

# Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

#### 2021 asc 1

#### PART 9

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

### Public services boards

## Merging and demerging public services boards under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

- (1) In Part 4 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (anaw 2), section 47 (merger of public services boards) is amended as follows.
- (2) Omit subsection (3) (requirement that the same Local Health Board is a member of each merging public services board).
- (3) After subsection (4) insert—
  - "(5) A merged board must, as soon as reasonably practicable after it is established, review—
    - (a) the local well-being plans in effect for its area immediately before it was established, and
    - (b) the local objectives set out in those plans.
  - (6) As soon as reasonably practicable after a review under subsection (5), the board must prepare and publish a local well-being plan for its area which may adopt the plans and objectives mentioned in subsection (5)(a) and (b)—
    - (a) to the extent the board considers appropriate, and
    - (b) subject to such amendments and revisions as the board considers appropriate.

- (7) A merged board may, if it considers that it would assist in contributing to the achievement of the well-being goals—
  - (a) demerge, or
  - (b) partially demerge (if three or more separate boards merged in the creation of the merged board).
- (8) The Welsh Ministers may, if they consider that it would assist in contributing to the achievement of the well-being goals, direct a merged board to—
  - (a) demerge, or
  - (b) partially demerge (if three or more separate boards merged in the creation of the merged board).
- (9) For the purposes of subsections (7) and (8), a merged board—
  - (a) demerges if it ceases to exist and a separate public services board is established for the area of each local authority that was a member of the merged board;
  - (b) partially demerges if—
    - (i) it continues to exist as the public services board for the areas of two or more local authorities, and
    - (ii) a separate public services board is established for the area of each local authority that has ceased to be a member of the merged board.
- (10) A public services board established after a demerger or partial demerger must, as soon as reasonably practicable after it is established, review—
  - (a) the local well-being plan in effect for its area immediately before it was established, and
  - (b) the local objectives set out in that plan.
- (11) As soon as reasonably practicable after a review under subsection (10), the board must prepare and publish a local well-being plan for its area which may adopt the plan and objectives mentioned in subsection (10)(a) and (b)—
  - (a) to the extent the board considers appropriate, and
  - (b) subject to such amendments and revisions as the board considers appropriate.
- (12) Before publishing a plan under subsection (6) or (11), a board must consult—
  - (a) the Commissioner;
  - (b) the Welsh Ministers;
  - (c) such other persons as the board considers appropriate.
- (13) A board must send a copy of a local well-being plan published under subsection (6) or (11) to the persons mentioned in section 44(6)."
- (4) Schedule 14 makes amendments to Acts and Measures in consequence of subsection (3).