



## Proposal Details

<b>Title of Policy / Proposal / Initiative</b>	
Polling District, Places and Polling Stations Review 2023	
<b>Service Area</b>	<b>Officer completing IIA</b>
Democratic Services – Electoral Services	Lowri Edwards
<b>Corporate Lead Officer</b>	<b>Chief Executive</b>
Lowri Edwards	Eifion Evans
<b>Please give a brief description of the purpose of the proposal</b>	
<p>Under the Representation of the People Act 1983, the council has a duty to divide its area into polling districts and to designate a polling place for each district.</p> <p>Under section 18C of that Act, the compulsory review must be undertaken within a 16-month window between 1 October 2023 and 31 January 2025.</p> <p>The proposal also takes into consideration the new accessibility requirements of the Elections Act 2022.</p>	
<b>Who will be directly affected by this proposal? <a href="#">HINT</a></b>	
Electors in Ceredigion who vote in person at a Polling Station that is recommended for change.	
<b>Have those who will be affected by the proposal had the opportunity to comment on it?</b>	
<p>A statutory consultation commenced on 2 October 2023 and ended 10 November 2023.</p> <p>The consultation was available on the Council website, was promoted on social media and was sent directly to those listed in Appendix B of the Council report.</p>	

## Version Control

The IIA should be used at the earliest stages of decision making, and then honed and refined throughout the decision-making process. It is important to keep a record of this process so that we can demonstrate how we have considered and included

sustainable development, Welsh language and equality considerations wherever possible.

<b>Version Number</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Decision making stage</b> <a href="#"><u>HINT</u></a>	<b>Date Considered</b>	<b>Description of any amendments made</b> <a href="#"><u>HINT</u></a>
1	Lowri Edwards	Consultation undertaken and options considered	1 <sup>st</sup> December 2023	N/A

## Council Corporate Well-being Objectives

Which of the Council’s Corporate Well-being Objectives does this proposal address and how? Click here to read a summary of our [Corporate Strategy 2022-27](#)

<b>Boosting the economy, supporting business, and enabling employment.</b>	Not applicable
<b>Creating caring and healthy communities</b>	Not applicable
<b>Providing the best start in life and enabling learning at all ages</b>	Not applicable
<b>Creating sustainable, greener, and well-connected communities</b>	Not applicable

## National Well-being Goal: A Prosperous Wales

**An innovative, productive, and low carbon society where everyone has decent work and there is no poverty.**

Click [here](#) for information about a prosperous Wales.

**Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive or negative impacts. (Click [here](#) for information)**

Not applicable

**What evidence do you have to support this view?**

Not applicable

**What action(s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to this National Well-being Goal?**

Not applicable

## National Well-being Goal: A Resilient Wales

**A society where biodiversity is maintained and enhanced and where ecosystems are healthy and functioning.**

Click [here](#) for information about a resilient Wales.

**Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive or negative impacts. (Click [here](#) for information)**

Not applicable

**What evidence do you have to support this view?**

Not applicable

**What action(s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to this National Well-being Goal?**

Not applicable

## National Well-being Goal: A Healthier Wales

**A society where people make healthy choices and enjoy good physical and mental health.**

Click [here](#) for information about a healthier Wales.

**Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive or negative impacts. (Click [here](#) for information)**

Not applicable

**What evidence do you have to support this view?**

Not applicable

**What action(s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to this National Well-being Goal?**

Not applicable

## National Well-being Goal: A More Equal Wales

**A society where everyone has an equal chance whatever their background or circumstances.**

This section is longer because you are asked to assess the impact of your proposal on each group that is protected by the **Equality Act 2010**.

Click [here](#) for information about equality in Wales.

**Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people because of their age? (Click [here](#) for information)**

<b>Children and Young People up to 18</b>	None / Negligible
<b>People 18-50</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Older people 50+</b>	Positive

**Describe the positive or negative impacts.**

Following the introduction of the Elections Act 2022, an assessment of the accessibility of each Polling Place/Station has been undertaken. The considerations of the review, and the recommendations, have taken into account accessibility requirements.

