

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND ELECTIONS (WALES) ACT 2021

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Part 1 of Schedule 11: Merging Councils

Paragraph 1 – Transition committees for merging councils.

602. Immediately after making an application for voluntary merger, the applicant councils (“the merging councils”) must establish a transition committee.

Paragraph 2 - Membership of transition committees for merging councils

603. A transition committee is to be made up of an equal number of elected members of the merging councils, with a minimum number of 5 members per council. The senior executive member (that is, the executive leader, or directly elected mayor if the council has one) of each of the merging councils must be a member of the transition committee.
604. A merging council’s executive member responsible for finance (who may also be the executive leader) must also be appointed to the transition committee.
605. A transition committee may co-opt additional persons to serve as members on the committee, but co-optees do not have voting rights. A merging council’s membership of a transition committee must reflect the political balance of the merging council, in accordance with the requirements set out in Schedule 1 to the 1989 Act.

Paragraph 3 - Functions of transition committees and sub-committees for merging councils

606. A transition committee must advise and make recommendations to the councils and the shadow council for the new principal area on the matters specified in paragraph 3(1). This is intended to ensure that the transition committee helps identify the issues which need to be addressed in the transition from the old councils to the new council, and makes recommendations to address the issues identified.
607. The Welsh Ministers may direct a transition committee to give them advice and recommendations.