



CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE
LLANGYNDEYRN COMMUNITY COUNCIL (PONYATES AND
LLANGYNDEYRN COMMUNITY WARDS)

TERMS OF REFERENCE

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Introduction

Carmarthenshire County Council is conducting a review of electoral arrangements to consider a request received from Llangyndeyrn Community Council to decrease the number of Community Councillors for two of their Community Wards, namely Pontyates Ward and Llangyndeyrn Ward.

Pontyates Ward currently has 8 Community Councillors and the request made asks for this to be reduced to 6 Community Councillors. Llangyndeyrn Ward currently has 4 Community Councillors and the request made asks for this to be reduced to 3 Community Councillors.

The first stage of the review is to ask all interested parties to consider this proposal and submit their views of support or objection for this change. All submissions will then be considered and final proposals drawn up and made available for further public consultation. If there are no objections, then the final proposals will be drawn up, published and adopted.

The review will start on 30th September 2016 with final recommendations being provisionally scheduled to be submitted for adoption in early New Year, 2017.

Why are we undertaking this review?

Carmarthenshire County Council has received an official request from Llangyndeyrn Community Council to review the Community Councillor ratio for both Pontyates and Llangyndeyrn Community Wards with the aim to decrease the overall membership by 2 Community Councillors.

What is the aim of the review?

Carmarthenshire County Council aims to ensure that community governance reflects the identities and interests of the community and that it is both effective and convenient.

What can be considered under this review?

In general terms this review will only look at the number of Community Councillors for both the Pontyates and Llangyndeyrn Community Wards. This is due to timescales as Local Election will take place in May 2017 and all warding arrangements, number of Councillors and naming of Communities has to be finalised by the publication of Notice of Election.

Who will undertake this review?

Carmarthenshire County Council is responsible for undertaking the review within its area. It will consider all representations made at each stage of the review process.

The review will be conducted under Section 31 of the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013. On completion of the review the Council may

propose and make changes to the number of Councillors representing the Pontyates and Llangyndeyrn Community Wards.

Public Consultation and Submissions

When undertaking the review Carmarthenshire County Council is required to undertake such steps as it thinks fit to ensure that persons who may be interested in the review are informed of the proposal to conduct it and are informed of any draft proposals or recommendations. Carmarthenshire County Council undertakes to meet these duties by writing to:

- the Community Council, namely Llangyndeyrn Community Council
- The Councillor representing the Llangyndeyrn Electoral Division, the Assembly Member representing Carmarthen East and Dinefwr Assembly Constituency, the Regional Assembly Members for Mid and West Wales, the Member of Parliament representing the Carmarthen East and Dinefwr Parliamentary Constituency MP and local branches of political parties.

Carmarthenshire County Council will also give official notice at different stages of the review, deposit copies of reports and documents at the Council's Election Office and place appropriate documents on the Council's corporate website.

Comments and submissions may be made at two stages of the review, the draft proposals and then final proposals and recommendations.

All comments and submissions will be given due consideration in the review if the following criteria are met:

- Comments shall be received on the pro-forma submissions form or a form to like effect.
- Comments are received by midnight of the timetabled deadline.
- all comments are received with a name and address identifying the sender. Anonymous submissions will not be accepted, though personal details of members of the public will not be made public. Submissions from representative bodies and persons such as Councillors and AMs etc will be named within the report.
- where an organisation or an individual is making submissions concerning the proposal, they shall show how either maintaining the status-quo or making changes are desirable in the interests of effective and convenient local government.

Carmarthenshire County Council will publish its recommendations as soon as practicable and take such steps as it considers sufficient to ensure that persons who may be interested in the review, including all persons that made a valid submission, are informed of the recommendations and the reasons behind them.

Timetable for the Review

Section 35 (4) of the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 states that the "period for representation" is a period of not less than 6 weeks, nor more than 12 weeks beginning no earlier than one week after notice of the period is given.

The review will start on 30 September 2016 with final recommendations being provisionally scheduled for 2017. Any changes that occur as a result of the review process would then come into effect for the Local Government Elections which are scheduled for May 2017.

Action	Period	Date
Start of Review		30 September 2016
Draft Proposal Consultation i.e. Publish Draft proposals and Public Consultations period	9 weeks	30 September-2 December 2016
Consideration of submissions received	2 weeks	2 December 2016-16 December 2016
Final Proposal Consultation/Publication i.e. Publish final proposals and recommendations	9 weeks	16 December 2016-17 February 2017

Please note that the timetable for this review will vary dependent on the length of time necessary to prepare the draft and final proposals.

Supporting Information

Further information relating to the review, including electorate figures, and maps showing existing boundaries are available at the Council's Elections Office and the Council's Electoral Service Website.

Elections Office
 Block 4
 Parc Myrddin
 Richmond Terrace
 Carmarthen
 SA31 1HQ
www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Appendix A-Electorate Summary

Community Council	Council Electorate	No. Of Cllrs at present	Cllr/Elector Ratio	Proposed number of Cllrs	Cllr/Elector Ratio
Llangyndeyrn (Pontyates Ward)	1353	8	1:169	6	1:225
Llangyndeyrn (Llangyndeyrn Ward)	621	4	1:155	3	1:207