
WELSH STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2021 No. 1161 (W. 286)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT, WALES

The County Borough of Blaenau Gwent
(Electoral Arrangements) Order 2021

*Made - - - - 18 October 2021
Coming into force in accordance with article 1(2) and
(3)*

The Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales⁽¹⁾ has, in accordance with section 36(5) of the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013⁽²⁾ (“the 2013 Act”), submitted to the Welsh Ministers a report dated April 2019 containing its recommendations for change and the details of its review of the electoral arrangements for the County Borough of Blaenau Gwent.

The Welsh Ministers have, after consideration of the matters referred to and set out in section 37(2) (a) and (c) of the 2013 Act, decided to give effect to those recommendations with modification.

In accordance with section 37(3) of the 2013 Act, more than 6 weeks have elapsed since those recommendations were submitted to the Welsh Ministers.

The Welsh Ministers make the following Order in exercise of their powers conferred by section 37(1) of the 2013 Act.

Title and commencement

1.—(1) The title of this Order is the County Borough of Blaenau Gwent (Electoral Arrangements) Order 2021.

(2) For any purpose set out in regulation 4(1) of the Regulations, this Order comes into force on the second day after the day on which it is made.

(3) For all other purposes, this Order comes into force on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2022⁽³⁾.

(1) The Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales was established by section 53 of, and Schedule 8 to, the Local Government Act 1972 (c. 70) (“the 1972 Act”). Section 53 and Schedule 8 were repealed by section 73(2) of, and Schedule 2 to, the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013 (anaw 4) (“the 2013 Act”). The 2013 Act re-names the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales as the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales (see section 2).

(2) 2013 anaw 4.

(3) The Local Authorities (Change to the Years of Ordinary Elections) (Wales) Order 2019 (S.I. 2019/1269 (W. 220)) amends section 26(1) of the 1972 Act to provide that the year in which the ordinary elections of councillors of local authorities shall take place is 2022 instead of 2021.

Interpretation

2. In this Order—

“electoral ward” (“*ward etholiadol*”) means any area for which members are elected to Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council;

“the Regulations” (“*y Rheoliadau*”) means the Local Government Area Changes Regulations 1976(4);

any reference to a map means one of the 2 maps marked “Map of the County Borough of Blaenau Gwent (Electoral Arrangements) Order 2021” deposited in accordance with regulation 5 of the Regulations, labelled “1” and “2”, and a reference to a numbered map is a reference to the map that bears that number;

where a boundary is shown on a map as running along a road, railway line, footway, watercourse or similar geographical feature, it is to be treated as running along the centre line of the feature;

words and expressions used in this Order have the same meaning as they have in Part 3 of the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013, except so far as a contrary intention appears.

Electoral arrangements for the County Borough of Blaenau Gwent

3.—(1) The electoral wards of the County Borough of Blaenau Gwent, as they exist immediately before the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2022, are abolished.

(2) The County Borough of Blaenau Gwent is divided into 14 electoral wards each bearing the English language name listed in column 1 and the Welsh language name listed in column 2 of the Table in the Schedule to this Order.

(3) Each electoral ward comprises the areas specified in relation to that electoral ward in column 3 of the Table in the Schedule to this Order.

(4) The number of members of the council to be elected for each electoral ward is the number specified in column 4 of the Table in the Schedule to this Order.

(5) The provisions in this Order take precedence over any conflicting provision in any previous statutory instrument made under section 58(2) of the Local Government Act 1972(5).

Abolition of the community of Beaufort, and creation of the communities of Beaufort and Garnlydan

4.—(1) The community of Beaufort, as it exists immediately before the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2022, is abolished.

(2) There are constituted the following communities—

- (a) the community of Beaufort shown hatched on Map 1;
- (b) the community of Garnlydan shown hatched on Map 2.

(4) *S.I. 1976/246*. Section 74(3) of the 2013 Act provides that these Regulations continue to have effect in relation to orders made under Part 3 of the 2013 Act, as if those orders were made under Part 4 of the 1972 Act.

(5) *1972 c. 70*; section 58 of the 1972 Act was repealed by section 73(2) of, and Schedule 2 to, the 2013 Act, subject to savings provisions specified in section 74 of the 2013 Act.

18 October 2021

Rebecca Evans
Minister for Finance and Local Government, one
of the Welsh Ministers

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

SCHEDULE

Article 3

NAMES AND AREAS OF ELECTORAL WARDS
AND NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Table

| <i>Column (1)</i> | <i>Column (2)</i> | <i>Column (3)</i> | <i>Column (4)</i> |
|--|--|---|---|
| <i>English language name of electoral ward</i> | <i>Welsh language name of electoral ward</i> | <i>Area of electoral ward</i> | <i>Number of members of the council</i> |
| Abertillery and Six Bells | Abertyleri a Six Bells | The Abertillery and Six Bells wards of the community of Abertillery | 3 |
| Beaufort | Cendl | The communities of Beaufort and Badminton | 3 |
| Blaina | Blaenau | The Blaina ward of the community of Nantyglo and Blaina | 2 |
| Brynmawr | Bryn-mawr | The community of Brynmawr | 3 |
| Cwm | Cwm | The community of Cwm | 2 |
| Cwmtillery | Cwmtyleri | The Cwmtillery ward of the community of Abertillery | 2 |
| Ebbw Vale North | Gogledd Glynebwy | The community of Ebbw Vale North | 2 |
| Ebbw Vale South | De Glynebwy | The community of Ebbw Vale South | 2 |
| Georgetown | Georgetown | The Georgetown ward of the community of Tredegar | 2 |
| Llanhilleth | Llanhilledd | The community of Llanhilleth | 2 |
| Nantyglo | Nant-y-glo | The Nantyglo ward of the community of Nantyglo and Blaina | 2 |
| Rassau and Garnlydan | Rasa a Garnlydan | The communities of Rassau and Garnlydan | 2 |
| Sirhowy | Sirhywi | The Sirhowy ward of the community of Tredegar | 3 |
| Tredegar | Tredegar | The Central and West ward of the community of Tredegar | 3 |

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order implements the recommendations of the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales (“the Commission”), which reported in April 2019 on its review of the electoral arrangements for the County Borough of Blaenau Gwent. The Commission’s Report proposed a reduction in the number of electoral wards from 16 to 14 and in the number of councillors from 42 to 33.

This Order implements the Commission’s recommendations, with modification.

Article 3 of this Order abolishes the existing electoral arrangements for the County Borough of Blaenau Gwent and introduces the Schedule, which sets out the new electoral arrangements for the County Borough of Blaenau Gwent.

Article 4 abolishes the existing community of Beaufort, and creates the new communities of Beaufort and Garnlydan.

The Welsh Ministers’ Code of Practice on the carrying out of Regulatory Impact Assessments was considered in relation to this Order. As a result, it was not considered necessary to carry out a regulatory impact assessment as to the likely costs and benefits of complying with this Order.

Prints of the maps labelled “1” and “2” to which this Order relates are deposited in the office of the Welsh Government at Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ (Local Government Democracy Division), and with Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council. Prints deposited with Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council are open to inspection by anyone affected by the provisions of this Order.