. We considered that this improved the level of electoral parity in the area. We put this forward as a proposal and we gave the proposed electoral division a working name of **South-Central Anglesey**. We welcomed any suggestions for alternative names.

Bodffordd, Bodorgan, Llanidan and Llanfihangel Ysceifiog

- 4.17 The existing Bodffordd electoral division consists of the Community of Bodffordd 751 electors (776 projected) and the Cerrigceinwen 432 elected (446 projected) ward of the Community of Llangristiolus with a total of 1,183 electors (1,222 projected) represented by one councillor which gives a level of representation that is 4% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 32% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Bodorgan electoral division consists of the Community of Bodorgan with 699 electors (720 projected) and the

¹ Community wards as they existed prior to the Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn/ Isle of Anglesey County Council review of electoral arrangements (Tysilio and Cadnant Wards Menai Bridge and Llangefni Town Council) Order 1998.

² Ibid

Llangristiolus ward of the Community of Llangristiolus with 576 electors (595 projected) with a total of 1,277 electors (1,315 projected) represented by one councillor which gives a level of representation that is 3% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 27% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Llanidan electoral division consists of the Communities of Llanidan 756 electors (785 projected) and Llanddaniel Fab 569 electors (588 projected) with 1,325 electors (1,373 projected) represented by one councillor which gives a level of representation that is 7% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 24% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Llanfihangel Ysceifiog electoral division consists of the Community of Llanfihangel Ysceifiog with 1,137 electors (1,175 projected) and the Community of Penmynydd with 338 electors (348 projected) with a total of 1,475 electors (1,523 projected) represented by one councillor which is 19% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 16% below 1,750 electors per councillor.

- 4.18 We proposed combining the Communities of Llanidan 756 electors (785 projected); Llanfihangel Ysceifiog 1,137 electors (1,175 projected); Llanddaniel Fab 569 electors (588 projected); and Llangristiolus 1,008 electors (1,041 projected) to form an electoral division with 3,470 electors (3,589 projected) which, if represented by two councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,735 electors per councillor which is 5% above the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and very close to 1,750 electors per councillor. We considered that this improved the level of electoral parity in the area and we put this forward as a proposal. We gave the proposed electoral division a working name of **South-Eastern Anglesey**. We welcomed any suggestions for alternative names.

Amlwch Town, Amlwch Port, Llanbadrig and Llaneilian

- 4.19 The existing Amlwch Port electoral division consists of the Town 796 electors (829 projected) and Port 838 electors (865 projected) wards of the Community of Amlwch represented by one councillor giving a level of representation of 1,634 electors (1,694 projected) per councillor which is 32% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 7% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Amlwch Rural electoral division consists of the Rural ward of the Community of Amlwch with 926 electors (955 projected) represented by one councillor that is 25% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 47% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Llanbadrig electoral division consists of the Community of Llanbadrig with 997 electors (1,022 projected) represented by one councillor that is 19% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 43% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Llaneilian electoral division consists of the Community of Llaneilian with 897 electors (926 projected) and the Community of Rhosybol 838 electors (864 projected) with a total of 1,735 electors (1,790 projected) represented by one councillor that is 40% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 1% below 1,750 electors per councillor.
- 4.20 We proposed combining the existing communities of Amlwch 2,560 electors (2,649 projected); Llanbadrig 997 electors (1,021 projected); Llaneilian 897 electors (926

projected); and Rhosybol 838 electors (864 projected); to form an electoral division with 5,292 electors (5,460 projected) which, if represented by three councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,764 electors per councillor which is 7% above the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 1% above 1,750 electors per councillor. We considered that this improved the level of electoral parity in the area and we put this forward as a proposal and gave the proposed electoral division a working name of **Northern Anglesey**. We welcomed any suggestions for alternative names.

Bryngwran, Bodffordd, Cyngar, Cefni, Llanddyfnan, and Tudur

- 4.21 The existing Bryngwran electoral division consists of the Community of Bryngwran with 601 electors (615 projected) and the Community of Trewalchmai with 692 electors (717 projected) represented by one councillor which gives a level of representation which is 4% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 26% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Bodffordd electoral division consists of the Community of Bodffordd 751 electors (776 projected) and the Cerrigceinwen 432 electors (446 projected) ward of the Community of Llangristiolus with a total of 1,183 electors (1,222 projected) represented by one councillor which gives a level of representation that is 4% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 32% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Cyngar electoral division consists of the Cyngar ward of the Community of Llangefni with 1,465 electors (1,509 projected) represented by one councillor which is 18% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 16% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Cefni electoral division consists of the Cefni ward of the Community of Llangefni with 1,156 electors (1,196 projected) represented by one councillor which is 7% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 34% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Llanddyfnan electoral division consists of the Community of Llanddyfnan with 827 electors (843 projected) and the Community of Laneugrad 211 electors (217 projected) with a total of 1,038 electors (1,060 projected) represented by one councillor which is 16% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 41% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Tudur electoral division consists of the Tudur ward of the Community of Llangefni with 879 electors (915 projected) represented by one councillor which is 29% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 50% below 1,750 electors per councillor.
- 4.22 We proposed combining the communities of Bryngwran 601 electors (615 projected); Llangefni 3,500 electors (3,620 projected); Trewalchmai 692 electors (717 projected); the Heneglwys 407 electors (420 projected) ward of the Community of Bodffordd; and the Llanddyfnan 477 electors (491 projected), Llangwyllog 94 electors (90 projected) and Tregaeon 58 electors (60 projected) wards of the Community of Llanddyfnan to form an electoral division with 5,829 electors (6,013 projected) which, if represented by three councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,943 electors per councillor which is 18% above the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 11% above 1,750 electors per councillor. We considered that this improved the level of electoral parity in the area and we put this forward as a proposal. We gave the proposed

electoral division a working name of **Central Anglesey**. We welcomed any suggestions for alternative names.

Rhosneigr, Valley and Llanfair-yn-Neubwll

- 4.23 The existing Rhosneigr electoral division consists of the Rhosneigr ward of the Community of Llanfaelog with 696 electors (716 projected) represented by one councillor which is 44% below the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 60% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Valley electoral division consists of the Community of Valley with 1,734 electors (1,785 projected) represented by one councillor which is 40% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 1% below 1,750 electors per councillor. The existing Llanfair-yn-Neubwll electoral division consists of the Communities of Bodedern with 764 electors (790 projected) and Llanfair-yn-Neubwll with 940 electors (961 projected) represented by one councillor giving a level of representation of 1,704 electors (1,751 projected) per councillor which is 38% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 3% below 1,750 electors per councillor.
- 4.24 We proposed combining the Communities of Llanfaelog 1,275 electors (1,312 projected); Llanfair-yn-Neubwll 940 electors (961 projected); Rhoscolyn 428 electors (443 projected); and Valley 1,734 electors (1,786 projected); to form an electoral division with 3,949 electors (4,059 projected) which, if represented by two councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,975 electors per councillor which is 20% above the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 13% above 1,750 electors per councillor. We considered that this improved the level of electoral parity in the area and we put this forward as a proposal. We named the proposed electoral division **Western Anglesey**. We welcomed any suggestions for alternative names.
- 4.25 Our Draft Proposals recommended a council of 30 members and 11 electoral divisions. We considered that these arrangements provide for effective and convenient local government and met in principle the Directions provided by the Welsh Government.
- 4.26 In our Draft Proposals Report we proposed names for the electoral divisions which were intended to represent an area rather than particular settlements, villages, or towns. We recognised that there may be names that are more appropriate and we welcomed alternative suggestions that would reflect the character of the areas involved as well as being effective in either English or Welsh.
- 4.27 Copies of the Draft Proposals were sent to all those who were mentioned in paragraph 4.1 seeking their views. A copy was also sent to a wide number of interested parties and, by public notice, we also invited any other organisation or person with an interest in the review to submit their views. Copies of the Draft Proposals were made available for inspection at the offices of Isle of Anglesey County Council and the Commission.

5. REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED IN RESPONSE TO THE DRAFT PROPOSALS

- 5.1 In response to our Draft Proposals report we received representations from; Albert Owen MP; Ieuan Wyn Jones AM and Janet Finch-Saunders AM; Ynys Môn County Council; Aberffraw Community Council, Amlwch Town Council, Beaumaris Community Council, Bodorgan Community Council, Bodffordd Community Council, Bryngwran Community Council; Cylch-y-Garn Community Council; Cwm Cadnant Community Council; Holyhead Town Council, Llanbadrig Community Council; Llanddyfnan Community Council; Llaneilian Community Council; Llanfachraeth Community Council; Llanfaelog Community Council; Llanfair-yn-Neubwll Community Council; Llanfihangelceifiog Community Council; Llangoed Community Council; Llanidan Community Council; Mechell Community Council; Moelfre Community Council; Pentraeth Community Council; Penmynydd Community Council; Rhoscolyn Community Council; Rhosybol Community Council, Trearddur Community Council; Tref Alaw Community Council, and Trewalchmai Community Council.
- 5.2 We also received representations from the following County Councillors: Councillor H.E. Jones (Llanidan); Councillor O Glyn Jones (Aberffraw); Councillor C McGregor (Llanddyfnan); Councillor J P Williams (Gwyngyll); Councillor Selwyn Williams (Tysilio).
- 5.3 We also received representations from the following interested parties: Anglesey Liberal Democrats; Holyhead & District Chamber of Trade; Malltraeth Ymlaen 'cyf'; Ynys Môn Constituency Labour Party; and 23 individuals and residents.
- 5.4 A summary of these representations can be found at Appendix 5.

6. ASSESSMENT

Councillor to electorate ratio

- 6.1 The Minister's Directions include the following at 4(b): "*The Commission should aim to propose a councillor to electorate ratio which is as close as possible to 1:1,750.*" As the Isle of Anglesey currently has 49,484 electors, a strict application of the Minister's Direction would give a council size of 28 members. We have noted however that the Directions are provided as guidance and, in their application, we have given regard to the special circumstances of the particular area. We consider that a small variance from the ratio of 1:1,750 may be appropriate in the circumstance where the proposed scheme of electoral arrangements provides a better fit with the statutory criteria and the Minister's other Directions.
- 6.2 At present the Council has 40 members. The current councillor to electorate ratio is 1:1,237 which is 29% below the indicative ratio of 1,750 electors per councillor. Under current electoral arrangements, each of the electoral divisions is represented by one councillor and there are no multi-member divisions. In respect of the number of electors per councillor for each electoral division there is a wide

variation from the current county average of 1,237 electors per councillor, ranging from 48% below the current county average (Holyhead Town) to 40% above the current county average (Llaneilian).

- 6.3 We have reviewed the electoral arrangements for the County in the light of the Minister's Directions. In our deliberations we 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 nearly as may be, the same in every electoral division. We have considered the size and character of the principal council area and a range of other factors including population density, the topography, road communications and local ties.
- 6.4 We consider that in the interests of effective and convenient local government a council size of 30 would be appropriate to represent the County of Isle of Anglesey. The proposed council size results in an average of 1,649 electors being represented by each councillor. This councillor to elector ratio is within 6% of the ratio of 1:1,750 directed by the Minister.

Number of Electors

- 6.5 In Appendix 2, the numbers shown as the electorate for 2011 and the estimates for the electorate in the year 2016 are those provided by the Isle of Anglesey County Council. The forecast figures supplied by the Council show an increase in the electorate of 1,575 from 49,484 to 51,059.

Multi-Member Electoral Divisions

- 6.6 We noted the representation from Isle of Anglesey County Council which argued against the introduction of multi-member electoral divisions on the island citing the over-large size of those divisions and the possibility that these proposed arrangements would not provide enough members for the efficient working of the County Council. The County Council reaffirmed its strong preference for single-member electoral divisions and also expressed its commitment to working in partnership with the Commission thereafter to establish a more reasonably sized Council with greater parity.
- 6.7 The main concern expressed in a number of the other representations we received in respect of our Draft Proposals is the change from an arrangement of all single-member electoral divisions to one of multi-member electoral divisions. Concerns were also raised about the larger areas covered by the proposed divisions and how councillors would manage working together to represent an area.
- 6.8 In respect of multi-member electoral divisions the Minister's Direction is quite specific in that we should, in the first instance, consider the desirability of multi-member electoral divisions throughout the County. This is the approach we took in forming our Draft Proposals. In making our proposals we noted that a level of multi-member arrangements occur in most principal council areas across Wales. Such arrangements are successful in both urban and rural areas providing effective and convenient representation for the electors. In making our proposals we aimed to ensure that no electoral division was excessively large in area. We

also aimed to ensure that an electoral division did not contain such a large number of electors such that more than three members would be required to represent the area. We consider that four and five member divisions are not appropriate in a first-past-the-post electoral system and would not wish to propose such arrangements.

- 6.9 Although larger than at present, the proposed electoral divisions for the Isle of Anglesey are not as large as a number of those currently found in other local authority areas and we have tried to ensure that areas with similar character and needs are combined under our proposals. Where such electoral divisions are proposed to operate under multi-member arrangements we do not feel that the travelling distances involved would disadvantage either electors or councillors in conducting their day-to-day business.
- 6.10 We were also asked why, if an existing division approaches the agreed level of representation with a single member, the existing arrangements cannot continue? The Minister's Directions require us not only to aim to achieve a councillor to electorate ratio of 1:1,750 but also to consider multi-member electoral divisions. It is clear therefore that the retention of such an existing arrangement would not meet both strands of the Minister's Direction. In any event a single existing electoral division cannot be considered in isolation. We have to consider the arrangements for the whole of the County and in so doing may consider proposals that include the whole or part of an existing electoral division within a new electoral division.

Community Ties

- 6.11 A number of the representations have expressed concerns about the breaking of community ties. We made our proposals in the light of the Minister's Direction and attempted, where possible, to produce proposals that kept communities together in our new electoral divisions. As a result of the representations received it became necessary to re-examine some of our proposals and we decided to move the Llandrygarn and Bodwrog wards of the Community of Bodffordd from the proposed North-Western Anglesey Electoral Division (now re-named **Talybolion**) into the proposed Central Anglesey Electoral Division (now re-named **Canolbarth Môn**). This move ensured that the Community of Bodffordd was united in a single electoral division and would now be represented by the same councillors. Consideration was also given to the inclusion of the whole of the Community of Holyhead within a single electoral division. We considered however that this would not be appropriate, as we considered that a Holyhead electoral division with 7,202 electors would be too large and difficult to manage.

Electoral Divisions

- 6.12 We have considered the boundaries of all the existing electoral divisions of the County of Isle of Anglesey and the ratio and number of local government electors to the number of councillors to be elected and we proposed changes to all those electoral divisions. Details of the current electoral arrangements for the area can be found at Appendix 2.

