

RHONDDA CYNON TAFF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**JOINT REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND THE SERVICE DIRECTOR
DEMOCRATIC SERVICE AND COMMUNICATIONS**

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

COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE

12TH NOVEMBER 2021

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to present the Electoral Arrangements Order 2021 which implements the recommendations of the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales which was reported in March 2020 on its review of the electoral arrangements for the County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that members note the content of the report

3. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- 3.1 The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales (the Commission) has conducted a review of the electoral arrangements of the County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf.
- 3.2 This review was conducted in accordance with the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 (the Act), specifically Sections 29, 30 and 34-36.
- 3.2 Attached at **Appendix A** is a copy of the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales final recommendations report which was published in March 2020.
- 3.4 The Commission received 76 representations from: Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee, **six community councils**, one Assembly Member, 11 County Councillors, **two town and Community Councillors**, the South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner, two political party groups and 52 members of the public. A summary of the representations received is detailed in **Appendix A**

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The Boundary Commission published its draft proposals report on 19 June 2019 and requested views on the proposals. This consultation ran from 26 June 2019 to 17 September 2019.
- 5.2. The Commission publicised the review on its website and social media channels. Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council also publicised the review with a number of public notices to display. These were also provided to the community and town councils in the area.
- 5.3 In addition, the Commission made a presentation to both county, and town and community councillors to explain the review process and the Commission's policies. The County Borough Council was invited to submit a suggested scheme for new electoral arrangements.

6. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

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

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no financial implications aligned to this report