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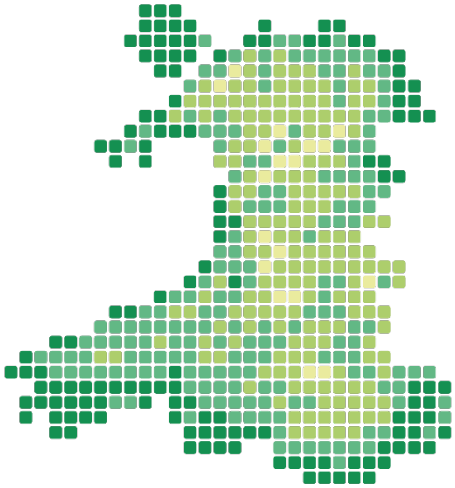

Comisiwn Democratiaeth a Ffiniau Cymru

Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru

Review of the Electoral Arrangements of the County Borough of Caerphilly

Final Recommendations Report

March 2026

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FOREWORD

The Commission is pleased to present this Report to the Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government, which contains its recommendations for electoral arrangements for the County Borough of Caerphilly.

This review of electoral arrangements of the County Borough of Caerphilly is conducted under the Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru etc. Act 2013 ("The 2013 Act") and Commission's Electoral Review Programme 2025 Policy and Practice document (ERP 2025 Policy and Practice).

In working up our final recommendations, we have considered local ties and those who wish to retain current boundaries. We have looked carefully at every representation made to us. However, we have had to balance these issues and representations against all the other factors we have to consider, and the constraints set out in the legislation. In particular, the requirement for electoral parity, alongside special geographic considerations.

The Commission is grateful to the Members and Officers of the Caerphilly County Borough Council for their assistance in its work, to the Community and Town Councils for their valuable contributions, and to all who have made representations throughout the process.

Karen Jones DL, MBA, MA(HRM), FCIPD
Chair

DEMOCRACY AND BOUNDARY COMMISSION CYMRU

REVIEW OF THE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS OF THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF CAERPHILLY

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT

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1st Edition March 2026

The Commission welcomes correspondence and telephone calls in Welsh or English.
Mae'r ddogfen ar hon ar gael yn y Gymraeg.

The translation of this report was provided by Trosol

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INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

Chapter 1. Introduction

1. On 4 June 2025 the Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government announced that Welsh Government had accepted the recommendations as set out in the Commission's Final Recommendations Report for the review of community arrangements for Caerphilly. The Commission understands that those recommendations will be implemented by means of an Order of the Welsh Ministers. The Commission is therefore conducting its electoral review on the basis of the community areas in Caerphilly as they will be once the Order of the Welsh Ministers comes into force. The Order is expected to be 'Caerphilly (Communities) Order 2026'. For the purposes of this Report, the Commission is referring to the expected arrangements that will be in place following the implementation of the Caerphilly (Communities) 2026 Order when discussing the 'existing' arrangements for the County Borough. The Final Recommendations report for the Community Review can be found on the Commission's website.

2. The Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru (the Commission) has conducted a review of the electoral arrangements of the County Borough of Caerphilly. The review was conducted in accordance with the Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru etc. Act 2013 ("The 2013 Act").

3. The Commission has a duty to conduct a review of all 22 of Wales' Principal Councils every 12 years. The rules and procedures the Commission follows can be found in the Commission's Electoral Review Programme 2025: Policy and Practice document which can be found on the Commission's website (ERP 2025 Policy and Practice).

4. Having completed the review of the principal council area and submitted the Commission's recommendations to the Welsh Government on the future electoral arrangements for the principal authority, the Commission has fulfilled its statutory obligations under the Act. Any further comments concerning the matters in this report should be addressed to the Welsh Government. Details of how to respond to the consultation can be found in Chapter 4 of this report.

5. All Country, Senedd Constituency, Westminster Parliamentary Constituency, Local Authority, Electoral Ward , Community, Community Wards or Polling District boundaries that are located on the coast of Wales should align with the Mean Low Water boundary as indicated by the current Ordnance Survey Boundary-Line, or Ordnance Survey National Geographic Database (OS NGD) Boundary product data.

6. The Mean Low Water boundary indicated within the Ordnance Survey Boundary-Line or NGD Boundaries product data will be subject to natural and gradual change over time and will be periodically subject to update by the Ordnance Survey as part of its revision processes. These changes will be reflected in the boundary data supplied by Ordnance Survey.