- 6.13 In the following section the proposals for each of the new electoral divisions are laid out in the same way. The first part of the initial paragraph for each new electoral division to be considered gives a historical context by listing all the existing electoral divisions or their component parts used to construct each proposed electoral division. These components - the communities and community wards - are described as a complete community together with its current and projected electorates if it was used as such. If only part of a community is used - i.e. a community ward - then the name of that community ward, its electorate figures, and the name of its community will be shown as such. Finally, in each new electoral division, the component parts of that proposal are listed in the same way - either as whole communities with current and projected electorates, or as a named community ward, its electorate figures and the name of its community - as before. This method of describing the make-up of electoral divisions is also used in the tables at Appendices 2 and 3.

Holyhead Electoral Divisions (Holyhead Town, London Road, Morawelon, Parc a'r Mynydd and Porthyfelin)

- 6.14 In our Draft Proposals we proposed combining the existing electoral divisions of Holyhead Town 640 electors (666 projected); London Road 914 electors (939 projected); Morawelon 923 electors (953 projected); Parc a'r Mynydd 898 electors (927 projected); and Porthyfelin 1,462 electors (1,508 projected) to form an electoral division with 4,837 electors (4,993 projected) which, if represented by three councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,612 electors per councillor which is 2% below the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 8% below 1,750 electors per councillor.
- 6.15 In response to our Draft Proposals we received a representation from Holyhead Town Council accepting two multi-member electoral divisions for the town of Holyhead. This suggestion was decided to be more appropriate for Holyhead and the surrounding area than placing all of the Holyhead community wards in one proposed electoral division. Such a division would require a larger number of councillors - possibly up to five - and we considered such an arrangement to be unwieldy and not in the interests of the electors in the area and so we proposed two electoral divisions for the greater Holyhead area as contained in our Draft Proposals Report.
- 6.16 In our Draft Proposals we gave the proposed electoral division a working name of Holy Island Port. In their representation Holyhead Town Council suggested the name Holyhead Urban for this electoral division. We however propose **Caergybi**³ as the name for this part of the modern town of Holyhead, the port of departure for Ireland; it also has its roots in the ancient monastic church of Cybi Sant, a Celtic holy man and colleague of Seiriol. We considered also that the name Caergybi is already in common use and would serve to distinguish this area from the adjoining parts of Holyhead while still retaining the Welsh form of the name of the town and also referring to the history of the area.

³ Derivation: The Welsh name for the town. Historical connections and everyday use. Supported by representation 57.

6.17 We consider that the proposed **Caergybi** electoral division significantly improves the level of electoral parity in the area and we put this scheme forward as a proposal.

Holyhead Electoral Divisions (Kingsland and Maeshyfryd) and Trearddur

6.18 In our Draft Proposals we proposed combining the existing electoral divisions of Kingsland 974 electors (1,003 projected); Maeshyfryd 1,391 electors (1,428 projected) and Trearddur - consisting of the Communities of Trearddur 1,272 electors (1,313 projected) and Rhoscolyn 428 electors (443 projected) to form an electoral division with 4,065 electors (4,187 projected) which, if represented by three councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,355 electors per councillor which is 18% below the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 23% below 1,750 electors per councillor.

6.19 In response to our Draft Proposals we received a representation from Holyhead Town Council accepting two multi-member electoral divisions for the town of Holyhead. As we explained in paragraph 6.15 we propose two electoral divisions for the greater Holyhead area. This particular proposal to link the community wards as outlined in the previous paragraph is put forward in the interest of greater parity and also because the areas concerned appear to us to share similar character as well as being completely on the Holy Island itself. We noted the representations from Rhoscolyn Community Council and Trearddur Community Council which were both concerned that the proposed electoral arrangements included very large electoral divisions and those multi-member arrangements would not provide for more democracy. We are of the opinion, however, that the area concerned was not particularly large and was self-contained on Holy Island offering the multi-member arrangement a clearly defined boundary.

6.20 In our Draft Proposals we gave the proposed electoral division a working name of Holy Island Rural. In their representation Holyhead Town Council suggested the name Holyhead Urban for this electoral division. We now propose **Ynys Gybi**⁴ as the name for the hinterland of Caergybi, being itself a small island with many ancient religious sites as well as being associated with Cybi Sant.

6.21 We consider that the proposed **Ynys Gybi** electoral division significantly improves the level of electoral parity in the area and we put this scheme forward as a proposal.

Aberffraw, Bodorgan and Rhosyr

6.22 In our Draft Proposals we proposed combining the Communities of Aberffraw 498 electors (518 projected); Bodorgan 699 electors (720 projected); and Rhosyr 1,658 electors (1,711 projected) to form an electoral division with 2,855 electors (2,949 projected) which, if represented by two councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,428 electors per councillor which is 13% below the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 18% below 1,750 electors per councillor.

⁴ Derivation: The Welsh name for 'Holy Island' which has strong historical connections and indicates the proximity with Caergybi. Representation 57 suggests 'Y Fali & Ynys Gybi' but this may not be suitable as it is too long a title.

- 6.23 We noted the representations from Councillor O Jones (**Aberffraw**) who considered that the Review process had been undemocratic and also from Councillor J P Williams (**Gwyngyll**) who put forward alternative proposals for the Aberffraw area. These proposals were found to result in no change to the overall parity for the area and increased the total number of councillors which would then affect parity across the Isle of Anglesey. We further noted a representation from Councillor H E Jones (**Llanidan**) who suggested a realignment which would see Rhosyr moved from the proposed Bro Aberffraw electoral division to the neighbouring electoral division. Although this appears to meet the Minister's Direction the effect will be to produce a lower level of parity than that contained in our proposals. We also noted the representation from Aberffraw and Bodorgan Community Councils who both considered that multi-member arrangements on the Isle of Anglesey would not be workable in rural areas. We have found that this is not the case in other local authorities in Wales and we confirm our draft proposals for this electoral division.
- 6.24 In our Draft Proposals we gave the proposed electoral division a working name of Southern Anglesey. We now propose **Bro Aberffraw**⁵ as a name which recognises the long history of the court at Aberffraw, associated with Llywelyn Fawr ap Iorwerth, ruler of Wales, and the origin of the Plantagenets, York, and Tudor houses. The proposed division includes the adjoining area linked to the settlement.
- 6.25 We consider that the proposed **Bro Aberffraw** electoral division improves the level of electoral parity in the area and we put this scheme forward as a proposal.

Beaumaris, Cwm Cadnant, Llangoed and Pentraeth

- 6.26 In our Draft Proposals we proposed combining the Communities of Beaumaris 1,370 electors (1,407 projected); Cwm Cadnant 1,710 electors (1,761 projected); Llanddona 517 electors (536 projected) and Llangoed with 981 electors (1,016 projected) to form an electoral division with 4,578 electors (4,720 projected) which, if represented by three councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,526 electors per councillor which is 7% below the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 13% below 1,750 electors per councillor.
- 6.27 We noted a representation from a resident of Llanfairpwllgwyngyll that appeared to consider a slight re-alignment of communities and community ward boundaries that include Cwm Cadnant but that change would be outside the scope of this review. We also noted the representation from Pentraeth Community Council who were of the view that multi-member arrangements did not work outside urban areas. As we said earlier in paragraph 6.8 these arrangements are not uncommon and appear to be effective elsewhere. We further noted the representation from Beaumaris Town Council which considered that Beaumaris had sufficient electors to remain as a single-member electoral division. While this may be true - the Community of Beaumaris currently has an electorate of 1,370 which is less than one percent above the current county average - with regard to the Minister's

⁵ Derivation: Davies, John Hanes *Cymru* (London, Allen Lane The Penguin Press, 1990) p134, Rees *ibid* plates 37- 42, 44, 45. Mentioned in Brut y Tywosogion (The Chronicle of the Princes) for the year 968.

Direction we have to consider all areas within the Local Authority and have taken the view that to meet the aim of the Direction we must include Beaumaris in the proposals as outlined in paragraph 6.26. For similar reasons the representation from Cwm Cadnant Community Council asking that Beaumaris be removed from the proposal has had to be considered in the same way. We therefore confirm our proposals for this area.

- 6.28 In our Draft Proposals we gave the proposed electoral division a working name of Eastern Anglesey. We now propose **Seiriol**⁶ as the name for a division encompassing the area of the Isle of Anglesey associated with St Seiriol, a Celtic saint of the sixth century, who established a monastery that became Penmon Priory, and was later associated with Welsh Princes. It also refers to the adjoining Ynys Seiriol.
- 6.29 We consider that the proposed **Seiriol** electoral division improves the level of electoral parity in the area and we put this scheme forward as a proposal.

Brynteg, Llanddyfnan, Llanbedrgoch, Moelfre and Pentraeth

- 6.30 In our Draft Proposals we proposed combining the Communities of Moelfre 779 electors (809 projected); Llaneugrad 211 electors (217 projected); Llanfair-Mathafarn-Eithaf 2,642 electors (2,736 projected); Pentraeth 906 electors (935 projected); and the Llanfihangel Tre'r Beirdd ward of the Community of Llanddyfnan 198 electors (202 projected) to form an electoral division with 4,736 electors (4,899 projected) which, if represented by three councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,579 electors per councillor which is 4% below the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 10% below 1,750 electors per councillor.
- 6.31 We noted the representation from Llanddyfnan Community Council who considered that our multi-member proposals would make political campaigning more difficult and would not be a democratic improvement. We also noted the representations from Moelfre and Pentraeth Community Councils who referred to the issue of electoral divisions which they both considered were over-large and unsuitable for the Isle of Anglesey. We further noted the representation from Councillor M^cGregor (**Llanddyfnan**) who acknowledged the prescriptive nature of the Minister's Direction, but considered that the Commission's proposals for large multi-member electoral divisions were unsuitable for rural areas of the Isle of Anglesey due to its sparsity. It is this sparsity, however, that leads to the size of the electoral divisions in our proposals and multi-member arrangements can go some way towards addressing the concerns that may be raised over this issue. We therefore confirm our proposals for this area.
- 6.32 In our Draft Proposals we gave the proposed electoral division a working name of North-Eastern Anglesey. We now propose the area be named **Lligwy**⁷ for Afon Lligwy, the river that runs through the division, meeting the sea at Traeth Lligwy.

⁶ Derivation: Rees, William: *An Historical Atlas of Wales* (Cardiff, 1951) p.24, plate 27. Supported by representation 57

⁷ Derivation: topographical feature of the river and bay. Not associated with previous names.

6.33 We consider that the proposed **Lligwy** electoral division improves the level of electoral parity in the area and we put this scheme forward as a proposal.

Bodffordd, Mechell, Llannerch-y-medd, Llanfaethlu and Llanfair-yn-Neubwll

6.34 In our Draft Proposals we proposed combining the existing Communities of Bodedern 764 electors (790 projected); Cylch-y-garn 594 electors (614 projected); Llanfachraeth 423 electors (436 projected); Llanfaethlu 397 electors (412 projected); Llannerch-y-medd 956 electors (990 projected); Mechell 958 electors (985 projected); Tref Alaw 402 electors (416 projected) and the Bodwrog 207 electors (214) and Llandrygarn 137 electors (141 projected) wards of the Community of Bodffordd to form an electoral division with 4,838 electors (4,998 projected) which, if represented by three councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,613 electors per councillor which is 2% below the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 8% below 1,750 electors per councillor.

6.35 We noted the representation from a resident of Rhostrehwfa which offered alternative suggestions for this area and others. These were considered but we determined that they would not offer the level of parity across the Isle of Anglesey that was demonstrated in our proposals.

6.36 We noted that our Draft Proposals split the Community of Bodffordd but considered that if the community was to be included in one electoral division the electoral parity would improve still further. To achieve this, we now propose combining the existing Communities of Bodedern 764 electors (790 projected); Cylch-y-garn 594 electors (614 projected); Llannerch-y-medd 956 electors (990 projected); Llanfachreth 423 electors (436 projected); Llanfaethlu 397 electors (412 projected); Mechell 958 electors (985 projected); Tref Alaw 402 electors (416 projected) to form an electoral division with 4,494 electors (4,643 projected) which, if represented by three councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,498 electors per councillor which is 9% below the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 14% below 1,750 electors per councillor. We confirm these proposals for this area. In our Draft Proposals we gave the proposed electoral division a working name of North-Western Anglesey. We now propose Talybolion⁸ as a name for part of a medieval land division known in Wales as a cwmwd, having long historical associations with the Lordship and Deanery of the Diocese of Bangor.

6.37 We consider that the proposed **Talybolion** electoral division improves the level of electoral parity in the area and we put this scheme forward as a proposal.

6.38 We acknowledge that these proposals will also affect the proposals for the **Canolbarth Môn** electoral division and these are now as shown below in paragraph 6.53

⁸ Derivation: Rees *ibid*, p.30 and plate 33 and *The Red Book of Hergest*.

Braint, Cadnant, Gwyngyll, and Tysilio

- 6.39 In our Draft Proposals we proposed combining the Communities of Llanfair Pwllgwyngyll 2,376 electors (2,452 projected); Menai Bridge 2,321 electors (2,392 projected); and Penmynydd 338 electors (348 projected); to form an electoral division with 5,035 electors (5,192 projected) which, if represented by three councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,678 electors per councillor which is 2% above the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 4% below 1,750 electors per councillor. This proposal resolves the anomaly considered at paragraph 3.8 above.
- 6.40 We noted the representation from Councillor J P Williams (**Gwyngyll**) who considered that the proposals for this area could leave it under-represented and went on to outline some possible changes for surrounding areas. We noted a representation from Llanidan Community Council which mentioned alternative arrangements for the area of Llanfihangel Ysceifiog but we considered that this realignment of proposals produced a lower level of parity than our proposals. We also noted a representation from a resident of Llanfairpwllgwyngyll who felt that it would be better to create new electoral divisions that contained 1,649 electors represented by one councillor each but we considered that the only way to achieve this is to conduct a Community Review which is outside the scope of this Report. In his representation a second resident of Llanfairpwllgwyngyll felt that we had, this time, applied the multi-member principle equitably and had, therefore, also addressed the parity question. In light of these representations, however, we confirm our proposals for this area.
- 6.41 In our Draft Proposals we gave the proposed electoral division a working name of South-Central Anglesey. We now propose **Aethwy**⁹ as a name for the part of the Isle of Anglesey referring to a medieval cantref and deanery. It was also the name of the Rural District Council from 1894 to 1974, encompassing the area at the entrance to the Isle of Anglesey from the mainland and commonly used in modern times by organisations, individuals, groups and businesses having strong local association.
- 6.42 We consider that the proposed **Aethwy** electoral division improves the level of electoral parity in the area and we put this scheme forward as a proposal.

