

HAVERFORDWEST TOWN COUNCIL  
CYNGOR TREF HWLFFORDD

Sends  
Lara  
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Jane Clark (Mrs)  
Town Clerk & Financial Officer  
Clerk y Dref a Swyddog Arianol



Our Ref/Ein Cyf:

Your Ref/Eich Cyf:

Date/Dyddiad: 10<sup>th</sup> August 2006

Ms Ann Jones  
Chair, Local government & Public Services committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

Dear Ms Jones

**RE: ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS IN WALES**

Thank you for your recent letter and consultation document regarding the above. Members have considered this document and wish to put forward the following answers to the questions raised within the document:

1. No – penalties should not be used. We do not think it would encourage more people to register as people register and vote only when they feel confident to do so. Apathy, lack of political education and deep mistrust of all political parties must be overcome and dealt with before the electorate will register freely.
2. Media advertising plus better political education and easier forms to fill-in.
3. No. Voting will be more secure with ID but there must be safeguards for civil liberties.
4. No automatic registration.
5. Encourage minority leaders to hold meetings etc and then take note of what they say!
6. In principle yes, but likely to lead to fraud.
7. All those listed could be used but practicalities could prevent it (an easy means of fraud.) Also evidence of trials has shown no increase in vote turnout. This is without considering the problems of reliable connections, proper audit trails for each vote and ensuring a secure system so that results cannot be rigged. E voting has been put on ice because of security concerns and it must be shown to be completely tamper-proof.
8. Yes, but not sufficiently secure to control effectively.
9. Because they do not believe politicians listed to them. Examples cannot be given without giving personal details.

10. No.
11. Not as part of the curriculum, but that should not prevent schools from encouraging pupils from debating party politics and have politics as a part of the general curriculum.
12. Only if students/youth groups request such involvement.
13. None known of.
14. Yes
15. Yes
16. Yes
17. We would be concerned about fraud and security.
18. Yes
19. There could be difficulty with finding bi-lingual presiding officers and staff in Anglicised areas, but efforts should be made to do so. It is also our opinion that other ethnic residents who intend to make the UK their permanent place of residence should be fluent in English and/or Welsh or Gallic before they can register for voting.
20. Do not understand question.
21. Yes.

I look forward to receiving the committee's final report and recommendations in December and WAG's response early in 2007.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Yours sincerely



**Jane Clark**  
**Town Clerk/Financial Officer**