Chapter 2. SUMMARY OF FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Commission recommends a change to the arrangement of electoral wards that should ensure that local government electoral wards continue to reflect local identities and facilitate effective and convenient local government across the principal council area. The recommended change to the arrangement of electoral wards will achieve an improvement in the level of electoral parity across the County Borough of Caerphilly.

2. The Commission recommends a council of 68 members, a decrease from the council size of 69 that was recommended in the Caerphilly Community Review. This results in a recommended county average of 1,982 electors per member.

3. The Commission recommends 30 electoral wards.

4. The largest under-representation (in terms of electoral variance) within the recommendations is **Crosskeys** (26% above the recommended county average). At present, the largest under-representation is in **Crosskeys** (28% above the county average).

5. The largest over-representation (in terms of electoral variance) within the recommendations is **Ynysddu** (24% below the recommended county average). At present, the largest over-representation is in **Ynysddu** (23% below the county average).

6. The Commission is recommending 24 multi-member wards in the county consisting of: twelve two-member electoral wards; ten three-member electoral wards; and, two four-member electoral wards.

7. The Commission has recommended to retain the existing electoral arrangements of 27 electoral wards.

8. The Commission does not propose to have any electoral wards within the county which combines part of a warded community with a neighbouring community, resulting in 'split communities'.

9. The Commission received 5 representations during the initial consultation period. All representations are published on the Commission's website in line with our publication and redaction policy.

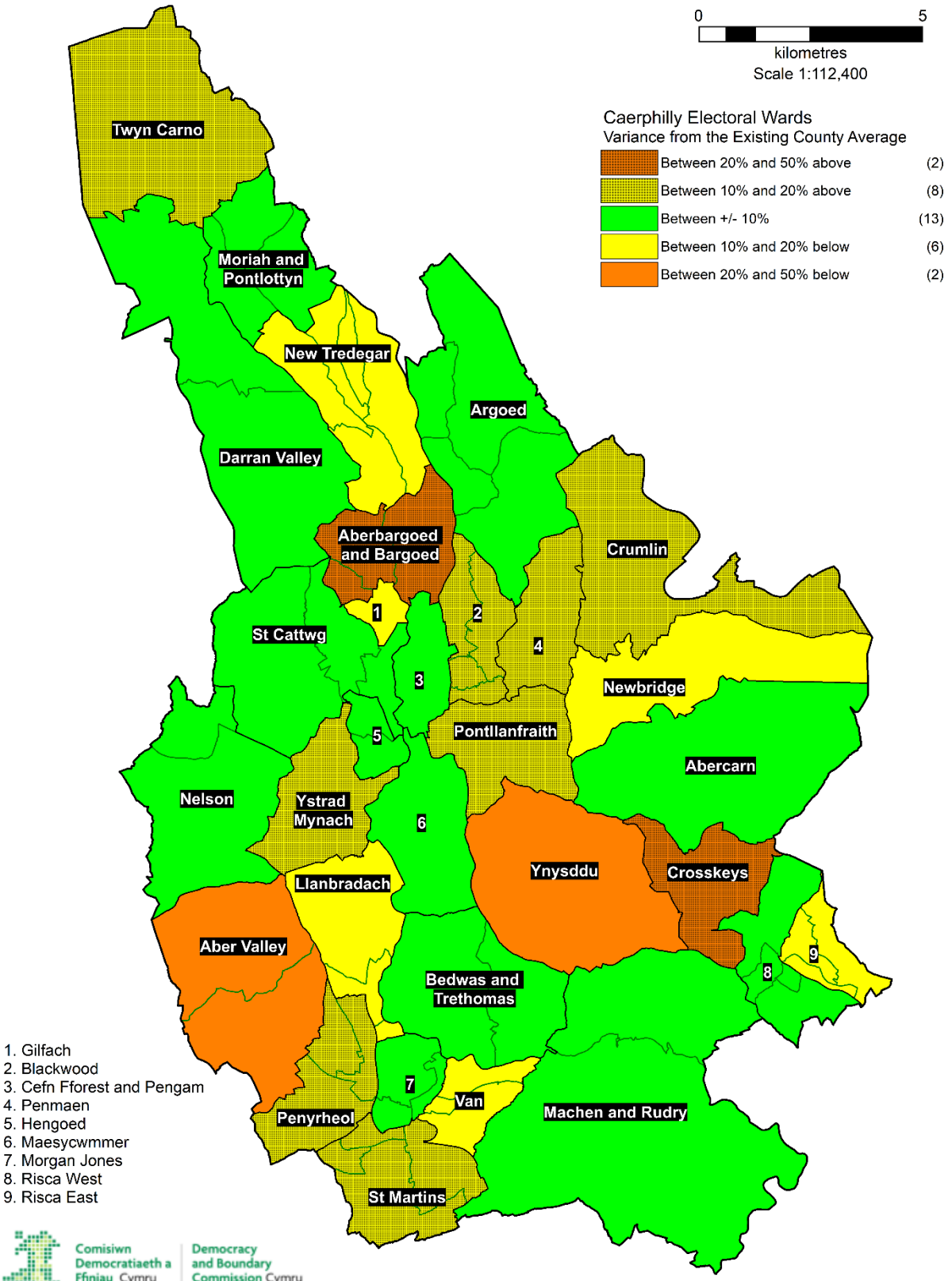
10. The Commission received 54 representations during the draft consultation period from The Caerphilly County Borough Council Cross Party Working Group (CCBCCPWG), 8 County Councillors (11 representations), 2 Community Councillors, 1 Town Council and 38 Members of the Public (39 representations). The Commission considered the representations carefully before it formulated its recommendations. All representations are published on the Commission's website in line with our publication and redaction policy.

