

# BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## REPORT TO COUNCIL

19 JANUARY 2022

### REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

#### ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS IN COITY HIGHER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

#### 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To advise Members of the conclusion of the consultation exercise in relation to the review of electoral arrangements in the Coity Higher Community Council (CHCC) following a formal request during the recent Boundary Review, to seek approval of the final proposals and to authorise the Chief Executive to submit final proposals to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales.

#### 2. Connection to corporate well-being objectives / other corporate priorities

- 2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objective under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**:-
- **Smarter use of resources** – ensuring that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help to deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

#### 3. Background

- 3.1 On the 24 November 2021, the council published its draft proposals in respect of the electoral arrangements of CHCC and wrote to all interested parties as set out in the Terms of Reference to consider the current arrangements and submit any comments by letter or email by 05 January 2022.

#### 4. Current situation/proposal

- 4.1 Following the closure of the consultation period, the submissions have now been reviewed and guidance sought from the Boundary Commission for Wales in drawing up the final proposal.
- 4.2 The draft proposal has been amended, taken into account the responses received and guidance from the Boundary Commission for Wales, to provide for better levels of electoral parity, which is one of the Boundary Commission's key principals. The Final Proposal report, attached at Appendix 1 is summarised below in the table.

| Coity Higher Community Council Electoral Arrangements |             |                  |                         |          |                   |                         |          |                   |                         |          |
|---|-------------|------------------|-------------------------|----------|-------------------|-------------------------|----------|-------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| Wards   | Existing    |                  |                         |          | Draft Recommended |                         |          | Final Recommended |                         |          |
|   | Electors    | Town Councillors | Electors per Councillor | Variance | Town Councillors  | Electors per Councillor | Variance | Town Councillors  | Electors per Councillor | Variance |
| Coity   | 3,566       | 2                | 1783                    | 161%     | 5                 | 713                     | 23%      | 6                 | 594                     | 3%       |
| Litchard  | 2,172       | 5                | 434                     | -36%     | 4                 | 543                     | -6%      | 4                 | 543                     | -6%      |
| Pendre  | 1,777       | 4                | 444                     | -35%     | 4                 | 444                     | -23%     | 3                 | 592                     | 2%       |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>7515</b> | <b>11</b>        | <b>683</b>              |          | <b>13</b>         | <b>578</b>              |          | <b>13</b>         | <b>578</b>              |          |

4.3 Following approval, the report will be submitted to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales for scrutiny. The Commission will then review the proposals and, if minded, will approve an Order to be made to implement the final proposed electoral arrangement alteration. The Order must be made prior to the Notice of Election on the 21 March 2022 in order for it to be implemented for the Local Elections in May 2022.

## 5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

5.1 There is no direct effect upon the policy framework and procedure rules in respect of this information report. There will subsequently be amendments to the Constitution which will be presented to Council at a later date.

## 6. Equality Act 2010 implications

6.1 The protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act, Socio-economic Duty and the impact on the use of the Welsh Language have been considered in the preparation of this report. As a public body in Wales the Council must consider the impact of strategic decisions, such as the development or the review of policies, strategies, services and functions. An Equality Impact assessment has been undertaken in the production of this report and identified that there are no significant or unacceptable equality impacts as a result of this report.

## 7. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 implications

7.1 The well-being goals identified in the Act were considered in the preparation of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable impacts upon the achievement of well-being goals/objectives as a result of this report.

## 8. Financial Implications

8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this review for the Council; any work will be undertaken within existing budgets.

## 9. Recommendation

9.1 To note and approve the final proposals arising from the Coity Higher Community Council electoral arrangements review and authorise the Chief Executive to submit the final proposals (as outlined in Appendix 1) to the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales.

Mark Shephard  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
January 2022

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### **Background documents**

Letter from Coity Higher Community Council  
Terms of Reference for CHCC Electoral Arrangements Review