Bodorgan, Llanidan and Llanfihangel Ysceifiog

- 6.43 In our Draft Proposals we proposed combining the Communities of Llanidan 756 electors (785 projected); Llanfihangel Ysceifiog 1,137 electors (1,175 projected); Llanddaniel Fab 569 electors (588 projected); and Llangristiolus 1,008 electors (1,041 projected) to form an electoral division with 3,470 electors (3,589 projected) which, if represented by two councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,735 electors per councillor which is 5% above the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and very close to 1,750 electors per councillor.

⁹ Derivation: Rees *ibid* p.30, plate 33. Supported by representation 57, and Cllr Selwyn Williams (representation 15).

- 6.44 We noted the representation from Bodorgan Community Council which felt that, although there was a need to reduce councillor numbers on the Isle of Anglesey, multi-member arrangements were not suitable in rural areas. The Community Council also pointed out that a council of 30 members would need to represent electoral divisions whose boundaries had been revised. As we have previously said, this level of boundary change is outside the scope of this report. We refer back to the comments in paragraph 6.40 referring to alternative arrangements for the area of Llanfihangel Ysceifiog and confirm our Draft Proposals for this area.
- 6.45 In our Draft Proposals we gave the proposed electoral division a working name of South-Eastern Anglesey. We now propose **Bro Rhosyr**¹⁰ as the name of the division which includes the site of the medieval maerdref (or head) of a cwmwd, having a fair and market and which has held a charter from 1237 granted by Llewelyn ap Iorwerth and is also the original name of the settlement of princes that was lost to blown sand.
- 6.46 We consider that the proposed **Bro Rhosyr** electoral division improves the level of electoral parity in the area and we put this scheme forward as a proposal.

Amlwch Town, Amlwch Port, Llanbadrig and Llaneilian

- 6.47 In our Draft Proposals we proposed combining the existing Communities of Amlwch 2,560 electors (2,649 projected); Llanbadrig 997 electors (1,021 projected); Llaneilian 897 electors (926 projected); and Rhosybol 838 electors (864 projected); to form an electoral division with 5,292 electors (5,460 projected) which, if represented by three councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,764 electors per councillor which is 7% above the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 1% above 1,750 electors per councillor.
- 6.48 We noted the representation from Amlwch Town Council who objected to our proposals to reduce council membership from 40 to 30. A change in councillor numbers has to occur as a result of following the guidance in the Minister's Direction and our proposals reflect this. We also noted a representation from Llanbadrig Community council who felt that the proposed electoral division which includes Llanbadrig would be geographically large and we further noted a representation from Llaneilian Community Council which felt that Llaneilian already contained 1,750 electors and so did not require change. There is some confusion here between the Community of Llaneilian and the electoral division of Llaneilian. The existing Llaneilian electoral division consists of the Community of Llaneilian with 897 electors (926 projected) and the Community of Rhosybol with 838 electors (864 projected) with a total of 1,735 electors (1,790 projected) represented by one councillor that is 40% above the existing county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and 1% below 1,750 electors per councillor. As we have explained earlier, our task is to meet both strands of the Minister's Direction and it is clear, therefore, that the retention of such an existing arrangement would not meet these strands. In any event, a single existing electoral division cannot be considered in isolation and we must consider the arrangements for the whole of the County. In so doing we may consider proposals that include the whole or part of an existing

¹⁰ Derivation: Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (www.heneb.co.uk/palaceoftheprinces/rhosyr.html). Supported by representation 57

electoral division within a new electoral division. Llaneilian with its electorate at 40% above the current county average is clearly under-represented and needs to be re-examined in the light of the Direction. We therefore confirm our proposals for the area.

- 6.49 In our Draft Proposals we gave the proposed electoral division a working name of Northern Anglesey. We now propose the name **Twrcelyn**¹¹ for the area, named for the historical association with medieval social arrangements of the cwmwd, part of the diocesan deanery prior to 1535, and then the former Twrcelyn Rural District Council (1894 to 1974).
- 6.50 We consider that the proposed **Twrcelyn** electoral division improves the level of electoral parity in the area and we put this scheme forward as a proposal.

Bryngwran, Cyngar, Cefni, Llanddyfnan, and Tudur

- 6.51 In our Draft Proposals we proposed combining the Communities of Bryngwran 601 electors (615 projected); Llangefni 3,500 electors (3,620 projected); Trewalchmai 692 electors (717 projected); the Heneglwys 407 electors (420 projected) ward of the Community of Bodffordd; and the Llanddyfnan 477 electors (491 projected), Llangwyllog 94 electors (90 projected) and Tregaeon 58 electors (60 projected) wards of the Community of Llanddyfnan to form an electoral division with 5,829 electors (6,013 projected) which, if represented by three councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,943 electors per councillor which is 18% above the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 11% above 1,750 electors per councillor.
- 6.52 We noted the representation from Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones AM who put forward some suggested changes to our proposals which we considered. As these suggestions only referred to the central area of the Isle of Anglesey we felt that our proposals improved parity across the county to a greater extent. We noted the representation from Trewalchmai Community Council which asked that consideration be given to moving the entire Bryngwran electoral division into the South-East Anglesey division. As explained earlier, our task is to examine the electoral arrangements of the whole of the Isle of Anglesey and so it was necessary to begin that analysis at community and community ward levels and our proposals reflect this. We noted the representation from Llanidan Community Council who observed that they currently have a single member representing 1,325 electors which is over the current county average. The Community Council then went on to make suggestions for the Malltraeth area that would result in electorates and variances from the county average that are well below those proposed by us. We looked at the whole of the Isle of Anglesey when drawing up our proposals and are well aware of the consequential effects that any proposed changes may produce and, in this case those effects would produce a lesser degree of parity than our proposals. We further noted the representation from Councillor M^cGregor (**Llanddyfnan**) who acknowledged the prescriptive nature of the Minister's Direction but felt that the large areas proposed would not help democratic renewal and multi-member arrangements were better suited to urban

¹¹ Derivation; Rees *ibid* p.24, plate 28. Supported by representation 57.

areas not rural, and who also offered some suggestions around the Malltraeth area which we considered. It was found that, although these suggestions contained some merit, again it was only when the whole of Isle of Anglesey was considered it was clear that our proposals more closely approached the guidance contained in the Minister's Direction. Similarly, the representation from Bryngwran Community Council which felt that their community would be better placed in the south of the county merely made the electorate there larger and would require that we propose a larger number of councillors in the area which may make the arrangement unwieldy.

- 6.53 As we explained in paragraph 6.36 above, our Draft Proposals split the Community of Bodffordd and we considered that if the Community was to be included in one electoral division that would improve the parity still further. We now propose combining the Communities of Bryngwran 601 electors (615 projected); Bodffordd 751 electors (775 projected); Llangefni 3,500 electors (3,620 projected); Trewalchmai 692 electors (717 projected); and the Llanddyfnan 477 electors (491 projected), Llangwyllog 94 electors (90 projected) and Tregaeon 58 electors (60 projected) wards of the Community of Llanddyfnan to form an electoral division with 6,173 electors (6,368 projected) which, if represented by three councillors, would result in a level of representation of 2,058 electors per councillor which is 25% above the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 18% above 1,750 electors per councillor. We confirm these proposals.
- 6.54 In our Draft Proposals we gave the proposed electoral division a working name of Central Anglesey. We now propose **Canolbarth Môn** as the name for the central area of the Isle of Anglesey, identifying with the cohesion and central location of the area in relation to the other proposed divisions.

Rhosneigr, Valley and Llanfair-yn-Neubwll

- 6.55 In our Draft Proposals we proposed combining the Communities of Llanfaelog 1,275 electors (1,312 projected); Llanfair-yn-Neubwll 940 electors (961 projected); Rhoscolyn 428 electors (443 projected); and Valley 1,734 electors (1,786 projected); to form an electoral division with 3,949 electors (4,059 projected) which, if represented by two councillors, would result in a level of representation of 1,975 electors per councillor which is 20% above the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and 13% above 1,750 electors per councillor.
- 6.56 We noted the representation from Councillor J P Williams (**Gwyngyll**) who felt that our proposals for the Valley and Rhosneigr area left its electorate under-represented. Valley and Rhosneigr electoral divisions are currently respectively 40% above and 44% below the current county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and our proposals change that to one electoral division which is 20% above our proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor. We also noted the representation from the Ynys Môn Constituency Labour Party which proposed to split the Western Anglesey electoral division and divide its electorate and allotted councillors to neighbouring areas. We felt that this proposal would increase the councillor level in each electoral division beyond the level at which they would become unwieldy in the context of the whole of the Isle of Anglesey. We therefore confirm our proposals for this area.

- 6.57 In our Draft Proposals we gave the proposed electoral division a working name of Western Anglesey. We now propose **Llifôn**¹² as the name for this electoral division which includes part of the medieval cwmwd and diocesan deanery of the north-west of the island and its long historical associations.
- 6.58 We consider that the proposed **Llifôn** electoral division improves the level of electoral parity in the area and we put this scheme forward as a proposal.

Summary of Proposed Arrangements

- 6.59 The proposed electoral arrangements (as shown at Appendix 3) provide a level of representation that ranges from Ynys Cybi at 18% below the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor (based on the existing electoral figures) to Canolbarth Môn 25% above that figure. Four (36%) of the proposed electoral divisions have levels of representation more than 10% above or below the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor and the remaining seven (64%) all less than 10% above or below the proposed county average of 1,649 electors per councillor. This compares with the existing electoral arrangements (as shown at Appendix 2) where the level of representation ranges from 48% below the current county average (Holyhead Town) to 40% above the current county average (Llaneilian) of 1,237 electors per councillor. Under existing arrangements 14 electoral divisions (35%) have levels of representation more than 25% above or below the current county average of 1,237 electors per councillor, 14 (35%) electoral divisions have levels of representation between 10% and 25% above or below than the current county average of 1,237 electors per councillor and the remaining 12 (30%) electoral divisions have levels of representation less than 10% above or below the current county average of 1,237 electors per councillor.
- 6.60 In producing a scheme of electoral arrangements it is necessary to have regard to a number of issues contained in the legislation and in the Minister's Directions. It is often not possible to resolve all of these sometimes conflicting issues because of the requirement of using the existing communities and community wards as building blocks of electoral divisions and the varying level of representation that currently exists within these areas. In our proposed scheme we have placed emphasis on achieving improvements in electoral parity, moving towards 1,750 electors per councillor. We recognise that the creation of electoral divisions which depart from the pattern that now exists would inevitably bring some disruption to existing ties between communities and may straddle community council areas in a way which is unfamiliar. We have made every effort to ensure that the revised electoral divisions do reflect logical combinations of existing communities and community wards. We have looked at each of these areas and are satisfied that it would be difficult to achieve electoral arrangements that keep the existing combination of communities and community wards within single electoral divisions without having a detrimental effect on one or more of the other issues that are required to be considered.

¹² Rees ibid p24, plates 28,33

7. PROPOSALS

- 7.1 We propose a council of 30 members and 11 electoral divisions as set out in Appendix 3. For purposes of comparison the present electoral arrangements for the County are given at Appendix 2. The boundaries of the proposed electoral divisions are shown by continuous yellow lines on the map placed on deposit with this Report at the Offices of Isle of Anglesey County Council and the Office of the Commission in Cardiff.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 8.1 We wish to express our gratitude to the principal council and all the community councils for their assistance during the course of the review and to all bodies and persons who made representations to us.

9. RESPONSES TO THIS REPORT

- 9.1 Having completed our review of the County of Isle of Anglesey and submitted our recommendations to the Welsh Government on the future electoral arrangements for the principal authority, we have fulfilled our statutory obligation under the directions issued by the Welsh Government.
- 9.2 It now falls to the Welsh Government, if it thinks fit, to give effect to these proposals either as submitted or with modifications, and if the Welsh Government decides to give effect to these proposals with modifications, it may direct us to conduct a further review.
- 9.3 Any further representations concerning the matters in the report should be addressed to the Welsh Government. They should be made as soon as possible and in any event not later than six weeks from the date that our recommendations are submitted to the Welsh Government. Representations should be addressed to:

Scrutiny, Democracy and Participation Team
Democracy, Ethics and Partnership Division
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

MR. M CALLER CBE (Interim Chairman)

Mr. O WATKIN OBE DL (Interim Member)

Mr. S BLAIR CBE (Interim Member)

Mr. STEVE HALSALL (Acting Secretary)

May 2012

Glossary of terms

<i>Boundary Review</i>	Review in which the Commission reviews the boundary of a local government area
<i>Building Blocks</i>	Because communities and, where they exist, community wards, are required to lie in one electoral division, they are used as building blocks for the electoral divisions
<i>Commission</i>	The Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales
<i>Council size</i>	The number of councillors elected to the council
<i>Directions</i>	Directions issued to the Commission by the Government under Section 59 of the 1972 Act
<i>Electoral arrangements</i>	How many Councillors there should be on the council of local government area, the parts into which the area should be divided for the purpose of electing councillors, the number of councillors for each electoral division, and the name of any electoral area
<i>Electoral Divisions</i>	The divisions into which principal areas are divided for the purpose of electing councillors, sometimes referred to colloquially as wards
<i>Electoral Review</i>	A review in which the Commission considers electoral arrangements for a local government area
<i>Electorate</i>	The number of persons entitled to vote in a local government area
<i>Electoral parity</i>	The principle that votes within a principal area should carry equal weight, measured by a comparison between an electoral division and the county average of the number of electors represented by a single councillor
<i>Government</i>	The Welsh Assembly Government
<i>Interested person</i>	Person or body who has an interest in the outcome of an electoral review such as the principal council concerned, local MPs, AMs and political parties, community and town councils
<i>Multi member Division</i>	Electoral division within a principal area represented by more than one councillor

Order	Order made by the Government, giving effect to the proposals of the Commission, either as submitted or with modifications
Principal area	The area governed by a principal council: in Wales, a County or County Borough
Principal council	In Wales, one of the unitary authorities: a County or County Borough council
Projected electorate	The five-year forecast of the number of electors provided by the Council for the area under review
Respondent	Body or individual person who responds to the Commission's consultation by making representations or suggesting alternative proposals
Rules	Rules to be observed by the Commission in considering electoral arrangements
Single member division	Electoral division of a principal authority represented by one councillor
The 1972 Act	The Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the 1994 Act
The 1994 Act	The Local Government (Wales) Act 1994
Unitary authority	A principal council - the single tier organ of local government, responsible for all or almost all local government functions within its area, which in Wales replaced the two tier system of county councils and district councils: a County Council, or a County Borough Council
Wards	The electoral areas of Community Councils (not all Community Council areas are warded). The term is also used to describe the principal council electoral divisions