Summary Maps

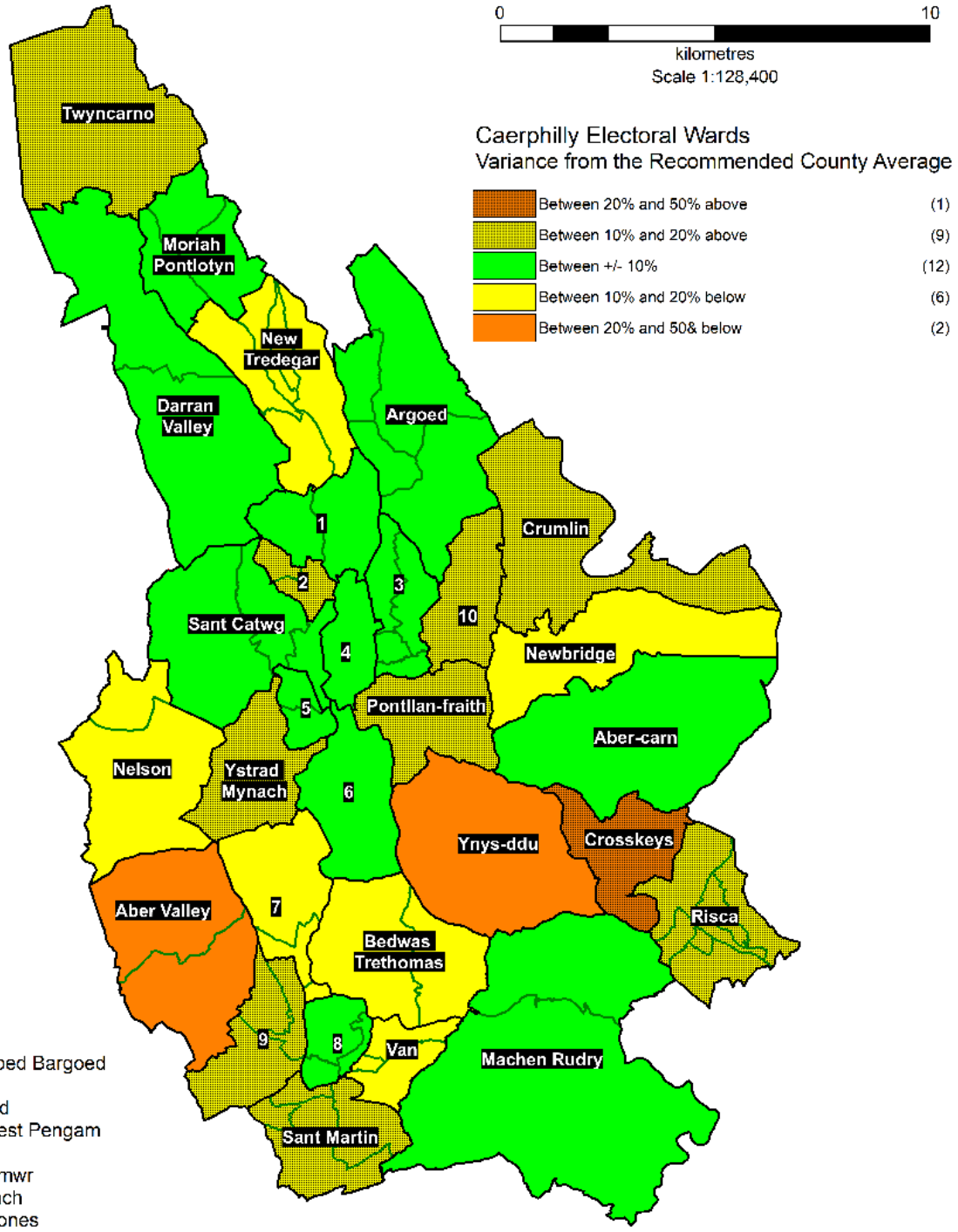
11. On the following pages are thematic maps illustrating the current and recommended arrangements and their variances from the current and recommended county averages of 1,954 and 1,982 electors per member respectively. Those areas in green are within +/-10% of the county average; yellow and hatched yellow between +/-10% and +/-20% of the county average; orange and hatched orange between +/-20% and +/-50% of the county average; and, those in red and hatched red are over +/-50% of the county average.

