

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE
LALESTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL WARDS**

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Introduction

Bridgend County Borough Council is conducting a review of electoral arrangements to consider a request received from Laleston Community Council to revise the parity between the number of Community Councillors in their Community Wards. The current wards in Laleston are Cefn Glas 1 with 4 members (1,412 electorate), Cefn Glas 2 with 4 members (1,857 electorate) and Laleston/Bryntirion with 5 members (7,026 electorate)

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 draft proposals drawn up and made available for further public consultation. If there are no objections, then the final recommendations will be drawn up, published and adopted.

The review will start on 26 June 2026 with final recommendations being provisionally scheduled to be submitted for adoption in January 2027.

Why are we undertaking this review?

Bridgend County Borough Council has received an official request from Laleston Community Council to review the Community Councillor ratio with the aim to revise the disparity between the wards.

What is the aim of the review?

Bridgend County Borough 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?

This review will only look at the number of Community Councillors in the wards of Laleston Community Council. This is due to timescales as Local Election will take place in May 2027 and must be finalised by the publication of Notice of Election.

Who will undertake this review?

Bridgend County Borough 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 Community of Laleston.

Public Consultation and Submissions

When undertaking the review Bridgend County Borough 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.

Bridgend County Borough Council undertakes to meet these duties by writing to:

- The Community Council, namely Laleston Community Council
- The Councillors representing the Cefn Glas, and Bryntirion, Laleston and Merthyr Mawr Electoral Divisions
- The Senedd Member representing Pen-y-bont Bro Morgannwg Constituency,
- The Member of Parliament representing the Bridgend Parliamentary Constituency, and
- Local branches of political parties.

Bridgend County Borough 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 Initial Consultation and the Draft Proposals.

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 Members of the Senedd 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.
- Bridgend County Borough 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.

Statistics

The Council will use population statistics based upon the Electoral Register as published on 01/12/2025. The monthly updates that occur between January – September will also be taken into account.

Projected forecast statistics will also be considered, as supplied by the Council's planning department. Should the Council's Local Development Plan (LDP) be finalised prior to the publication of the draft proposals of this review, the Council will also consider the projected development plans contained within the LDP.

Electorate / ward data

In setting the ratio of councillors to electors, it is proposed to use the Aston Business School guidelines published in 1992 to provide a level of flexibility when determining the ratios. Their guidance is set out below in Table 2: -

Ratio of Councillors to Electors

Electorate	Councillor Allocation
Less than 500	5 – 8
501 – 2,500	6 – 12
2,501 – 10,000	9 – 16
10,001 – 20,000	13 – 27
Greater than 20,000	13 - 31

Timetable for the Review

The review will start on 25th June 2026 with final recommendations being provisionally scheduled prior to the Local Elections in May 2027. 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 2027.

Action		Period	Start	Date
Report to Full Council	Council approves the principle of the review and the Terms of Reference		25/06/2026	
Initial Consultation and Investigation	Initial submissions invited from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town and Community Councils, namely Laleston Community Council • BCBC Members • Members of Parliament • Senedd Members • Local Groups and interested parties such as local businesses, local resident's association, local public and voluntary organisations such as schools and health boards. Publish proposals on BCBC website	6 Weeks	26/06/2026	7/08/2026
Consideration of submissions received and Draft Proposal Report	Consider results of investigation and all representations received, Write draft proposals report, translate	4 Weeks	10/08/2026	07/09/2026
Publish Draft Proposals	Publish draft proposals for further	6 Weeks	08/09/2026	19/10/2026

	consultation with all consultees as above.			
Consideration of submissions received and write final recommendations	Consider results of all submissions and representations received, write final recommendations and translate	4 Weeks	19/10/2026	16/11/2026
Report to Full Council	Endorsement at full council		16/12/2026	
Publish Final Recommendations			17/12/2026	
Order made by Principal Council		6 weeks after final recommendations published	January 2027	

How to contact us

Should you wish to submit a written representation for this review, please send them to:

Election Office
 Bridgend County Borough Council
 Civic Offices
 Angel Street
 Bridgend
 CF31 4WB

Alternatively, you can email your submission to: CGR@bridgend.gov.uk

Key documents are reports for this review will also be published online, via the Council's website.

Should you require any further information, or need clarification on the review process, please contact:

Election Office
 Telephone: 01656 643116
 Email: CGR@bridgend.gov.uk

Appendix A

Electorate Summary

Community Council	Council Electorate	No. Of Cllrs at present	Cllr/Elector Ratio	Variance
Cefn Glas 1	1,412	4	353	-33%
Cefn Glas 2	1,857	4	464	-12%
Bryntirion and Laleston	7,026	5	1,405	167%