**What evidence do you have to support this?**

The assessment of each Polling Place/Station which was published as part of the consultation

[Review of Polling Districts, Polling - Ceredigion County Council](#)

**What action(s) can you to take to mitigate any negative impacts?**

**Is there an opportunity to use this proposal to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or encourage good relations between people in this group and the rest of the population?**

Where possible, the review recommends changes to Polling Places/Stations where there are accessibility issues but in some instances, there are no suitable alternatives.

**Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people because of their disability? (Click [here](#) for information)**

<b>Hearing Impairment</b>	Positive
<b>Physical Impairment</b>	Positive
<b>Visual Impairment</b>	Positive
<b>Learning Disability</b>	Positive
<b>Long Standing Illness</b>	Positive
<b>Mental Health</b>	Positive
<b>Other</b>	None / Negligible

**Describe the positive or negative impacts.**

Following the introduction of the Elections Act 2022, an assessment of the accessibility of each Polling Place/Station has been undertaken. The considerations of the review, and the recommendations, have taken into account accessibility requirements.

**What evidence do you have to support this?**

The assessment of each Polling Place/Station which was published as part of the consultation

[Review of Polling Districts, Polling - Ceredigion County Council](#)

**What action(s) can you to take to mitigate any negative impacts?**

**Is there an opportunity to use this proposal to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or encourage good relations between people in this group and the rest of the population?**

Where possible, the review recommends changes to Polling Places/Stations where there are accessibility issues but in some instances, there are no suitable alternatives.

**Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people who are transgender? (Click [here](#) for information)**

<b>Trans Women</b>	Positive
<b>Trans Men</b>	Positive
<b>Non-binary people</b>	Positive

**Describe the positive or negative impacts**

Arrangements will be made at each Polling Station to ensure that there are private areas to discuss Voter ID with individuals, if so required. However, there is always an option for individuals to apply for postal or proxy votes if they so choose.

**What evidence do you have to support this?**

Arrangements will be made at each Polling Station to ensure that there are private areas to discuss Voter ID with individuals, if so required. However, there is always an option for individuals to apply for postal or proxy votes if they so choose.

**What action(s) can you to take to mitigate any negative impacts?**

**Is there an opportunity to use this proposal to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or encourage good relations between people in this group and the rest of the population?**

Arrangements will be made at each Polling Station to ensure that there are private areas to discuss Voter ID with individuals, if so required. However, there is always an option for individuals to apply for postal or proxy votes if they so choose.

**Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people with different sexual orientation? (Click [here](#) for information)**

<b>Bisexual</b>	None / Negligible
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<b>Gay Men</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Gay Women/Lesbian</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Heterosexual/Straight</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Describe the positive or negative impacts</b>	
N/A	
<b>What evidence do you have to support this?</b>	
N/A	
<b>What action(s) can you to take to mitigate any negative impacts?</b>	
<b>Is there an opportunity to use this proposal to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or encourage good relations between people in this group and the rest of the population?</b>	
N/A	

<b>Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people who are married or in a civil partnership? (Click <a href="#">here</a> for information)</b>	
<b>People who are married</b>	None / Negligible
<b>People in a civil partnership</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Describe the positive or negative impacts</b>	
N/A	
<b>What evidence do you have to support this?</b>	
N/A	
<b>What action(s) can you to take to mitigate any negative impacts?</b>	
<b>Is there an opportunity to use this proposal to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or encourage good relations between people in this group and the rest of the population?</b>	
N/A	

**Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people who are pregnant or on maternity leave? (Click [here](#) for information)**

<b>Pregnancy</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Maternity</b>	None / Negligible

**Describe the positive or negative impacts**

N/A

**What evidence do you have to support this?**

N/A

**What action(s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?**

N/A

**Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people because of their ethnic origin? (Click [here](#) for information)**

<b>Asian / Asian British</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Black / African / Caribbean / Black British</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Mixed / Multiple Ethnic Groups</b>	None / Negligible
<b>White</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Other Ethnic Groups</b>	Positive

**Describe the positive or negative impacts**

Arrangements will be made at each Polling Station to ensure that there are private areas to discuss Voter ID with individuals, if so required. However, there is always an option for individuals to apply for postal or proxy votes if they so choose.