12. As can be seen from these maps, the recommended arrangements provide for an improvement in electoral parity across the county.

Caerphilly- Existing Variance in Electoral Representation from the Existing County Average



Caerphilly- Recommended Variance in Electoral Representation from the Recommended County Average



1. Aberbargoed Bargoed
2. Gilfach
3. Blackwood
4. Cefn Fforest Pengam
5. Hengoed
6. Maesycwmwr
7. Llanbradach
8. Morgan Jones
9. Penyrheol
10. Penmaen

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Chapter 3. FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Commission's recommendations are described in detail in this chapter. For each new recommendation the report sets out:
   - The name(s) of the existing electoral wards which wholly or in part constitute the recommended electoral ward;
   - a brief description of the existing arrangements in terms of the number of electors and elected members;
   - key arguments made during the Commission's deliberations;
   - The views of the Commission;
   - The composition of the recommended electoral ward and the recommended name;
   - A map of the recommended electoral ward (see key below).

	Recommended Electoral Ward Boundary		Community Boundaries		Community Ward Boundaries

Retained Electoral Wards

2. The Commission has considered the electoral arrangements of the existing electoral wards, taking into account the ratio of local government electors to councillors. It is recommended that the current arrangements be retained for these wards, as all but 3 (Aber Valley, Crosskeys, and Ynysddu) fall within the accepted +/- 20% variance from the recommended County Average. The names below are as they appear in the Caerphilly (Electoral Arrangements) Order 2021, with the Welsh form appearing first.

   - Aber-carn | Abercarn
   - Cwm Aber | Aber Valley
   - Argoed
   - Bedwas a Threthomas |Bedwas and Trethomas
   - Coed-duon | Blackwood
   - Cefn Fforest a Phengam | Cefn Fforest and Pengam
   - Crosskeys
   - Crymlyn | Crumlin
   - Cwm Darran | Darran Valley
   - Hengoed
   - Llanbradach
   - Machen a Rhydri | Machen and Rudry
   - Maesycwmwr | Maesycwmmer
   - Morgan Jones
   - Moriah a Phontlotyn | Moriah and Pontlottyn
   - Nelson
   - Tredegar Newydd | New Tredegar
   - Trecelyn | Newbridge
   - Penmaen
   - Penyrheol
   - Pontllan-fraith |Pontllanfraith
   - Sant Catwg | St Cattwg
   - Sant Martin | St Martins
   - Twyncarno | Twyn Carno
   - Y Fan | Van
   - Ystrad Mynach
   - Ynys-ddu |Ynysddu

3. In its Draft Proposals, the Commission proposed to reduce the number of councillors representing the Aber Valley electoral ward from 3 to 2 to ensure the ward would be within the +/- 20% variance. As part of its Final recommendations the Commission has recommended the existing arrangements be retained for the electoral ward. The Commission acknowledges that this arrangement for Aber Valley results in a level of variance that does not fall within the +/- 20% tolerance. However, it is the view of the Commission based on the representations

received during the draft consultation period, that it is appropriate to consider the additional electors from a new housing development in the ward, that were not included in the projected figures, which would ensure the ward would fall within the +/- 20% variance in the future providing improvements to electoral parity.

4. In its Draft Proposals, the Commission proposed to amalgamate the Crosskeys and Ynysddu electoral wards to create a new ward named Crosskeys Ynys-ddu which would significantly improve the variance for both wards. Due to the representations received during the initial and draft consultation periods, the Commission has recommended that the existing arrangements be retained for both the Crosskeys and Ynysddu electoral wards. The Commission acknowledges that for both wards this arrangement results in a level of variance that does not fall within the +/-20% tolerance. However, it is the view of the Commission that the points raised in the representations received, including, that the electoral wards reside in different Parliamentary and Senedd constituencies, the different geography and identities of the 2 wards, and the wards having no historical links are well evidenced and strong reasons to retain the existing arrangements. The Commission also acknowledges the representations, petition and outcome of the last electoral review along with the level of variance for both wards, Crosskeys -26% and Ynysddu -24%, only marginally falling outside the +/-20% variance in the future as strong reasons to retain the existing arrangements for both electoral wards.