**THE ISLE OF ANGLESEY
- EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS**

Nº	NAME	DESCRIPTION	No. OF COUNCILLORS	2011 ELECTORATE	2011 RATIO	% variance from County average	2016 ELECTORATE	2016 RATIO	% variance from County average	% variance from 1,750
1	Aberffraw	The Community of Aberffraw 498 (517 projected) and the Maelog 579 (596 projected) ward of the Community of Llanfaellog	1	1,077	1,077	-13%	1,113	1,113	-10%	-36%
2	Amlwch Port	The Port 838 (865 projected) and Town 796 (829 projected) wards of the Community of Amlwch	1	1,634	1,634	32%	1,694	1,694	37%	-3%
3	Amlwch Rural	The Rural 926 (955 projected) ward of the Community of Amlwch	1	926	926	-25%	955	955	-23%	-45%
4	Beaumaris	The Community of Beaumaris 1,370 (1,407 projected)	1	1,370	1,370	11%	1,407	1,407	14%	-20%
5	Bodffordd	The Community of Bodffordd 751 (776 projected) and the Cerrigcelynwen 432 (446 projected) ward of the Community of Llangristolus	1	1,183	1,183	-4%	1,222	1,222	-1%	-30%
6	Bodorgan	The Community of Bodorgan 699 (720 projected) and the Llangristolus 576 (595 projected) ward of the Community of Llangristolus	1	1,275	1,275	3%	1,315	1,315	6%	-25%
7	Braint	The Braint 1,145 (1,170 projected) ward of the Community of Llanfair Pwllgwyngyll	1	1,145	1,145	-7%	1,170	1,170	-5%	-33%
8	Bryngwran	The Communities of Bryngwran 601 (615 projected) and Trewalchmai 692 (717 projected)	1	1,293	1,293	5%	1,332	1,332	8%	-24%
9	Brynteg	The Benllech 'B' 1,141 (1,183 projected) and Brynteg 360 (372 projected) wards of the Community of Llanfair-Mathafarn-Eithaf	1	1,501	1,501	21%	1,555	1,555	26%	-11%
10	Cadnant	The Cadnant* 822 (861 projected) ward of the Community of Menai Bridge	1	822	822	-34%	861	861	-30%	-51%
11	Cefni	The Cefni 1,156 (1,196 projected) ward of the Community of Llangefni	1	1,156	1,156	-7%	1,196	1,196	-3%	-32%
12	Cwm Cadnant	The Community of Cwm Cadnant 1,710 (1,761 projected)	1	1,710	1,710	38%	1,761	1,761	42%	1%
13	Cyngar	The Cyngar ward of the Community of Llangefni 1,465 (1,509 projected)	1	1,465	1,465	18%	1,509	1,509	22%	-14%
14	Gwyngyll	The Gwyngyll 1,231 (1,282 projected) ward of the Community of Llanfair Pwllgwyngyll	1	1,231	1,231	0%	1,282	1,282	4%	-27%
15	Holyhead Town	The Town 640 (666 projected) ward of the Community of Holyhead	1	640	640	-48%	666	666	-46%	-62%
16	Kingsland	The Kingsland 974 (1,003 projected) ward of the Community of Holyhead	1	974	974	-21%	1,003	1,003	-19%	-43%
17	Llanbadrig	The Community of Llanbadrig 997 (1,022 projected)	1	997	997	-19%	1,022	1,022	-17%	-42%
18	Llanbedrgoch	The Benllech 'A' 764 (790 projected) and Llanbedrgoch 377 (391 projected) wards of the Community of Llanfair-Mathafarn-Eithaf	1	1,141	1,141	-8%	1,181	1,181	-5%	-33%
19	Llanddyfnan	The Communities of Llanddyfnan 827 (843 projected) and Llanegrad 211 (217 projected)	1	1,038	1,038	-16%	1,060	1,060	-14%	-39%
20	Llanellian	The Communities of Llanellian 897 (926 projected) and Rhosybol 838 (864 projected)	1	1,735	1,735	40%	1,790	1,790	45%	2%
21	Llanfaethlu	The Communities of Llanfaethlu 423 (436 projected) and Llanfaethlu 397 (412 projected) and the Llanrhuddlad 400 (414 projected) ward of the Community of Cylch-y-Garn	1	1,220	1,220	-1%	1,262	1,262	2%	-28%
22	Llanfair-yn-Neubwll	The Communities of Bodedem 764 (790 projected) and Llanfair-yn-Neubwll 940 (961 projected)	1	1,704	1,704	38%	1,751	1,751	42%	0%
23	Llanfihangel Ysgelfrog	The Communities of Llanfihangel Ysgelfrog 1,137 (1,175 projected) and Penmynydd 338 (348 projected)	1	1,475	1,475	19%	1,523	1,523	23%	-13%
24	Llangoed	The Community of Llangoed 981 (1,017 projected)	1	981	981	-21%	1,017	1,017	-18%	-42%
25	Llanidan	The Communities of Llanddaniel Fab 569 (588 projected) and Llanidan 756 (785 projected)	1	1,325	1,325	7%	1,373	1,373	11%	-22%

**THE ISLE OF ANGLESEY
- EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS**

Nº	NAME	DESCRIPTION	No. OF COUNCILLORS	2011 ELECTORATE	2011 RATIO	% variance from County average	2016 ELECTORATE	2016 RATIO	% variance from County average	% variance from 1,750
26	Llannerch-y-medd	The Communities of Llannerch -y-medd 956 (990 projected) and Tref Alaw 402 (416 projected)	1	1,358	1,358	10%	1,406	1,406	14%	-20%
27	London Road	The London Road 914 (939 projected) ward of the Community of Holyhead	1	914	914	-26%	939	939	-24%	-46%
28	Maeshyfyd	The Maeshyfyd 1,391 (1,428 projected) ward of the Community of Holyhead	1	1,391	1,391	12%	1,428	1,428	15%	-18%
29	Mechell	The Community of Mechell 958 (985 projected) and the Llanfairynghorwy 194 (200 projected) ward of the Community of Cylch-y-Garn	1	1,152	1,152	-7%	1,185	1,185	-4%	-32%
30	Moelfre	The Community of Moelfre 779 (809 projected)	1	779	779	-37%	809	809	-35%	-54%
31	Morawelon	The Morawelon 923 (953 projected) ward of the Community of Holyhead	1	923	923	-25%	953	953	-23%	-46%
32	Parc a'r Mynydd	The Parc a'r Mynydd 898 (927 projected) ward of the Community of Holyhead	1	898	898	-27%	927	927	-25%	-47%
33	Pentraeth	The Communities of Llanddona 517 (536 projected) and Penraeth 906 (935 projected)	1	1,423	1,423	15%	1,471	1,471	19%	-16%
34	Porthyfelin	The Porthyfelin 1,462 (1,508 projected) ward of the Community of Holyhead	1	1,462	1,462	18%	1,507	1,507	22%	-14%
35	Rhosneigr	The Rhosneigr 696 (716 projected) ward of the Community of Llanfaellog	1	696	696	-44%	716	716	-42%	-59%
36	Rhosyr	The Community of Rhosyr 1,658 (1,711 projected)	1	1,658	1,658	34%	1,711	1,711	38%	-2%
37	Trearddur	The Communities of Rhoscolyn 428 (443 projected) and Trearddur 1,272 (1,313 projected)	1	1,700	1,700	37%	1,756	1,756	42%	0%
38	Tudur	The Tudur 879 (915 projected) ward of the Community of Llangefni	1	879	879	-29%	915	915	-26%	-48%
39	Tysilio	The Tysilio* 1,499 (1,531 projected) ward of the Community of Menai Bridge	1	1,499	1,499	21%	1,531	1,531	24%	-13%
40	Valley	The Community of Valley 1,734 (1,785 projected)	1	1,734	1,734	40%	1,785	1,785	44%	2%
		TOTALS:	40	49,484	1,237		51,059	1,276		

Ratio is the number of electors per councillor
The number of electors for 2009 and 2014 (in brackets) are included in the description of those electoral divisions
Electoral figures supplied by the Isle of Anglesey County Council
*Community wards as they existed prior to the Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn/ Isle of Anglesey County Council review of electoral arrangements (Tysilio and Cadnant Wards Menai Bridge and Llangefni Town Council) Order 1998

	2011	2016
Greater than ± 50% of County average	0	0
Between ± 25% and ± 50% of County average	14	13
Between ± 10% and ± 25% of County average	15	17
Between 0% and ± 10% of County average	11	10
Greater than ± 50% of 1:1,750	4	4
Between ± 25% and ± 50% of 1:1,750	19	17
Between ± 10% and ± 25% of 1:1,750	10	12
Between 0% and ± 10% of 1:1,750	7	7

**ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL
- PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS**

N ^o	Name	Description	Councillors	2011 Electorate	Ratio	% variance from County average	% variance from 1,750	2016 Electorate	Ratio	% variance from County average	% variance from 1,750
1	Ynys Gybi	The Communities of Treardur 1,272 electors (1,313 projected); Rhoscolyn 428 electors (443 projected); and the Maeshyfryd 1,391 electors (1,428 projected); and Kingsland 974 electors (1,009 projected) wards of the Community of Holyhead	3	4,065	1,355	-18%	-23%	4,187	1,396	-18%	-20%
2	Bro Aberffraw	The Communities of Aberffraw 498 electors (518 projected); Bodorgan 699 electors (720 projected); and Rhosyr 1,656 electors (1,711 projected)	2	2,855	1,428	-13%	-18%	2,949	1,475	-13%	-16%
3	Seirfrol	The Communities of Beaumaris 1,370 electors (1,407 projected); Cwm Cadnant 1,710 electors (1,761 projected); Llandona 517 electors (536 projected) and Llangoed 981 electors (1,016 projected)	3	4,578	1,526	-7%	-13%	4,720	1,573	-8%	-10%
4	Lilgwy	The Communities of Moelfre 779 electors (809 projected); Llanfair-Mathafam-Eithaf 2,642 electors (2,736 projected); Penrath 906 electors (935 projected); and the Llanthangel, Tre'r Beirdd Ward of the Community of Llanddwyfan 198 electors (202 projected)	3	4,736	1,579	-4%	-10%	4,899	1,633	-4%	-7%
5	Caerdybi	The Town 640 electors (666 projected); London Road 914 electors (939 projected) Morawelon 923 electors (953 projected); Porthyelin 1,462 electors (1,508 projected) and Parc ar mynydd 898 electors (927 projected) wards of the Community of Holyhead.	3	4,837	1,612	-2%	-8%	4,993	1,664	-2%	-5%
6	Aethwy	The Communities of Llanfair-Pwllgwygyl 2,376 electors (2,452 projected); Menai Bridge 2,321 electors (2,392 projected); and Penrynnydd 338 electors (348 projected)	3	5,035	1,678	2%	-4%	5,192	1,731	2%	-1%
7	Bro Rhosyr	The Communities of Llanidan 756 electors (785 projected); Llanthangel Ysceiflog 1,137 electors (1,175 projected); Llanddaniel Fab 569 electors (588 projected); and Llangristolus 1,008 electors (1,041 projected)	2	3,470	1,735	5%	-1%	3,589	1,795	5%	3%
8	Talybolion	The Communities of Bodeleyn 764 electors (790 projected); Cych-y-garn 594 electors (614 projected); Llanerch-y-moed 556 electors (590 projected); Llanfachreth 423 electors (436 projected); Llanraethlu 397 electors (412 projected); Mechnal 958 electors (985 projected); and Tre'r Aaw 402 electors (416 projected)	3	4,494	1,498	-9%	-14%	4,643	1,548	-9%	-12%
9	Twrcelyn	The Communities of Amlwch 2,560 electors (2,649 projected); Llanbadrig 997 electors (1,021 projected); Llanellian 897 electors (926 projected); and Rhosybol 838 electors (864 projected)	3	5,292	1,764	7%	1%	5,460	1,820	7%	4%
10	Canolbarth Môn	The Communities of Bryngwran 601 electors (615 projected); Bodffordd 751 electors (775 projected); Llangefni 3,500 electors (3,620 projected); Trewalchmai 692 electors (717 projected); and the Llanddwyfan 477 electors (491 projected); Llangwyllog 94 electors (90 projected) and Tregaeon 58 electors (60 projected) wards of the Community of Llanddwyfan.	3	6,173	2,058	25%	18%	6,368	2,123	25%	21%
11	Lliffôn	The Communities of Llanfhaelog 1,275 electors (1,312 projected); and Valley 1,734 electors (1,786 projected)	2	3,949	1,975	20%	13%	4,059	2,030	19%	16%
			30	49,484	1,649			51,059	1,702		

Ratio is the number of electors per councillor

The number of electors for 2011 and 2016 (in brackets) are included in the description of these electoral divisions
Electoral figures supplied by the Isle of Anglesey County Council

2011

Greater than ± 50% of County average 0 0%

Between ± 25% and ± 50% of County average 0 0%

Between ± 10% and ± 25% of County average 4 36%

Between 0% and ± 10% of County average 7 64%

2016

Greater than ± 50% of County average 0 0%

Between ± 25% and ± 50% of County average 0 0%

Between ± 10% and ± 25% of County average 3 27%

Between 0% and ± 10% of County average 8 73%

Greater than ± 50% of 1:1,750 0 0%

Between ± 25% and ± 50% of 1:1,750 0 0%

Between ± 10% and ± 25% of 1:1,750 4 36%

Between 0% and ± 10% of 1:1,750 7 64%

**DEDDF LLYWODRAETH
LEOL 1972**

**CYFARWYDDYD I
GOMISIWN FFINIAU
LLYWODRAETH LEOL
CYMRU 2011**

**Adolygu Trefniadau Etholiadol yn
Sir Ynys Môn**

Mae Gweinidogion Cymru drwy arfer y pwerau a roddwyd i'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol gan adrannau 58(3), 59(1) a 78 o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol 1972 ac Atodlen 11 i'r Ddeddf honno, ac a freinir bellach ynddynt hwy, yn gwneud y Cyfarwyddyd canlynol i Gomisiwn Ffiniau Llywodraeth Leol Cymru ar ôl ymgynghori â chymdeithasau yr ymddengys i Weiniogion Cymru eu bod yn cynrychioli awdurdodau lleol.

Dehongli

1. Yn y Cyfarwyddyd hwn:

ystyr “y Comisiwn” (“*the Commission*”) yw Comisiwn Ffiniau Llywodraeth Leol Cymru;

ystyr “y Sir” (“*the County*”) yw Sir Ynys Môn(1).

**Tynnu'n ôl y Cyfarwyddiadau i Gomisiwn Ffiniau
Llywodraeth Leol Cymru 2009**

2. Mae'r Cyfarwyddyd hwn yn tynnu'n ôl y Cyfarwyddiadau i Gomisiwn Ffiniau Llywodraeth Leol Cymru 2009 i'r graddau y mae'r Cyfarwyddiadau'n rhoi canllawiau ar gyfer cynnal adolygiad o'r Sir a gwneud cynigion neu argymhellion neu ystyried newidiadau o sylwedd mewn trefniadau etholiadol o ganlyniad i hynny.