**What evidence do you have to support this?**

Arrangements will be made at each Polling Station to ensure that there are private areas to discuss Voter ID with individuals, if so required. However, there is always an option for individuals to apply for postal or proxy votes if they so choose.



**What action(s) can you to take to mitigate any negative impacts?**

**Is there an opportunity to use this proposal to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or encourage good relations between people in this group and the rest of the population?**

Arrangements will be made at each Polling Station to ensure that there are private areas to discuss Voter ID with individuals, if so required. However, there is always an option for individuals to apply for postal or proxy votes if they so choose.

**Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people with different religions, beliefs, or non-beliefs? (Click [here](#) for information)**

<b>Buddhist</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Christian</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Hindu</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Humanist</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Jewish</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Muslim</b>	Positive
<b>Sikh</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Non-belief</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Other</b>	None / Negligible

**Describe the positive or negative impacts**

Arrangements will be made at each Polling Station to ensure that there are private areas to discuss Voter ID with individuals, if so required. However, there is always an option for individuals to apply for postal or proxy votes if they so choose.

**What evidence do you have to support this?**

Arrangements will be made at each Polling Station to ensure that there are private areas to discuss Voter ID with individuals, if so required. However, there is always an option for individuals to apply for postal or proxy votes if they so choose.

**What action(s) can you to take to mitigate any negative impacts?**

**Is there an opportunity to use this proposal to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or encourage good relations between people in this group and the rest of the population?**

Arrangements will be made at each Polling Station to ensure that there are private areas to discuss Voter ID with individuals, if so required. However, there is always an option for individuals to apply for postal or proxy votes if they so choose.

**Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on men or women?** (Click [here](#) for information)

<b>Men</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Women</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Describe the positive or negative impacts</b>	
N/A	
<b>What evidence do you have to support this?</b>	
N/A	
<b>What action(s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts?</b>	
<b>Is there an opportunity to use this proposal to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or encourage good relations between men and women?</b>	
N/A	

**Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people from the Armed Forces Community?** (Click [here](#) for information)

<b>Members of the Armed Forces</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Veterans</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Spouses</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Children</b>	None / Negligible
<b>Describe the positive or negative impacts</b>	
N/A	
<b>What evidence do you have to support this?</b>	
N/A	

**What action(s) can you to take to mitigate any negative impacts?**

N/A

### Socio-economic Duty

Socio-economic disadvantage means living on a low income compared to others in Wales, with little or no accumulated wealth, making it more difficult to access basic goods and services.

Family background or where a person is born still affects their life. For example, a child from a wealthy family often does better at school than a child from a poor family, even if the poorer child is more naturally academic. This is sometimes called socio-economic inequality.

**Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people experiencing socio-economic disadvantage?**

None / Negligible

**Describe the positive or negative impacts**

The Review has aimed to keep Polling Places/Stations as close as possible to communities. However, there is always an option for individuals to apply for postal or proxy votes if they so choose.

**What evidence do you have to support this?**

The Review has aimed to keep Polling Places/Stations as close as possible to communities. However, there is always an option for individuals to apply for postal or proxy votes if they so choose.

**What action(s) can you to take to mitigate any negative impacts?**

**Is there an opportunity to use this proposal to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or encourage good relations between people in this group and the rest of the population?**

The Review has aimed to keep Polling Places/Stations as close as possible to communities. However, there is always an option for individuals to apply for postal or proxy votes if they so choose.

## National Well-being Goal: A Wales of Cohesive Communities

**A society with attractive, viable, safe, and well-connected communities.**

Click [here](#) for information about cohesive communities.

<b>Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive or negative impacts. <a href="#">HINT</a></b>
Not applicable
<b>What evidence do you have to support this view?</b>
Not applicable
<b>What action(s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to the goal?</b>
Not applicable.