5. The Commission considered the representations received during the draft consultation period regarding the Blackwood electoral ward. The Commission believes it is appropriate to retain the existing arrangements for the ward as the projected increase in electors put forward in the representations would not warrant an additional councillor as the ward would still fall within the +/- 20% variance. The Commission also believes that the existing allocation of councillors ensures the ward has a comparable variance to similar size electoral wards in the principal council area.

Recommended Names for Retained Electoral Wards

6. As part of an electoral review, the Commission considers the names of electoral wards in the area under review. The Commission's general practice will be to recommend changes to the name of an electoral ward if it considers that the name can be improved, whether or not the Commission is also recommending changes to other electoral arrangements affecting that ward. In light of the Commission's duty to promote the use of the Welsh language, the Commission's general preference will be for electoral wards to bear a single name in the Welsh language which is acceptable for use in English.

7. The existing Electoral ward of **Abercarn** has the existing Welsh language name of **Aber-carn**, and the existing English language name of **Abercarn**. The Commission recommends to apply the single name of **Aber-carn** to the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

8. The existing Electoral ward of **Aber Valley** has the existing Welsh language name of **Cwm Aber**, and the existing English -language name of **Aber Valley**. The Commission recommends to retain the Welsh language name of **Cwm Aber**, and the English language name of **Aber Valley** for the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended names.

9. The existing Electoral ward of **Argoed** has the existing single language name of **Argoed**. The Commission recommends to retain the single name of **Argoed** to the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

10. The existing Electoral ward of **Bedwas and Trethomas** has the existing Welsh language name of **Bedwas a Threthomas**, and the existing English language name of **Bedwas and Trethomas**. The Commission recommends the single name of **Bedwas Trethomas** for the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

11. The existing Electoral ward of **Blackwood** has the existing Welsh language name of **Coed-duon**, and the existing English language name of **Blackwood**. The Commission recommends to retain the Welsh language name of **Coed-duon**, and the English language name of **Blackwood** for the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

12. The existing Electoral ward of **Cefn Fforest and Pengam** has the existing Welsh language name of **Cefn Fforest a Phengam**, and the existing English language name of **Cefn Fforest and Pengam**. The Commission recommends the single name of **Cefn Fforest Pengam** for the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

13. The existing Electoral ward of **Crosskeys** has the existing single language name of **Crosskeys**. The Commission recommends to retain the single name of **Crosskeys** for the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

14. The existing Electoral ward of **Crumlin** has the existing Welsh language name of **Crymlyn**, and the existing English language name of **Crumlin**. The Commission recommends to retain the Welsh language name of **Crymlyn**, and the English language name of **Crumlin** for the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

15. The existing Electoral ward of **Darran Valley** has the existing Welsh language name of **Cwm Darran**, and the existing English language name of **Darran Valley**. The Commission recommends the single name of **Cwm Darran,** as recommended by the Welsh Language Commissioner.

16. The existing Electoral ward of **Hengoed** has the existing single language name of **Hengoed**. The Commission recommends to retain the single name of **Hengoed** to the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

17. The existing Electoral ward of **Llanbradach** has the existing single language name of **Llanbradach**. The Commission recommends to retain the single name of **Llanbradach** to the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

18. The existing Electoral ward of **Machen and Rudry** has the existing Welsh language name of **Machen a Rhydri**, and the existing English language name of **Machen and Rudry**. The Commission recommends the Welsh language name of **Machen Rhydri**, and the English language name of **Machen Rudry** for the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

19. The existing Electoral ward of **Maesycwmmer** has the existing Welsh language name of **Maesycwmwr**, and the existing English language name of **Maesycwmmer**. The Welsh Language Commissioner recommended retaining the English language name of **Maesycwmmer**, and the Welsh language name of **Maesycwmwr** to be consistent with Caerphilly Council's usage. The Commission recommends the single name of **Maesycwmwr** for the electoral ward, to be consistent with its naming policy for the 2025 Electoral Review Programme and to adhere to the list of Standard Welsh Place-names.