Adolygu trefniadau etholiadol

3. Mae Gweinidogion Cymru yn cyfarwyddo'r Comisiwn i gynnal adolygiad pellach o'r Sir ac o'i threfniadau etholiadol ac i wneud cynigion diwygiedig.

(1) Mae Atodlen 4 i Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol 1972 yn darparu ar gyfer enwi'r Sir yn Sir Fôn. Gellir newid enwau siroedd drwy benderfyniad, ac adwaenir y Sir ar hyn o bryd fel Ynys Môn.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT
1972**

**DIRECTION TO THE LOCAL
GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY
COMMISSION FOR WALES
2011**

**Review of Electoral Arrangements
in the County of Isle of Anglesey**

The Welsh Ministers in exercise of the powers conferred on the Secretary of State by sections 58(3), 59(1) and 78 of and Schedule 11 to, the Local Government Act 1972 and now vested in them, make the following Direction to the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales having consulted associations appearing to the Welsh Ministers to be representative of local authorities.

Interpretation

1. In this Direction:

“the Commission” (“*y Comisiwn*”) means the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales;

“the County” (“*y Sir*”) means the County of Isle of Anglesey(1).

**Withdrawal of the Directions to the Local
Government Boundary Commission for Wales 2009**

2. This Direction withdraws the Directions to the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales 2009 in so far as the Directions give guidance for the conduct of a review of the County and the making of proposals or recommendations or considering substantive changes in electoral arrangements in consequence thereof.

Review of electoral arrangements

3. The Welsh Ministers direct the Commission to conduct a further review of the County and its electoral arrangements and to make revised proposals.

(1) Schedule 4 to the Local Government Act 1972 provides for the name of the County to be Anglesey. County names can be altered by resolution and the County is currently known as the Isle of Anglesey.

4. At ddibenion paragraff 3 mae Gweinidogion Cymru yn rhoi'r cyfarwyddiadau a ganlyn i'r Comisiwn fel canllaw iddo—

- (a) dylai'r Comisiwn, yn gyntaf oll, ystyried buddioldeb adrannau etholiadol aml-aelod ledled y Sir; a
- (b) dylai'r Comisiwn amcanu i gynnig cymhareb cynghorwyr i etholwyr a fydd mor agos ag y bo modd at 1:1750.

5. Mae Gweinidogion Cymru yn cyfarwyddo'r Comisiwn i gyflwyno'r adroddiad ar yr adolygiad pellach a'r cynigion i Weinidogion Cymru erbyn 30 Medi 2011 fan bellaf.

4. For the purposes of paragraph 3 the Welsh Ministers give the following directions to the Commission for their guidance—

- (a) the Commission should in the first instance consider the desirability of multi member electoral divisions throughout the County; and
- (b) the Commission should aim to propose a councillor to electorate ratio which is as close as is possible to 1:1750.

5. The Welsh Ministers direct the Commission to submit the report of the further review and proposals to them by no later than 30 September 2011.

Carl Sargeant



Y Gweinidog dros Gyfiawnder Cymdeithasol a Llywodraeth Leol, un o Weinidogion Cymru

Dyddiad 28 Mawrth 2011



Minister for Social Justice and Local Government, one of the Welsh Ministers

Date 28 March 2011

SUMMARY OF REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED IN RESPONSE TO DRAFT PROPOSALS

- 1. Anglesey County Council wrote on 20/12/11:** The Council rejects the Boundary Commission's latest proposals to introduce 11 multi-member electoral divisions to elect 30 Members for Ynys Môn/ Isle of Anglesey at an election in May 2013. The Council is of the strong opinion that the proposals, which have not been available for proper consultation, would produce over-large electoral divisions, which would be undemocratic in limiting the range of candidates, would lack local accountability, be incompatible because of forced mergers of differing rural and urban communities, and would not provide enough Members for the efficient working of the County Council and reaffirmed a strong preference for single-member electoral divisions. The Council commits to engaging purposefully thereafter with the Local Government Boundary Commission to work towards electoral division parity, in terms of one Member to 1,400 electors and a reasonable reduction in the number of Members.
- 2. Aberffraw Community Council wrote on 15/12/11** and expressed their objections to the Commission's Draft Proposals for the future electoral arrangements for Anglesey. Concerns were particularly expressed with regards to the following points:
Multi-member electoral divisions – the Community Council is of the opinion that multi-member electoral divisions would be unworkable in rural areas. It is likely that the workload of the Members would not be distributed equally - one Member may live in a more populated area of the electoral division and as a result the demands on him/ her would be greater. It should also be considered that it is possible that all Members of a multi-member electoral division could live in the same area - leaving some electors geographically very far from any Member.
The changes under consideration are extremely significant to the people of Anglesey and to the future of the island. It is therefore felt that a referendum should be held in order to ensure that all electors are given the opportunity to express their opinion.
- 3. Amlwch Town Council wrote on 15/12/11** and strongly objected to proposals to introduce multi-member electoral divisions to elect 30 members instead of 40.
- 4. Beaumaris Town Council wrote on 1/12/11** and were unanimous in their view that the town should continue to be represented by a single councillor. They were concerned that the formation of a three-member "East Anglesey" electoral division could result in a reduced understanding of their views and needs by their representatives on the County Council and could mean that their community was represented by three members living outside the town, rather than a person living within the community who is more immediately available to consult.
Whilst a ratio of 1,750 electors per Councillor may work in urban areas, the Town Council considered that adherence to this ratio for rural areas is less satisfactory. It could result in many electors being represented by "distant" County Councillors.
- 5. Bodffordd Community Council wrote on 22/12/11** and felt that the Council opposed the Commission's Draft Proposals because the countryside is losing out, mixing town with country.
No understanding of the work and role of Councillors, nor the need of the constituents.

The county's people should make electoral arrangements, not outsiders.

6. **Bodorgan Community Council wrote on 7/12/11** and considered the recently published draft proposals for revised electoral arrangements on Anglesey at their December meeting.

The members' initial concerns were the short time frame for the consultation on such an important subject and also had reservations about the Ministerial directive to the Commission.

The Commission was urged to bear in mind that these consultations relate to Local Government, and it was felt that it is imperative that the electorate can easily interact with their local elected member, who will have a thorough understanding of the area that he/ she represents and the unique problems of that particular electoral division.

In a rural area like Anglesey, the Council were of the opinion that multi-member electoral divisions are not an acceptable form of democratic representation, and wish to record strong opposition to such arrangements. Such arrangements might be suited to an urban population such as Holyhead. The members were unanimous in their support for single-member electoral divisions throughout rural Anglesey. It was accepted that there was a need to reduce the number of elected members, and a County Council of 30 elected members would be adequate. That would inevitably lead to an essential revision of electoral division boundaries, but such revision must be made on the basis of local "association" and natural communities and not pure arithmetic. The monstrosities proposed in the draft consultation are totally unacceptable, and in the opinion of this Council completely destroy local democracy and accountability.
7. **Bryngwran Community Council wrote on 22/12/11** and opposed the arrangements for the following reasons: It would make better sense to put Bryngwran and Trewalchmai with the south of the Island, because Bryngwran and Trewalchmai could be without a councillor because most of the constituents are in Llangefni. It will be difficult for a new councillor to serve an area with such large electoral divisions.
8. **Cylch-y-Garn Community Council wrote on 22/12/11.** The Community Council discussed this matter. Although they have no objection to reducing the number of councillors, we feel that the areas proposed are too large. If the areas were smaller, only one councillor would be needed, e.g. 30 areas - 30 councillors.

The county councillors represent every school in their area, and attend meetings at the schools and Community Council meetings each month. It will be almost impossible for them to do this in a larger area. It is also possible that a councillor could be elected for part of an area that is unfamiliar to them and for that area to lose out.
9. **Cwm Cadnant Community Council wrote on 3/1/12** and was in agreement that three councillors should represent the combined projected 4,720 electors, however, we are not in favour of combining our Community with Beaumaris, Llanddona and Llangoed as we much prefer to have our current County Councillor to remain in place and to keep our identity as a Community Council intact, that is, one Councillor to represent Beaumaris, one Councillor to represent both Llanddona and Llangoed and one Councillor to represent Cwm Cadnant for the purpose of this review, irrespective of the amount of electors in each case. Furthermore, we have no objection to approach any of the three representatives to assist us with any

Appendix 5

pertinent matters with priority to our own County Councillor in Cwm Cadnant and we would naturally invite ALL representatives to our meetings.

Finally we have no alternative suggestions to the proposed name of **Eastern Anglesey** for this aforementioned amalgamation.

10. **Holyhead Town Council wrote on 29/11/11** and accepted that there were to be two multi-member electoral divisions in the town and suggested that they be called Holyhead Urban and Holyhead Rural.
11. **Llanbadrig Community Council wrote on 3/1/12** expressing support for the rejection of the proposals by the County Council. The reasoning is as follows:
 1. The lack of time to allow for the Community Council to hold adequate consultation on the proposals, with the Community prior to 3/1/2012 given the Christmas commitments of all County Councillors and Community Councillors.
 2. The large geographical size of the proposed North Anglesey electoral ward which would compromise the ability of County Councillors to adequately consult the community.
 3. The lack of clarity as to how the role of existing Community Councils would be incorporated into the new structure
 4. Llanbadrig Community interests may be diluted by being part of the much bigger community of Amlwch, Amlwch Port, Rhosybol and Llaneilian
12. **Llanddyfnan Community Council wrote on 21/12/11 and** felt that the proposals will be difficult for people to stand independently, the costs will be higher and this will create more work, the electoral divisions will be much bigger, up to three councillors will be campaigning in the same area, this is not a democratic improvement.
13. **Llaneilian Community Council wrote on 1/12/11** and asked that the consultation period be extended due to the Christmas holidays and decided unanimously to reject any changes to the constituency of Llaneilian, which has existed since 1974 and is a very successful electoral division in terms of representation on the County Council.

The Council opposed the changes based on the fact that it is not helpful or practical to mix urban wards with rural wards as there are significant differences between urban and rural areas. Furthermore, Llaneilian is home to 1,750 constituents, which is the necessary amount - in the Commission's opinion - to be represented by one County Councillor.
14. **Llanfachraeth Community Council wrote on 6/12/11** and were concerned that multi-member proposals would lead to a single councillor becoming over-burdened and this would be detrimental to the electorate.
15. **Llanfaelog Community Council wrote on 25/11/11** and disagreed with the proposals and the formation of multi-member electoral divisions. They felt that there was a danger of elected members in these larger electoral divisions would lack local knowledge.

The Council suggested that Western Anglesey be given the alternative name of **Trewan** if the proposals go ahead.

- 16. Llanfair-yn-Neubwll Community Council wrote on 3/01/12** and were concerned the proposals put forward by the Boundary Commission are being hurried through without sufficient consultation with the people of Anglesey.

To conduct a major public consultation over a period that includes the Christmas and New Year bank holiday period when Council Offices and Libraries are closed, denying the general public the opportunity to view the maps and proposals for electoral divisions is not acceptable.

The people of Anglesey deserve to be treated with respect and should have parity with the electors of the other local authorities in Wales.
- 17. Llanfihangelesceifiog Community Council wrote on 7/12/11** and the Community Council did not feel that the way the area is set to be divided is fair because the number of residents in each electoral division is not equal. Concern was raised regarding the responsibility in electoral divisions that have more than one member.
- 18. Llangoed Community Council wrote on 31/12/11** having discussed the Commission's proposals, the Community Council has decided unanimously to reject it on the grounds of it being un-workable and not cost effective to the ratepayers of Anglesey. It was also considered to be expensive to arrange, especially, to any independent member.
- 19. Llanidan Community Council wrote on 12/12/11** and strongly supported the final proposals dated 31/8/10 [i.e. the previous Review] and remain of the view that this report is the best way forward. That report and the previous draft report confirm the retention of the present electoral division of Llanidan (including both Llanidan and Llanddaniel Fab Communities). The Council remains of the firm opinion that despite the Commission's further review that this electoral division should be retained as a separate unit.

The present electoral division has a present electorate of 1,325 which, especially given it covers a very rural area, is sufficient to warrant one member as has been the case historically.

The residents value having a local member. The Commission's recent report outlines a multi-member electoral division which the Community Council strongly opposes. The Council can confirm that the proposal for a multi-member electoral division is not at all supported locally.

In the Commission's proposals of 31/8/10 (paragraph 6.7) it was stated "*we believe that in the interests of effective and convenient local government a council size of 36 would be appropriate to represent the County of Isle of Anglesey*". The Community Council cannot therefore understand how 30 members - a 25% reduction, is now appropriate? Again the electorate have not been consulted on this issue.

As stated, the Commission's proposals of 30/8/10 reduced the number of members by 10% and also introduced some multi-member electoral divisions in urban areas. Only six electoral divisions remained the same. In any case in other parts of Wales, rural areas such as Llanidan are represented by only one member. The Community Council sees no reason why their residents should be treated differently.

The Community Council notes the Minister's Direction of 28/3/11 says "*the Commission in the **first instance** consider the desirability of multi-member electoral divisions throughout the County*". Now that the Commission have consulted on this and taken into account our views the Community Council trusts that the Commission will reconsider and allow Llanidan electoral division to remain the same as present in the Commission's final report.

It would be remiss of the Community Council not to comment on the proposed South Western Anglesey electoral division. Apart from having only two proposed members as opposed to three, it has little merit. The obvious error is to ignore the historical natural boundary of Malltraeth Marsh/ Cefni River. Electoral divisions need to reflect local communities and the amenities they use. Therefore, including Llangristiolus, on the other side of the marsh, is not acceptable. Their natural pull is to Llangefni which is only a quarter of a mile away from some parts of this ward. Finally, only on the basis that the Commission decided that ALL electoral divisions in its final report still must be multi-member, the Community Council wish to suggest more sensible options.

One option would be forming an electoral division of two members from the present Llanidan and Rhosyr divisions. The total present electorate would be 2,983. One other option, again on this side of the marsh and reflecting local communities, could be forming an electoral division of two members from the present Llanidan and Llanfihangel Ysceifiog divisions. This would retain the rural Penmynydd community with Llanfihangel Ysceifiog rather than joining the urban South Central Anglesey. The total present electorate would be 2,800.

20. Mechell Community Council wrote on 2/1/12 and made the following points:

1. Mechell Community Council accepts that, for several reasons, Anglesey's electoral arrangements need to be amended.
2. The Draft Plan does not include details regarding how the proposed arrangements would be implemented, and therefore it is impossible to offer a considered response, e.g. how would the changes affect Community Councils? How would the accountability between an elected member and his/ her constituents be upheld? Who will be the contact member for any Community Council?
3. There is no time to consult with neighbouring areas and develop alternative ideas. There is an example of this between Mechell Council and our neighbours in Llanbadrig. If these proposals are implemented and a new nuclear power station is built on the Wylfa site, this development would be split between the new electoral divisions, which in turn would lead to endless complications.

