

County Borough of Caerphilly Nelson Community Council

39 Commercial Street, Nelson, TREHARRIS, CF46 6NF
Clerk: Mr A G Hoskins PgC MBA CMIOSH.MCMI.MISTR.



30th August 2006

National Assembly for Wales
Local Government and Public Services Committee
Cardiff Bay
CARDIFF
CF99 1NA

Electoral Arrangements in Wales – Consultation:

With reference to your letter of 2nd June 2006 and consultation document on the Electoral Arrangements in Wales, I list below the formal responses to the numbered questions agreed by my Council at a Special Meeting held on 27th July 2006.

Members considered the questions and agreed the following responses:

1. Penalties for non-registration should be used.
2. Parents could make known a forwarding address for children who had recently moved out of the family home.
3. Requiring personal ID would result in more genuine registrations and use of such ID at polling stations would make voting more secure.
4. Automatic registration should be introduced. This could be based on individual's National Insurance numbers.
5. Automatic registration would resolve this to an extent.
6. No. Postal voting systems are vulnerable to abuse.
7. None presently. Such systems could be vulnerable to abuse.
8. No. There would be insufficient resources to monitor alternative venues.
9. Some apathy and indifference, but lack of confidence and trust in MPs and Government is perhaps the biggest issue to be overcome.
10. Yes. Sufficient political awareness is taught.
11. No. Party politics should not be covered in sufficient depth and impartiality.
12. No. It would be impossible to ensure inclusiveness for all political parties.

Please address all correspondence to the Clerk - Mr A. G. Hoskins,
"Ty'r Fynton", 40 High Street, Nelson, TREHARRIS, Mid-Glamorgan. CF46 6EU
Telephone: 01443 450047 (Home) 01443 482189 (Work) 07779 575625 (Mobile)

(Chairman – Mrs Pat Lapsa)

13. Not aware of any specific instances.
14. Insufficient data on which to base an answer.
15. Insufficient data on which to base an answer. Returning Officers could have a view on this.
16. Statutory requirements already apply to premises in accordance with the Disability Discrimination Act.
17. No. Use of mobile ballot boxes could be open to abuse. Provision is already in place for transporting voters to polling stations or to vote by post.
18. No. This would add unnecessarily to the administrative burden. Verbal reporting of issues at the time or immediately following elections should be adequate.
19. ~~We believe that where bilingual services are needed they are already provided. It is not necessary to extend these to areas where a need has not been identified.~~
20. It is important to avoid positive discrimination. All ethnic groups must be treated equally.
21. Current information given on voting papers is understandable.

Alan Hoskins
Clerk to the Council

**Please address all correspondence to the Clerk - Mr A. G. Hoskins,
"Tyr Ffynnon", 40 High Street, Nelson, TREHARRIS, Mid-Glamorgan. CF46 6EU
Telephone: 01443 450047 (Home) 01443 482189 (Work) 07779.575625 (Mobile)**

(Chairman - Mrs Pat Lapsa)