20. The existing Electoral ward of **Morgan Jones** has the existing single language name of **Morgan Jones**. The Commission recommends to retain the single name of **Morgan Jones** to the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

21. The existing Electoral ward of **Moriah and Pontlottyn** has the existing Welsh language name of **Moriah a Phontlotyn**, and the existing English language name of **Moriah and Pontlottyn**. The Commission recommends the single name of **Moriah Pontlotyn** for the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

22. The existing Electoral ward of **Nelson** has the existing single language name of **Nelson**. The Commission recommends to retain the single name of **Nelson** to the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

23. The existing Electoral ward of **New Tredegar** has the existing Welsh language name of **Tredegar Newydd**, and the existing English language name of **New Tredegar**. The Commission recommends to retain the Welsh language name of **Tredegar Newydd**, and the English language name of **New Tredegar** for the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended names.

24. The existing Electoral ward of **Newbridge** has the existing Welsh language name of **Trecelyn**, and the existing English language name of **Newbridge**. The Commission recommends to retain the Welsh language name of **Trecelyn**, and the English language name of **Newbridge** for the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended names.

25. The existing Electoral ward of **Penmaen** has the existing single language name of **Penmaen**. The Commission recommends to retain the single name of **Penmaen** to the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

26. The existing Electoral ward of **Penyrheol** has the existing single language name of **Penyrheol**. The Commission recommends to retain the single name of **Penyrheol** to the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

27. The existing Electoral ward of **Pontllanfraith** has the existing Welsh language name of **Pontllan-fraith**, and the existing English language name of **Pontllanfraith**. The Commission recommends the single name of **Pontllan-fraith**. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

28. The existing Electoral ward of **St Cattwg** has the existing Welsh language name of **Sant Catwg**, and the existing English language name of **St Cattwg**. The Commission recommends the single name of **Sant Catwg** for the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

29. The existing Electoral ward of **St Martins** has the existing Welsh language name of **Sant Martin**, and the existing English language name of **St Martins**. The Commission recommends the single name of **Sant Martin** for the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

30. The existing Electoral ward of **Twyn Carno** has the existing Welsh language name of **Twyncarno**, and the existing English language name of **Twyn Carno**. The Commission recommends the single name of **Twyncarno** for the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended names.

31. The existing Electoral ward of **Van** has the existing Welsh language name of **Y Fan**, and the existing English language name of **Van**. The Commission recommends to retain the Welsh language name of **Y Fan**, and the English language name of **Van** for the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended names.

32. The existing Electoral ward of **Ystrad Mynach** has the existing single language name of **Ystrad Mynach**. The Commission recommends to retain the single name of **Ystrad Mynach** to the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

33. The existing Electoral ward of **Ynysddu** has the existing Welsh language name of **Ynys-ddu,** and the existing English language name of **Ynysddu**. The Commission recommends the single name of **Ynys-ddu** for the electoral ward. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

Recommended Electoral Wards

34. The Commission has considered changes to the remaining electoral wards. Details of the current electoral arrangements can be found at Appendix 1. The Commission's recommended arrangements can be found at Appendix 2.

35. In the following section, when referring to existing electoral wards, the Report is referencing the electoral wards as recommended by the consequential changes in the Caerphilly Community Review's Final Recommendations. These recommendations were accepted in full by Welsh Government Ministers on 4 June 2025. The Final Recommendations of the Caerphilly Community Review can be found on the Commission's website.

RISCA EAST AND RISCA WEST

28. The existing Risca East electoral ward is composed of the community wards of Trenewydd, Pontymister Tŷ Sign, and Pontymister Upper of the Community of Risca. The electoral ward has 4,728 electors represented by 3 councillors which is 19% below the existing county average of 1,954. The projected 5-year (2030) statistics for the electoral ward has 4,730 electors represented by 3 councillors, which is 19% below the projected county average of 1,954.

29. The existing Risca West electoral ward is composed of the community wards of Dan-y-graig, Pontymister Lower, Risca Town and Fernlea, and Tŷ-Isaf Fields and Ochrwyth of the Community of Risca. The electoral ward has 3,979 electors represented by 2 councillors which is 2% above the existing county average of 1,954. The projected 5-year (2030) statistics for the electoral ward has 3,981 electors represented by 2 councillors which is 2% above the projected county average of 1,954.

Name	2025 Electors	Cllrs	2025 Ratio	Variance	2030 Electors	2030 Ratio	2030 Variance
Risca East	4,728	3	1,576	-19%	4,730	1,577	-19%
Risca West	3,979	2	1,990	2%	3,981	1,991	2%
	8,707	**5**			**8,711**		

Draft Proposals

30. In its Draft Proposals the Commission proposed the combination of the electoral wards of Risca East and Risca West to form an electoral ward.