This is a summary of Mechell Community Council's response. We support the idea of re-arranging the electoral divisions of Anglesey, but the time allocated to developing this important work is far too short and, as before, we will have to rearrange once again in a few years time if the new arrangements are not carefully considered. We ask the Commission to pause and to hold a genuine consultation. And to support this opinion, we believe that any decision regarding the county and community constituencies of Anglesey should be postponed to allow time to develop the proposals thoroughly.

21. Moelfre Community Council wrote on 3/1/12 and wished to make the following comments:

Our Community Council rejects and resists the latest proposals to introduce 11 multi-member electoral divisions to elect 30 members for Ynys Mon elections in May 2013 - the proposal would produce over-large electoral divisions, lack local accountability, and be incompatible because of forced mergers of differing communities; it would also not provide enough members for the efficient working of the County Council.

It could also raise the serious issue of being more confusing for electors in not knowing who is their elected member in multi-member electoral divisions, with no

guarantee of the work-load being shared equally - we note a very strong preference for single-member electoral divisions, but realistic enough to agree that in some of the towns and very large villages multi-member electoral divisions are an option.

We note that Conservative and Liberal Democratic Assembly Members have voiced their opinion to the proposals, we fully agree with their comments that it is the intention of the Minister to be 'manipulating the boundaries and electoral system purely to achieve his own preferred outcome' - he wrongly assumes it is the fault of the Independent Councillors on Anglesey for the situation they are in, this is not the case - the process on such an important issue has not been sufficient to allow full consultation that will impact on the island long after the term of office of the current Minister who is 'minded' to delay the local elections on Anglesey.

- 22. Pentraeth Community Council wrote on 19/12/11** and did not accept the Commission's draft proposals and gave the following reasons –
1. Multi-member electoral divisions will not work apart from perhaps in the more densely-populated areas of the island.
 2. The electoral divisions are too big and the feeling is that a County Council of 30 Members could not function effectively. A Council of 34-36 Members would be more acceptable.
- 23. Penmynydd Community Council wrote on 22/12/11** and objected to the proposed changes on the following grounds:
Penmynydd is a rural location. Combining the community with towns is not acceptable and would not work.
The council rejects the proposal to introduce 11 multi-member electoral divisions because they feel the electorate would not be fairly represented. It would be unfair to expect an elector to choose which councillor they approached for help or advice. Electors and councillors could be at a disadvantage because of councillors with a stronger personality monopolising the area.
The areas are too large for fair representation.
- 24. Rhoscolyn Community Council wrote on 16/12/11** were concerned that the proposed electoral arrangements were very large and multi-member arrangements would not provide a more democratic order - particularly where rural and urban areas are to be combined and the councillor workload would not be an easy one to share equally.
- 25. Rhosybol Community Council wrote on 7/12/11** and following discussions between members of Rhosybol Community Council regarding the content of the draft proposals for future electoral arrangements on Anglesey, they hope that the following points are considered before a decision is reached.
1. The Community Council previously opposed splitting the village of Penysarn in two during the original proposals at the start of the year.
 2. The Llanellian electoral division total is already within the requirements.

In addition to the above:

3. The proposals we have today are very different to those we received at the start of the year.
4. The Llanellian electoral division has existed for almost 40 years, and includes a total number of electors that is still within the target of 1,750.

Appendix 5

5. The members feel strongly and reject the suggestion of merging with Cemmaes, Amlwch and Llanelian with the aim of creating a North Anglesey electoral division.
6. It is also felt that creating an electoral division of this kind would excessively mix together urban and rural areas.

Although the above letter was sent within the specified time, i.e. before the closing date of 3 January 2012, the Council wishes it to be noted that it was not happy that the closing date is so close to the start of the New Year, as many Councils would not have had the chance to discuss and respond to the draft document.

26. **Trearddur Community Council wrote on 3/12/11** and felt that the structure appears to be biased towards political representation and does not amalgamate similar areas with each other. Amalgamating urban and rural areas will not work. The Community Council is quite happy with the present electoral arrangements which conform to the number of electors considered suitable by the Commission. The arrangements did not appear to be democratic and there are concerns at the operation of multi councillor electoral divisions.
27. **Tref Alaw Community Council wrote on 3/1/12** stating that the opinions of the Tref Alaw Community Council have not changed since the 2009/10 review. That is, they do not accept the proposals as drafted. Whilst the draft proposals come some way to getting equal numbers of voters per councillor, there are still nearly 600 constituents between highest and lowest areas. In addition, some of the proposed geographic areas become unwieldy in size. Taking into consideration the proposed development of a Wylfa B Nuclear Power station, could we suggest it would be more equitable and make more sense to carry out this review at the same time as the rest of Wales when perhaps clearer information would be available as to the level of inward migration to the Island this development will entail.
28. **Trewalchmai Community Council wrote on 8/11/11** and were concerned that the process needed to be explained to them in person and that the consultation period was too short. The Council agreed that the councillor numbers be reduced from 40 to 30 but were against merging rural areas with urban and wished that the existing Bryngwran electoral division as a whole be included in the proposed South East Anglesey Division.
29. **Albert Owen MP - Anglesey- wrote on 21/12/11** and Mr Owen believes that the proposed reduction of councillors by 25% is excessive and could impact on the governance and efficient working of the County Council. While Mr Owen respects the fact that the Commission has a specific remit which binds it in legislation from wider dialogue, and feels that it is important to take into account factors to ensure future electoral arrangements genuinely reflect local and island-wide identities. It is not Mr Owen's intention to unpick the Commission's work on its drawing of boundaries as, no doubt, it looked at many factors in arriving at its draft proposals. Nevertheless the Isle of Anglesey is unique and its electoral arrangements and representation has reflected this since its shire status in the 1530s. The Isle of Anglesey has an electorate of just under 50,000; it has a natural boundary and various local community identities. In many ways these are built

Appendix 5

around its principal towns; Amlwch in the north, Beaumaris in eastern Anglesey, Holyhead in the west, Menai Bridge in the south and the municipal town of Llangefni in central Anglesey. The Commission has to a certain extent reflected this in population sizes. However Mr Owen felt that a greater emphasis should be given to the five towns and resources and County Council offices established to form a link between the Council and the public. This will allow far greater access and bring the Council closer to the electorate, and allow Councillors to have greater contact with constituents thereby enhancing local democracy.

Mr Owen believed that 30 members may not be sufficient to provide Anglesey with effective governance and representation. Taking into account an Executive of say six plus a leader, six scrutiny chairs, chair of Planning and a civic leader (County Chairman) this leaves just 15 members to provide scrutiny of vital service and amenities. A Council of between 33-35 members would provide better representation and more effective scrutiny.

To achieve the additional three members it would be possible to make the proposed wards three-member electoral divisions. To achieve a 35 member council; nine electoral divisions would have three members while the North Western electoral division (the largest geographically) and the largest electoral division, Central Anglesey both have four members. This would give an average elector/ councillor ratio of 1:1,413, and 1:1,499 respectively.

While the above breaks the 'equality' of councillor to electorate principle it better reflects a more accountable council with enhanced links with the public and better scrutiny of the Executive and its decisions and the uniqueness of the Island's community.

To conclude, the Commission's proposals are radical and have sound logic in numeric terms. However these are draft proposals and Mr Owen believes should be amended to better reflect the nature of the island's, geography and identities. An effective Council must connect with its electorate and enhanced resources in the principal towns would offer a better council-public relationship. A Council of just 30 members could fail to achieve the desired outcomes. A Council of between 33-35 would provide an improved council-electorate relationship, better scrutiny of council's decisions thereby improving services and amenities and also meeting its legal obligations.

Mr Owen asks that the Commission consider the changes to the draft proposals. It is vital, especially after the recent upheavals with the County Council that changes are made in a measured and reflective manner to genuinely reflect local communities and provided better, more accountable local governance and democracy.

30. **Ieuan Wyn Jones AM - Anglesey - wrote on 31/12/11.** Mr Jones understood the context in which the Commission's proposals were drawn up - namely to look at introducing multi-member electoral divisions, and to have a councillor to electors ratio of 1:1,750 electors. This response is made on behalf of Mr Jones and the Plaid Cymru Constituency Committee for Ynys Môn who support the decision the Commission made to reduce the ratio of electors to give a total of 30 councillors. This is the minimum number needed to run a local authority effectively given the need for governance and scrutiny roles. However Mr Jones considered that the timescale for responding to the Commission's consultation document is too short. Mr Jones put forward the following amendments based on the need to preserve community ties as far as is possible:-

Appendix 5

1. Move Trewalchmai (692 electors) and Bryngwran (601 electors) to the new Southern Anglesey electoral division. The electors here have a greater affinity with the remainder of the electoral division.
2. Mr Jones also proposed that Llangaffo (254 electors) and Llangeinwen (630 electors) be transferred to the South Western electoral division. The electors here have an affinity to the remainder of the area.
3. The electors of Llangristiolus (576 electors) and Cerrigceinwen (432 electors) be transferred to the Central Anglesey electoral division. They look to Llangefnï rather than to the proposed South Western electoral division.

The result of these changes would leave the Southern electoral division with a ratio of 1:1,632 instead of 1:1,427 in the Commission's proposal, the South Western electoral division with a ratio of 1:1,673 instead of 1:1,735 and the Central Anglesey electoral division with a ratio of 1:1,848 instead of 1:1,943. These ratios are closer to the average for the whole island.

- 31. Janet Finch-Saunders AM - North Wales Region - wrote on 4/1/12.** Ms Finch-Saunders provided her own initial thoughts and comments on the proposed local government boundary changes for Ynys Môn for the Commission's attention.

Ms Finch-Saunders' initial concerns are in relation to the short time frame of the consultation being, in its entirety, for a period of six calendar weeks only and has been held over the festive period and may have escaped the notice and attention of the majority of electors and residents residing within the constituency of Ynys Môn.

Those concerns are further compounded by the knowledge that the Minister for Local Government Mr Carl Sergeant AM has instructed the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales (LGBCW) to "*consider the desirability of multi-member elections divisions throughout the county*" and whilst it is appreciated that in some electoral divisions, this may give rise to a more balanced and democratic approach, it must also be acknowledged that there are some electoral divisions that may continue to be better served by the single-member status and again Miss Finch-Saunders would like for the consultation process to establish the genuine and true reflection of the local residents views.

It is fair to say that it is indeed widely acknowledged and appreciated that there is need for a review in our constituencies, so as to gain a more equitable and consistent approach to the numbers of electors to be served by the elected Councillors and Ynys Môn should prove no exception but a requirement to reduce the number of Councillors by some 25 percent should, in Ms Finch-Saunders opinion, be sanctioned and approved by the electorate themselves as such a material reduction in size could give rise to a general lack of confidence in the boundary review process in itself.

This in turn may lead to further concerns and a rather worrying precedent to be further administered in other constituencies across Wales as a whole.

Finally the geographical spread and demographic factors encompassed within the overall structure for change seems to portray a genuine lack of local knowledge and seems fundamentally flawed in that there appears to be a distinct omission in terms of acknowledgement of the natural communities and in some cases their own natural barriers - one example being the Malltraeth marshes.

The joining of these urban and rural areas together into one electoral division could result in possible inequality issues of which there must be some recognition and due regard.

- 32. Councillor H.E. Jones - Llanidan - wrote on 20/12/11;** regarding the further review dated November 2011 and firstly made some general comments.

Appendix 5

Whilst he accepted that the Commission are following a new Ministerial Direction, this further review is completely different to the Commission's final report dated 31/8/10. That report was supported in writing both by Councillor Jones and Llanidan Community Council. In that report and previous draft proposals the Llanidan electoral division was to remain the same. In fact the 31/8/10 report reduced the total number of members by 10% and introduced a number of multi member electoral divisions in urban areas.

The Commission's recent review is proposing to reduce the number of members by 25% to 30. Such a reduction would make the Council very difficult to run and the executive positions would become full time commitments. The role of member could change as they would have considerably less time in their electoral divisions.

The County Council has recently discussed this issue and supports working with the Commission towards one member per 1,400 electors which would mean about 35 Councillors. Could the Commission please consider this especially as it would move from the present position of about one member per 1,200 electors?

The main issue raised locally is the Commission's all multi-member electoral division proposals. Councillor Jones has met nobody who has welcomed the proposal. Llanidan is a very rural electoral division and the residents value having a local member representing their interests. They do not wish this to be diluted by joining other communities they have no real connection with. In your report dated 31/8/10 (para 3.7d) the Commission stated "*... decisions to alter the existing pattern of multi and single- member electoral divisions should only be taken where such proposals for alteration are broadly supported by the electorate in so far as their views can be obtained in fulfilment of the consultation requirement contained in Section 60 of the Act*". Could it therefore please be explained how the Commission are complying with the Act and what evidence the Commission have of the proposals having broad support? Councillor Jones strongly suggested any changes to multi-member electoral divisions should be confined to urban areas where they could reflect local communities and the service and amenities they use.

The proposed changes, especially in rural areas, will favour political parties as opposed to independents who wish to represent their own communities. The electoral divisions will become far too large. Local democracy will become diluted and residents, if they vote, will do so more on party lines as they will not get to know individual candidates.

Councillor Jones felt that the Commission are addressing the issue of trying to ensure every elector's vote is worth the same as the present situation of one electoral division having about a third of the electorate of the largest is totally unacceptable. However, the Commission's proposals still have some significant differences.

As to more specifically how the new proposals affect the position of Llanidan electoral division, they have little merit apart from having two members as opposed to three. The obvious error is to ignore the historical natural boundary of the Malltraeth Marsh and Cefni River. Including Llangristiolus in the electoral division, on the other side of the marsh is illogical. Moreover, residents on the other side of the marsh have a strong connection for services and amenities to Llangefni where on this side, to the south, there is a greater pull towards the bridges and Bangor.

Councillor Jones also asked local residents - if you had no choice and had to merge with other electoral divisions, which would be your preference? Councillor Jones repeated that both their views and Llanidan Community Councils' were that if some rural single-member electoral divisions are to be allowed in the Commission's final report that the present Llanidan should be one of those.

If there was no choice but a multi-member electoral division, then the option of merger with Rhosyr division was thought to be the best fit. This option on this side of the marsh and reflecting some local community and amenity ties would form an electoral division of two members from the present Llanidan and Rhosyr divisions. The total present electorate would be 2,983 = 1,491 per councillor.

Another option was a merger with Llanfihangel Ysgeifiog. To allow for two members the rural Penmynydd community would probably need to be retained in the division. The total present electorate would be 2,800 = 1,400 per councillor.