## National Well-being Goal: A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language

**A society that that promotes and protects culture, heritage, and the Welsh language and which encourages people to take part in the arts, sports, and recreation.**

Click [here](#) for information about culture and the Welsh language

<b>Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive or negative impacts.</b>
Not applicable
<b>What evidence do you have to support this view?</b>
Not applicable
<b>What action(s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to the goal?</b>
Not applicable

**With reference to the following, do you think this proposal will have a positive or negative effect on the Welsh language?**

Click [here](#) for information

**Opportunities for people to use the Welsh language**

Positive

**Treating the Welsh language, no less favourably than the English language**

Positive

**What evidence do you have to support this view?**

The aim is to ensure that there is at least one member of staff at each Polling Station who can speak Welsh.

**What action(s) can you take to increase the positive impact or mitigate any negative impact on the Welsh language?**

The aim is to ensure that there is at least one member of staff at each Polling Station who can speak Welsh.

## National Well-being Goal: A Globally Responsible Wales

**A society that considers how our actions might impact on other countries and people around the world.**

Click [here](#) for information about global responsibility.

**Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive or negative impacts. [HINT](#)**

Not applicable.

**What evidence do you have to support this view?**

Not applicable.

**What action(s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to the goal?**

Not applicable.

## Strengthening the Proposal

If you have identified any negative impacts in the above sections, please provide details of any practical changes and actions that could help remove or reduce the negative impacts.

What will you do?	When?	Who is responsible?	Progress
<p><b>If no action is to be taken to remove or mitigate negative impacts, please justify why. (If you have identified any unlawful discrimination then the proposal must be changed or revised.)</b></p>			
<p><b>The Review has taken into account the requirements of all relevant legislation and has made recommendations that meet these the best.</b></p>			
<p><b>How will you monitor the impact and effectiveness of the proposal?</b></p>			
<p><b>Regular review by the Acting Returning Officer and Deputy Acting Returning Officer at each election.</b></p>			

## Sustainable Development Principle: 5 Ways of Working

Describe below how you have implemented the five ways of working in accordance with the sustainable development principle of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

<p><b>Long term</b> Balancing short-term needs with long-term need and planning for the future.</p> <p><u>HINT</u></p>	<p>The Review aims to ensure that the most appropriate Polling Places/Stations are in place to meet the needs of the community for the next 5 years.</p>
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<p><b>Collaboration</b> Working together with other partners to deliver.</p> <p><u>HINT</u></p>	<p>Work has been undertaken with communities to identify the most appropriate venues for Polling Places/Stations.</p>
<p><b>Involvement</b> Involving those with an interest and seeking their views.</p> <p><u>HINT</u></p>	<p>A statutory consultation commenced on 2 October 2023 and ended 10 November 2023.</p> <p>The consultation was available on the Council website, was promoted on social media and was sent directly to those listed in Appendix B of the Council report. It was also available in easy read and large format as well as paper copies being made available in libraries.</p>
<p><b>Prevention</b> Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse.</p> <p><u>HINT</u></p>	<p>The Review aims to ensure that the most appropriate Polling Places/Stations are in place to meet the needs of the community for the next 5 years.</p>
<p><b>Integration</b> Considering the impact of your proposal on the four pillars of well-being (social, economic, cultural and environment) the objectives of other public bodies and across service areas in the Council.</p> <p><u>HINT</u></p>	<p>Not applicable.</p>



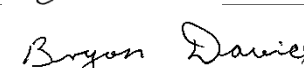
## Risk

Summarise the risk associated with the proposal.

	1	2	3	4	5
Impact Criteria	Very Low	Low	Medium	High	Very High
Likelihood Criteria	Unlikely to occur	Lower than average chance of occurring	Even chance of occurring	Higher than average chance of occurring	Expected to occur

<b>Risk Description</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Probability</b>	<b>Score (Impact x Likelihood)</b>
Urgent requirement by the Returning Officer to change the Polling Place/Station prior to an election	3	2	6

Sign Off

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Corporate Manager</b>	Not applicable	X _____	Click or tap to enter a date.
<b>Corporate Lead Officer</b>	Lowri Edwards		01/12/2023
<b>Chief Executive</b>	Eifion Evans		07/12/2023
<b>Portfolio Holder</b>	Cllr Bryan Davies		07/12/2023

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<sup>1</sup> Last updated 20/10/2023