Representations

31. The Commission received 18 representations concerning the Risca East and Risca West electoral wards during the draft consultation period from: The Caerphilly County Borough Council Cross Party Working Group (CCBCCPWG), County Councillor Bob Owen (2 representations), Community Councillor Michael Wedderien, and 14 Members of the Public. The representations are published on the Commission's website.

Electoral Ward boundary recommendation

32. The Commission recommends to apply 1 change to the existing electoral ward boundaries, which reduces the overall number of county councillors for the area by 1:

- Combination of Risca East and Risca West electoral wards

33. The Commission recommends the combination of the existing electoral wards of Risca East and Risca West. This recommendation addresses the level of variance from the recommended county average in the Risca East electoral ward. The Commission recommends to assign 4 county councillors to the electoral ward, which decreases the overall number of county councillors in the area by 1. The Commission considered the representation received from the CCBCCPWG during the draft consultation period which is opposed to the combination of the electoral wards and requests that the existing arrangements are retained. However, the Commission believes that the overwhelming support for the amalgamation in the representations received during the draft consultation period, the shared history and identity of the town, and the fact that the recommendation creates an electoral ward which is coterminous with the

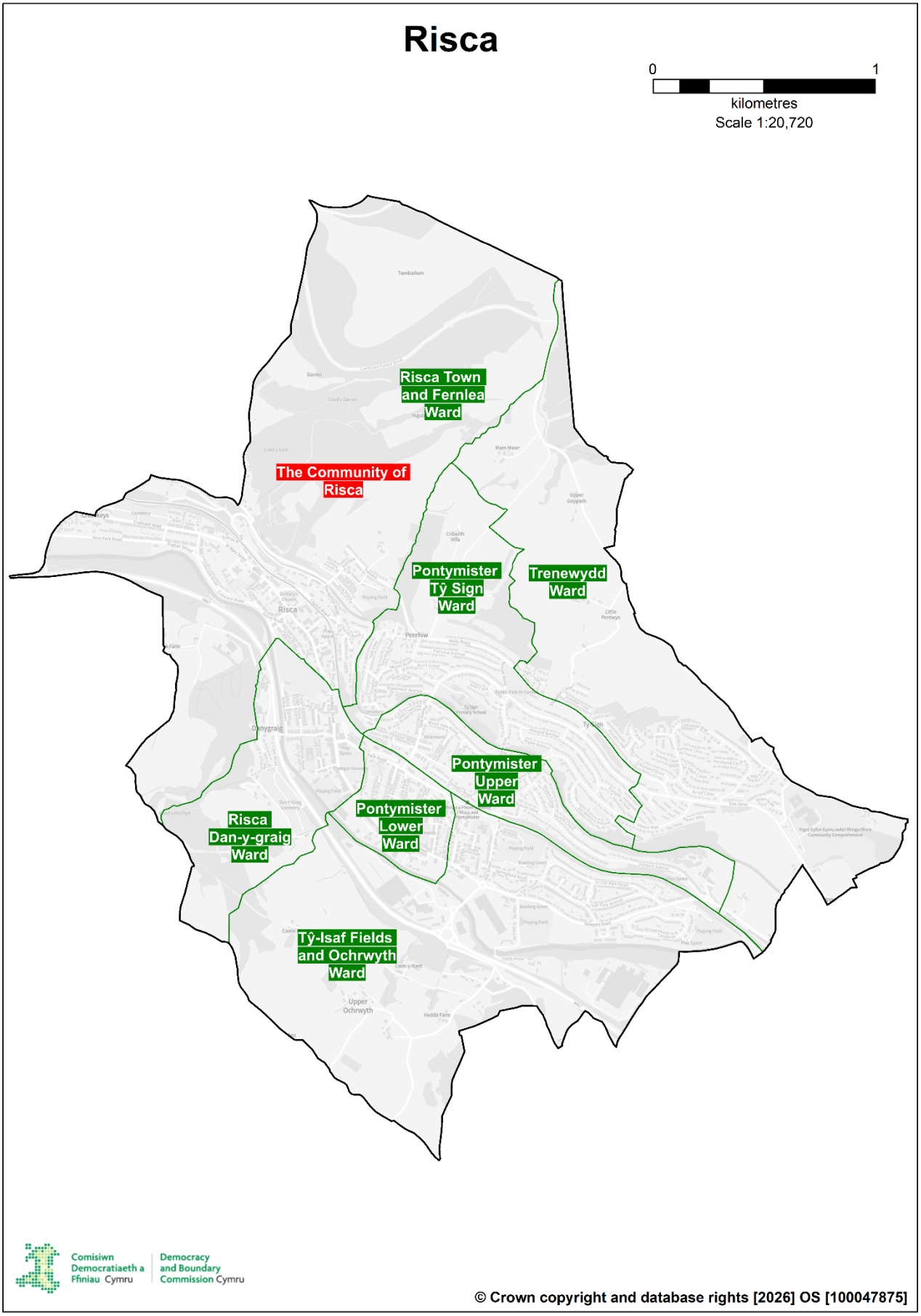
Community of Risca would provide recognisable boundaries for the electorate and improvements to effective and convenient local government.