Councillor Jones appreciated that, because of Ministerial Direction, the Commission has not done its usual pre-consultation, and hence some of the Commission's proposals cannot be described as best fit. Indeed the process of consultation and buy-in from electors falls far short in Councillor Jones' view of the accepted.

The changes proposed are most radical and controversial and should not be rushed especially as they may be with us for a generation.

Councillor Jones noted that the Minister's Direction of 28/3/11 says "*the Commission in the first instance consider the desirability of multi-member electoral divisions throughout the County*". Councillor Jones trusted upon reflection the Commission will now consider that they are not desirable; indeed have no benefits to the residents, in rural and traditional divisions such as Llanidan. Councillor Jones also trusted the Commission will therefore propose in its final report the retention of the present Llanidan electoral division.

33. Councillor O Glyn Jones - Aberffraw - wrote on 4/1/12 referring to the proposals and commented as follows -

The 28 day so-called "Consultation period" is completely unfair taking into consideration the Christmas period - especially as the rest of Wales will benefit from almost 4 years consultation!

30 Members is unworkable.

It is completely against democratic renewal.

The electorate of Anglesey have the same rights as all other residents of Wales. The proposal is completely un-democratic.

34. Councillor C M^cGregor - Llanddyfnan - wrote on 30/12/11 accepting that a reduction in Councillor representation on Anglesey County Council is inevitable; however the reduction must not be such that it would jeopardize the *efficiency* of the Council in administering Local Government in Anglesey. The Commission's proposals to reduce members by 25% would create great difficulties in operating efficient Local Government and is seen as a potential "excuse" for compulsory amalgamations of Local Authorities in due course.

Councillor M^cGregor appreciated that the brief that the Commission received from The Minister for Local Government and Social Justice was very prescriptive. Apart from the conurbations of Holyhead, Llangefni and Menai Bridge/ Llanfairpwll the remainder of Anglesey is rural in nature and certainly not suited to multi-member electoral divisions as it erodes democracy not enhances it.

Councillor M^cGregor currently serves the largest by acreage of the electoral divisions on Anglesey and to visit every elector in the electoral division took a full three weeks due to the sparsity of the area. The Commission's proposals for splitting the electoral division in two is not an issue, it is the inclusion in geographically larger units of Central Anglesey and North Eastern Anglesey which concerns Councillor M^cGregor as it appears to remove accountability to the electors from the equation.

Councillor M^cGregor fully appreciated the difficulties involved in meeting the desired target of 1:1,750; however it appears that there is inconsistency in your proposals. Why, for example, should Holy Island Port and Holy Island Rural with a combined electoral figure of 8,902 be afforded six Councillors with a ratio of 1:1,483 where in fact five Councillors would give a ratio of 1:1780? This is in an area that is relatively easy to canvass and support democratically when compared with the adjoining area of North Western Anglesey, and my own area of Central Anglesey.

The proposals for 11 multi-member electoral divisions will not advance Democratic renewal.

The terms of general reference to a Boundary Commission requires that the Commission consult with the people who could be affected by any proposals they make. Any proposals should be a bottom up approach not a top-down decree, the former will succeed as it has a measure of public support, and the latter is a recipe for disaster.

35. **Councillor Selwyn Williams - Tysilio - wrote on 23/12/11:** that Anglesey is a rural area in comparison to the cities of South Wales, and the change of electoral divisions into multi-member electoral divisions is a step too far.

With Region Government across North Wales being phased in, these multi electoral divisions could in years ahead be changed to Districts, creating even further reductions of Local County Councillors in Anglesey and North Wales in general.

Multi-member electoral divisions in Anglesey as a rural area will cause a great wealth of complaint from the local electorate on the grounds of County Councillors who will be unable to service their electorate.

These Councillors will have to have their allowances increased drastically to cover the costs of the local offices/ staff and equipment to carry out work of behalf of the residents of that electoral division.

Conscientious County Councillors who are very professional with their Case Work will be more than alarmed at the pressure that will be targeted at them by electors, who might prefer them to the other multi-member electoral division councillors.

Councillor Williams proposed that the South-Central Anglesey multi electoral division be renamed as the **Aethwy** electoral division as this area was the Aethwy District Council before the 1974 Anglesey Elections.

36. **Councillor J P Williams - Gwyngyll - wrote on 31/12/11** in response to the Commission's proposals for changes to the local government boundaries on Anglesey, Councillor Williams offered the following comments:

Councillor Williams represents the Gwyngyll electoral division which is to be merged into the Menai/ Llanfair electoral division which is not likely to gain much support locally, but is one which he feels he can live with despite the fact that this area would be slightly under-represented.

The Commission's attempt to equate the number of voters per councillor has gone some of the way to alleviating the existing disparity, but still falls well short of the desired outcome. The lowest number of voters per councillor is approximately 1,355 and is to be found in Cybi Wledig, where 4,081 voters are to be awarded three county councillors. The neighbouring electoral division of Fali/ Rhosneigr/ Caergeiliog has 3,965 voters and is awarded two county councillors. The disparity is of the order of 47% more electors per councillor in one electoral division compared with another.

Ynys Cybi is over represented whilst Fali and Central Anglesey are under-represented. Councillor Williams suggests that the Commission considers merging the two Ynys Cybi electoral divisions into one five-member electoral division with

the "remaining" councillor awarded to Central Anglesey. Alternately the Commission may wish to merge the Cybi Wledig electoral division with the Fali/ Rhosneigr/ Caergeiliog electoral division, thereby creating a four-member electoral division, with the "remaining" councillor possibly being transferred to Central Anglesey which is a designated growth zone.

The concept of two-member electoral divisions is not likely to deter the parochialism which Anglesey councillors are sometimes accused of, and the Commission should look at those electoral divisions again to see whether three two-member electoral divisions could not become two three-member electoral divisions. This might entail putting the Aberffraw electoral division with the Fali/ Rhosneigr electoral division, with Rhosyr being attached to the Brynsiencyn/ Gaerwen electoral divisions.

- 37. Anglesey Liberal Democrats (ALD) wrote on 22/12/11** and the party felt that to replace the existing 40 Single-Member County Council electoral divisions with 11 enormous multi-member electoral divisions which would return 30 County Councillors – a reduction of 25% - was deemed to be unsuited to a mainly rural area like Anglesey.

Whilst multi-member electoral divisions may be appropriate in urban situations they do not meet the needs of a largely rural area like Anglesey. They would result in enormous electoral divisions that extend over large areas that make contact with one's County Councillors very difficult - especially given the sparse public transport available over much of the island.

Instead of the present *Draft Proposals* ALD propose that the seven existing electoral divisions that meet or exceed the LGBCW's target of 1,750 electors per County Councillor (2014 projections) be retained as they stand. Then the remaining 23 County Council electoral divisions should be arranged - as single-member where possible with multi-member electoral divisions confined to urban centres like Holyhead and Llangefni. In order to meet the unique needs of a predominantly rural area like Anglesey we believe that it would be preferable for the number of County Councillors be set at considerably more than the 30 suggested.

To restrict the make-up of Anglesey County Council to 30 County Councillors would, in the Party's view, place the long-term viability of the island Authority at risk because this number is at the lower limit of what is deemed to be a workable complement of County Councillors needed to conduct the supervision and management of the Council's duties.

The Party recognised the need to address the unacceptable imbalance that presently exists by today's figures between the level of representation in Holyhead's Town electoral division at 640 at one end of the spectrum and that of Llaneilian electoral division at 1,735 at the other end. Such dramatic imbalance must be tackled but that does not have to result in the total destruction of the existing electoral division structure which the local electorate understand and which meets the requirements to ensure that "*electoral divisions continue to genuinely reflect local communities and the service and amenities they use*". For this reason the proposal to introduce 11 multi-member electoral divisions that span vast rural areas cannot serve local people and communities efficiently and effectively."

- 38. Holyhead and District Chamber of Trade wrote on 5/1/12** on their own behalf and representing the interests of small businesses in the area.

The Chamber were concerned by the current draft proposals for the Holyhead area. The Chamber and many of its members look to their local councillor when there are issues or problems to discuss or resolve. This is especially so in relation to the

town centre of Holyhead where there are some 200 business that employ around 800 people between them.

The current proposals make no allowance or consideration for the substantial workload required to represent this significant number of businesses and individuals.

In addition the town has a busy international port with all the issues of any UK port situated in close proximity to another European country.

The Chamber were concerned that moving to a multi-member electoral division system will not provide the current expertise in local issues that have been developed over a number of years.

The issues of the town centre require the attention of a councillor with clearly defined responsibility for the Town electoral division, The Chamber were confident that the status quo is by far the better option for our town in particular and Anglesey in general.

- 39. Malltraeth Ymlaen 'cyf' wrote on 25/11/11** and this organisation agreed that 30 members would suffice on Anglesey and that each councillor should represent the same number of electors. The organisation was totally opposed to the idea that multi-member arrangements may only be appropriate for urban communities but not for the remaining rural areas. These remaining areas should consist of 25 single-member electoral divisions that identify with the communities in their individual boundaries even though there may be a need to revise some boundaries.
- 40. Ynys Môn Constituency Labour Party (YMCLP) wrote on 15/12/11** and was mainly in support of the proposals to change both the Boundaries and the number of Councillors that currently exist on the Island.

The YMCLP have had to take, not only the representation of its members, but: also the desire as previously expressed by the electorate on Anglesey to remedy the problems that have existed within the Council for the last twenty years.

However, it was agreed that cutting 25% off the number of Councillors was a little too harsh and it was also felt that 10 electoral divisions would work out better than 11 and an additional two Councillors would serve the County better.

The concept would be to get rid of the West Anglesey electoral division and split it between North West Anglesey and Southern Anglesey. Dissecting the Western Anglesey electoral division between the village of Caergeiliog and RAF Valley would bring the people to Councillor ratio to a more acceptable level, with two extra Councillors in the North Western electoral division and one extra in the Southern electoral division.

One of the concerns that were put forward regarding the North Western electoral division was the geographical size of it and how would three Councillors properly represent the electorate. With the two additional councillors the Party believes that whilst the electoral division will be bigger there will be more councillors to share the workload.
- 41. A resident e-mailed on 22/11/11** and supported the proposals.
- 42. A resident e-mailed on 26/11/11** and this resident agreed with the reduction in councillors on Anglesey. This resident was also concerned that multi-member arrangements will confuse voters who would tend to over-burden one member or the other. There was also the possibility of reduced representation of a particular area in planning matters if a smaller number of councillors were available.

43. **A resident e-mailed on 4/1/12** and understood the need to reform Anglesey County Council in order to enable efficiency improvements and cost savings but had a number of reservations about the proposed changes:-

- a) The Direction from the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government states that the Commission should '*in the first instance consider the desirability of multi-member electoral divisions throughout the County and aim to propose a councillor to electorate ratio close to 1:1750*'. Can the Commission please comment on the rationale for multi-member electoral divisions - how does this benefit the organisation of the County Council and in addition how does this benefit the electorate in terms of improving the accountability of the County Councillors to the electorate and in addition how will this change make it easier for the electorate to make their views heard in the Council Chamber. What will prevent 'unofficial splitting up of the electoral divisions' by the Councillors?
- b) The proposals specifically for the Llanbadrig Community places it in the second largest division on the island with a fairly large geographic area with a proposed representation of two County Councillors to cover the whole area. This is likely to mean that electoral power centralises in Amlwch and the interests of a mainly rural community could be swamped by the interests of a more urban community. I am sure that this is also the case in some of the other proposed electoral divisions and would suggest that consideration should be given to maintaining the voice of rural communities on the County Council by re-examining the proposals.
- c) The reduction in the number of County Councillors combined with the larger geographical areas covered will impact the ability of independent councillors to take part in the electoral process as they do not have the benefit of 'party machinery' to facilitate communication with the electorate. This could drive people into having to choose between the political parties – all of which have been tainted by the recent scandals in politics which has contributed to the public's apathy to politics as a whole – hence falling numbers of people turning out to vote in any election whether it be for Government, Welsh Assembly or Local Government.
- d) Lastly, what role is foreseen in the future for the many hard working Community Councils on the Island if the proposals are implemented – there is no detail or comment on how these organisations will be affected?

44. **A resident e-mailed on 3/1/12** and was more than unhappy over the current situation of 40 councillors who according to reports given are unable to work together for the benefits of the electorate. The details so far regarding proposed boundary changes and joint working for new areas sounds feasible with great potential. However the publicity regarding the proposals and the negativity of the Councillors in line with the closing date of 3rd Jan 2012 does not give scope for the ordinary members of Anglesey to understand and voice their opinion. Unfortunately.

This resident was not alone in believing that any Councillor who is unopposed is not a good choice as it is no choice. She believed there should always be choice even if it's:

a) the unopposed;

or b) the choice of no member for that electoral division.

So all Councillors will work to gain the support of all electorates. Change the apparent apathy that exists, as well as the perceived "they look after themselves first" so of course they would oppose the change from 40 members to 30 members.

45. **A resident e-mailed on 4/1/12** and supported the proposed changes and believed they will at least alleviate the gutter-political problems we have suffered as an island people for too long.
Many current members need to be removed, and this is as good a method as any.
46. **A resident of Bodffordd wrote on 2/01/12** and stated that:
1. It would be difficult to reconcile urban and rural areas to achieve 1:1,750 or thereabouts.
 2. It would seem fairer to reduce the number of members in the Council and apply multi-member arrangements in the five Anglesey towns and single-member in the rural areas.
47. **A resident of Bryngwran wrote on 19/12/11** and was concerned that amalgamating Bryngwran with Llangefni would be unfair and suggested:
- Placing Bryngwran from Central Anglesey into Southern Anglesey
 - Placing Llangristiolus from South East Anglesey into Central Anglesey
 - Placing Rhosyr from Southern Anglesey into South East Anglesey
48. **A resident of Bull Bay wrote on 21/12/11** and was in favour of the Commission's proposals for multi-member seats and a reduction in councillor numbers.
49. **A resident of Gaerwen wrote on 15/12/11** and considered that the consultation was too short and reduced councillor numbers by too many to ensure that sufficient councillors are available for the council workload etc.
50. **A second resident of Gaerwen wrote on 29/12/11** and referred to the third draft of the proposals for the reform of Anglesey County Council recently published by the LGBCW as having much to commend it as far as the electorate of the Isle of Anglesey are concerned for the following reasons:
- an acceptable formula was put forward some years ago whereby the number of electors represented by a single councillor stood at 1,700;
 - this would be more cost effective for the electorate;
 - the money saved could be diverted to support essential services for Anglesey residents;
 - newly proposed electoral divisions will secure a more equitable elector/councillor ratio across the island; and
 - the proposals offer a clean break from the previous Council which was characterised by ineptitude and in-fighting.
- For the sake of the Anglesey residents the Commission was again urged to proceed with their recommendations notwithstanding the views of the currently suspended Anglesey County Councillors.
51. **A resident of Llanfaelog wrote on 4/1/12** and enclosed his observations on the proposed Boundary Review proposals for the Isle of Anglesey.
- Multi-Member electoral divisions***
Given the historical issues and personal conflicts within Anglesey council, leading to the Welsh Governments intervention, the proposal to introduce Multi-Member electoral divisions seem counter-productive.
In Wales, England, Ireland and New Zealand the common key points raised were that infighting and political opposition was evident in multi-member electoral divisions, and that personal animosity between members made co-operative

working impossible, especially where electoral division members are from different political parties.

With this in mind it was thought that forming a council based on all multi-member electoral divisions would be unwise and possibly focus political fighting to the detriment of the electoral division and the health of the councillors.

Reduction in Member Numbers too much

A 25% reduction in member numbers seems excessive given the geographical population distribution on the Island. The focus of member numbers in rural environments should be based on electorate per square km, not just electorate number per councillor. An electoral division represented by a councillor that is geographically large due to reduced population density would be poorly represented due to lack of local knowledge and personality, leading to bias of representation within the electoral division where a member has closer ties.

The rural electoral divisions should be reviewed in terms of population density, not overall number, which would possibly increase the number of councillors from 30 to 34, but better represent the rural villages on the island. Those proposed electoral divisions being North-West Anglesey, North Anglesey, Central and Southern Anglesey. The boundaries within these electoral divisions should be reviewed on a basis of density weighting.

52. A resident of Llanfairpwllgwyngyll wrote on 24/11/11 and this resident's comments on the Commission's original proposals were recorded in the first set of recommendations that the Commission made. This resident's comment on that occasion criticised the novelty of a few multi-member constituencies for the Island. The principle was applied inequitably. The current reforms the Commission propose are to be welcomed.

They offer the following advantages:

1. The reduction in Council membership reform from 40 to 30 makes for cheaper government.
2. The suggested boundaries create new electoral divisions with the best chance of equanimity between electoral divisions in terms of the ratio of electors to councillors.
3. The suggested electoral division boundaries succeed in coinciding with the respective community councils within those boundaries. Councillors cannot plead that parochial loyalties' are overturned.
4. The names the Commission apply to the newly proposed County Council electoral divisions remove the chances of jingoistic bleats from any community council arguing that this or that community council's name should be attached to the newly formed electoral division.
5. Multi-member constituencies, one member (plus proportional representation members) work in the context of The National Assembly for Wales. Geographically enormous constituencies work in the context of Parliamentary, National Assembly and European representation. This resident saw no reason why the same should, not apply to local government.

This resident was critical that so little has been done by the Assembly Government (the instigator of the Commission's task), the Commission and the County Council to engage electors in this important work. The Assembly has repeatedly professed the need for public engagement in the democratic process, wasting approaching £1.75 million some years ago, with no perceptible improvement, on persuading long-serving councillors to step down and seeking to engage a wider cross section of the population to serve as councillors. The task of reforming local government boundaries has seen no investment in public meetings to discuss the issues. This

resident found it inadequate for discussion to be confined to meetings of the County Council and community councils on the Island. They represent vested interests, not those of an electorate seeking change. This resident knows from experience how few members of the public attend such meetings.

Initial reactions from county councillors to the Commission's most recent review suggest that there will be further resistance to reform.

The Commission and the Minister are urged to seize this final opportunity and, if necessary, impose this as a final settlement on the Island.

- 53. A second resident of Llanfairpwllgwyngyll wrote on 28/12/11** and, while accepting the need to balance Anglesey's electoral divisions, this resident could not see how the Commission's proposals eliminate these discrepancies. The Commission's proposals would continue to cause major differences, e.g. the member to elector comparison in the West Anglesey electoral division and Rural Holy Island electoral division.

This resident did not like the idea of multi-member electoral divisions as this could lead to confusion and possible attempts at political profiteering. Certainly, electoral units could be created consisting of one member to 1,649 constituents in order to reflect the Commission's current aspirations.

This resident lives in the Gwyngyll electoral division. Llanfair Pwllgwyngyll, which, according to the Commission's proposals, will form part of South Central Anglesey constituency and it appears to make sense to him to add Penmynydd to Llanfair Pwllgwyngyll as the villages have a good 'relationship'.

The same thing is not true of Llanfair Pwllgwyngyll and Menai Bridge. The only 'relationship' between these two communities is that the children of Llanfair attend the secondary school that happens to be located in Menai Bridge.

Removing Menai Bridge from the constituency would leave a gap, but [*placing it with*] Llanddaniel is a better historic option as it formed part of an old Gwynedd Council electoral division. An electoral division consisting of Llanddaniel, Llanfair Pwllgwyngyll and Penmynydd would form an electoral division consisting of 3,283 electors - comparable to two representatives of 1,641 and, for the future, 3,388 electors - comparable to 1:1,694, which conforms to the Commission's current proposals.

If the Menai Bridge electoral divisions do not merit two members, the Cwm Cadnant electoral division has more of a 'relationship' with Menai Bridge than Llanfair Pwllgwyngyll. In fact, it could be argued that the majority of the Llandegfan community traverses through Menai Bridge every day.

Furthermore, decreasing the number of councillors will cause concern with regard to their responsibilities and workload connected to the work they do in the electoral divisions, with the Council and as representatives on local bodies. For the hard-working and conscientious councillor, there is a possibility that his/ her workload will increase significantly.

- 54. A resident of Llanerchymedd wrote on 28/12/11** and felt that it was regrettable that over the past 23 years, the governance of the Island has been dominated by unopposed elections, rival independent factions and partisanship and therefore, welcomed and supported the draft proposals put forward for multi-member divisions. The attempt to organise the levels of representation more equally and nearer to the average of those in other parts of the Principality is also welcomed. It was suggested that some of the names of the medieval divisions such as Talybolion, Twrcelyn, Llifôn, Rhosyr and Dindaethwy, might be adopted for the revised divisions being proposed.

55. **A resident of Llanfihangel Ysceifiog wrote on 3/1/12** and commented that as he lives in the current Llanfihangel Eisceifiog electoral division he feels that the new electoral division is crazy, it will cut Gaerwen from Star and merge Gaerwen with places like Brynsiencyn and Rhostrehwfa (which are split by marshland) whereas this resident will now be with Menai Bridge and Llanfair PG - two MASSIVE villages. Such a crazy plan - putting rural Star with massive urban Llanfair PG and Menai Bridge.

Will this allow enough 'opposition' to plans?

Ultimately this review looks like a fast job, undemocratic and not fair to the people of Ynys Môn. Why can't the Government come clean and say that they want to merge Anglesey with Gwynedd and let us decide on this in a referendum?

56. **A resident of Llangefni wrote on 14/12/11** and was in favour of the Commission's proposals.

57. **A second resident of Llangefni wrote on 1/01/12** and provided a detailed set of proposals which included moving:

- Llanfihangel Tre'r Beirdd from Gogledd Dwyrain to Canol Ynys Môn.
- Llandrygarn from Gogledd Orllewin to Canol Ynys Môn.
- Bryngwran from Canol Ynys Môn to Gorllewin Ynys Môn.
- Bodedern from Gogledd Orllewin Ynys Môn to Gorllewin Ynys Môn.
- Pharc-a'r Mynydd from Porthladd Ynys Cybi to Ynys Cybi Wledig
- Combining the electoral divisions of Holyhead Town; London road; Morawelon; Porthyfelin; Maeshyfyd; and Kingsland with three or four members.

This resident went on to make suggestions for naming:

1. Dwyrain Ynys Mon – **Seiriol**, after the Saint and whose name is associated with the island at Penmon, commonly referred to as Puffin Island but correctly called Ynys Seiriol.
2. De canol: **Menai** as it's the historic gateway to the Island over the bridge(s).
3. De Dwyrain: **Aethwy** to reflect the name of the previous RDC which served the area until 1974.
4. De: **Rhosyr** to identify the court of the Welsh Prince, although there is also a palace at Aberffraw!
5. Gorllewin: **Y Fali & Ynys Cybi** with its links to the RAF station and the smaller island with a Saint of that name.
6. Porthladd Ynys Cybi: **Caergybi**:
7. Canol Ynys Mon: **Llangefni** as the county town and immediate hinterland.
8. Gogledd: **Llaneilian & Amlwch**, the town being the focus for this area but Llaneilian being of historic relevance.
9. Gogledd Orllewin: **Twrcelyn** to reflect the name of the previous RDC until 1974.
10. Gogledd Dwyrain: **Lligwy** as the site of continuing settlement in that part of the island from prehistory.
11. From Norman Times and the middle ages the island was split into "cantref & chwmwd" comprising three primary areas: Cemais, Aberffraw and Rhosyr for the north, mid and southern part respectively this was further split into six other divisions: **Talybolion**, (NW) **Llifôn**, (Y Fali etc), **Malltraeth**, (SW), **Menai** (S), **Dinaethwy** (SE) and **Twrcelyn** (NW), although some of these names have now disappeared from local use.

58. **A resident of Malltraeth wrote on 25/11/11** and agreed that 30 members would suffice on Anglesey and that each councillor should represent the same number of

electors. This resident was also concerned that multi-member arrangements may be appropriate for urban communities such as Holyhead but not for the remaining rural areas. These remaining areas should consist of 25 single-member electoral divisions that identify with the communities in their individual boundaries even though there may be a need to modify some boundaries.

- 59. A second resident of Malltraeth wrote on 2/01/12** and expressed the view that it is not the Commission's fault that these proposals are radically different from those it put forward in 2010, but the changes now proposed are so drastic that it is impossible for this resident as an ordinary elector to disagree with the County Council's conclusion that they must not be implemented without extensive local consultation.

This resident's own particular concern is with multi-councillor electoral divisions and the risk that in several of these will be dominated by one disproportionately large community. For example, in "Southern Anglesey" (two councillors), Rhosyr would have 5% of the new electorate; in "North-East Anglesey" (three councillors) Llanfair Mathafarn Eithaf would have 56%; in "Northern Anglesey" (three councillors) Amlwch would have 48% while in "Central Anglesey" (three councillors) Llangefni would account for 60%.

If multi-councillor electoral divisions are to be imposed on Anglesey there need to be safeguards to ensure that the possibility of such dominance is minimised. It is hard to see how this could be achieved without the specific arrangements that the Commission has put forward.

- 60. A resident of Menai Bridge wrote on 2/1/12** with some major concerns regarding the proposed boundary changes as follows:-

1. Any changes should not prevent the planned County Council elections from taking place this May. It is undemocratic to postpone elections while boundaries are re-drawn. This is compounded by the fact that politically appointed autocratic government, in the shape of Commissioners, is currently in charge of local government on Ynys Môn.
2. The proposed re-drawn electoral divisions are so large geographically that it will make it very difficult for individuals who do not have party political backing to cover the ground in the run up to elections. This is particularly unfortunate at this present time as the County would benefit from attracting new Councillors and also more women Councillors. So at a time when the greatest number of people should be encouraged to offer themselves as servants of their community, then it has become more restrictive.
3. Multi-member electoral divisions do not always deliver effective candidates. This is because some members may work harder for their community than other members but it is more difficult for the electorate to identify which member contributed the most. It may also not be as easy to identify which members made good or poor judgements on behalf of their community. This is especially the case when members are not identified by name but by the electoral division name.

- 61. A resident of Pentraeth wrote on 24/11/11** and wanted a Commission member to attend a Pentraeth Community Council meeting to present the proposals.

- 62. A resident of Rhostrehwfa wrote on 3/1/12** and provided comments on the proposed local government boundary changes on Ynys Môn for the Commission's consultation.

Appendix 5

1. Consultation period of just six weeks is far too short and was furthermore held over Christmas period making it effectively shorter.
 2. Minister for Local Government has directed LGBCW to "consider the desirability of multi-member electoral divisions throughout the county". This the LGBCW has done and these proposals would make Ynys Môn unique in Wales in having all of its councillors elected in multi-member electoral divisions. Clearly this is not acceptable and is tantamount to specifically 'rigging' the electoral system so as to eliminate Independent councillors.
 3. Following on from point (2), this resident agreed there is a need to reduce the number of councillors but consider 30 to be too few for the council to be functional and support democracy. This resident believe just 30 members would make it difficult to staff an executive and various committees and would also make the post of councillor a full-time one, thus putting off younger candidates who already have full-time jobs, mothers with children etc. This resident would however support a reduction of councillors down to 36 or 35.
 4. The proposed "South Western Anglesey" electoral division is un-natural in the extreme as the natural boundary of the Malltraeth marshes - an empty unpopulated space - divides it neatly in half. Far more natural to put Llanidan/ Brynsiencyn (in South Western Anglesey) together with Niwbwrch and Dwyran (currently in "Southern Anglesey").
 5. The proposed "Central Anglesey" makes no local sense and clearly seems to be composed of "the parts left over after all the other electoral divisions had been constructed". To separate the communities of Rhostrehwfa and Llangristiolus (in South Western Anglesey) from Llangefni (Central Anglesey) is entirely un-natural considering they are feeder towns to Llangefni. (It should also be noted that Rhostrehwfa and Llangristiolus have nothing whatsoever to do with Llanidan/ Brynsiencyn with which they currently share the "South Western Anglesey" electoral division. Accordingly Rhostrehwfa and Llangristiolus should become part of Central Anglesey and instead add Bryngwran and Gwalchmai to "Western Anglesey".
 6. With regards to Multi-Member electoral divisions, this resident can accept the larger conurbations (Holyhead, Llangefni, Menai Bridge) becoming multi-member electoral divisions, but not all of Anglesey.
 7. This resident did not feel that joining Urban and Rural areas together into one electoral division is acceptable as the more populated urban part would 'suck up' all the members and resources. This is not acceptable.
- 63. A resident of Preston wrote on 6/12/11** and had no comment to make nor did he offer any alternative electoral division configurations. He did, however, offer the following naming suggestions:
- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| "Holyhead" | for "Holy Island Port" |
| "Trearddur" | for "Holy Island Rural" |
| "Malltraeth and Aberffraw" | for "Southern Anglesey" |
| "Beaumaris" | for "Eastern Anglesey" |
| "Moelfre and Red Wharf Bay" | for "North Eastern Anglesey" |
| "Llanfaethlu/ Llannerch-y-Medd" | for "North Western Anglesey" |
| "Menai Bridge and Penmynydd" | for "South Central Anglesey" |
| "Llanidan and Llangristiolus" | for "South Western Anglesey" |
| "Amlwch and Llanelian" | for "Northern Anglesey" |
| "Llangefni and Bryngwran" | for "Central Anglesey" |
| "Cymyran Bay and Valley" | for "Western Anglesey" |

COUNTY OF ISLE OF ANGLESEY - FINAL PROPOSALS
SIR YNYS MÔN - CYNIGION TERFYNOL

APPENDIX 6