34. The electorate within the recommended Risca electoral ward would be 8,707, represented by 4 councillors which is 10% above the recommended county average of 1,982. The projected 5-year (2030) statistics for the electoral ward would have 8,711 electors represented by 4 councillors, which is 10% above the recommended projected county average of 1,983.

Recommended Names

35. The Commission recommends the new English language electoral ward name of **Risca**, and the new Welsh Language electoral ward name of **Rhisga.** The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended names for the new ward.

36. The Commission considered the representation from a Member of the Public who requested that the new electoral ward name include Pontymister. However, the Commission believes that the new name of Risca is identifiable to electors, recognised locally and reflects the community name for the area.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Risca Town and Fernlea Ward
The Community of Risca
Pontymister Tŷ Sign Ward
Trenewydd Ward
Pontymister Upper Ward
Pontymister Lower Ward
Risca Dan-y-graig Ward
Tŷ-Isaf Fields and Ochrwyth Ward
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ABERBARGOED AND BARGOED, AND GILFACH

37. The existing Aberbargoed and Bargoed electoral ward is composed of the town wards of Aberbargoed, Bargoed, and Park of the Town of Bargoed. The electoral ward has 7,086 electors represented by 3 councillors which is 21% above the existing county average of 1,954. The projected 5-year (2030) statistics for the electoral ward has 7,088 electors represented by 3 councillors, which is 21% above the projected county average of 1,954.

38. The existing Gilfach electoral ward is composed of the town ward of Gilfach of the Town of Bargoed. The electoral ward has 1,632 electors represented by 1 councillor which is 16% below the existing county average of 1,954. The projected 5-year (2030) statistics for the electoral ward has 1,633 electors represented by 1 councillor, which is 16% below the projected county average of 1,954.

Name	2025 Electors	Cllrs	2025 Ratio	Variance	2030 Electors	2030 Ratio	2030 Variance
Aberbargoed and Bargoed	7,086	3	2,362	21%	7,088	2,363	21%
Gilfach	1,632	1	1,632	-16%	1,633	1,633	-16%
	8,718	**4**			**8,721**		

Draft Proposals

39. In its Draft Proposals the Commission proposed the combination of the electoral wards of Aberbargoed and Bargoed, and Gilfach to form an electoral ward.

Representations

40. The Commission received 8 representations concerning the Aberbargoed and Bargoed, and Gilfach electoral wards during the draft consultation period from: The CCBCCPWG, County Councillor Carol Andrews (2 representations), Bargoed Town Council, Community Councillor John Declan McCarthy, and 3 Members of the Public. The representations are published on the Commission's website.

Electoral Ward boundary recommendations

41. The Commission recommends to apply 1 change to the existing electoral ward boundaries, which retains the overall number of county councillors for the area:

- Transfer of the Park town ward to the Gilfach electoral ward

41. The Commission recommends the transfer of the Park town ward to the Gilfach electoral ward in order to address the levels of variance from the existing county average in the Aberbargoed and Bargoed electoral ward. The Commission recommends to retain the existing allocation of councillors for both electoral wards. This recommendation is based on the representations received from County Councillor Carol Andrews, Bargoed Town Council, and Community Councillor John Declan McCarthy who suggested that the Park town ward has an affinity with the Gilfach electoral ward and therefore the transfer would provide improvements to effective and convenient local government and electoral parity. This recommendation creates 2 electoral wards which make up the Town of Bargoed providing recognisable boundaries for the electorate and maintaining community ties and transport links.

42. The electorate within the recommended Gilfach electoral ward would be 2,320 represented by 1 councillor which is 17% above the recommended county average of 1,982. The projected 5-year (2030)

statistics for the electoral ward would have 2,321 electors represented by 1 councillor, which is 17% above the recommended projected county average of 1,983.

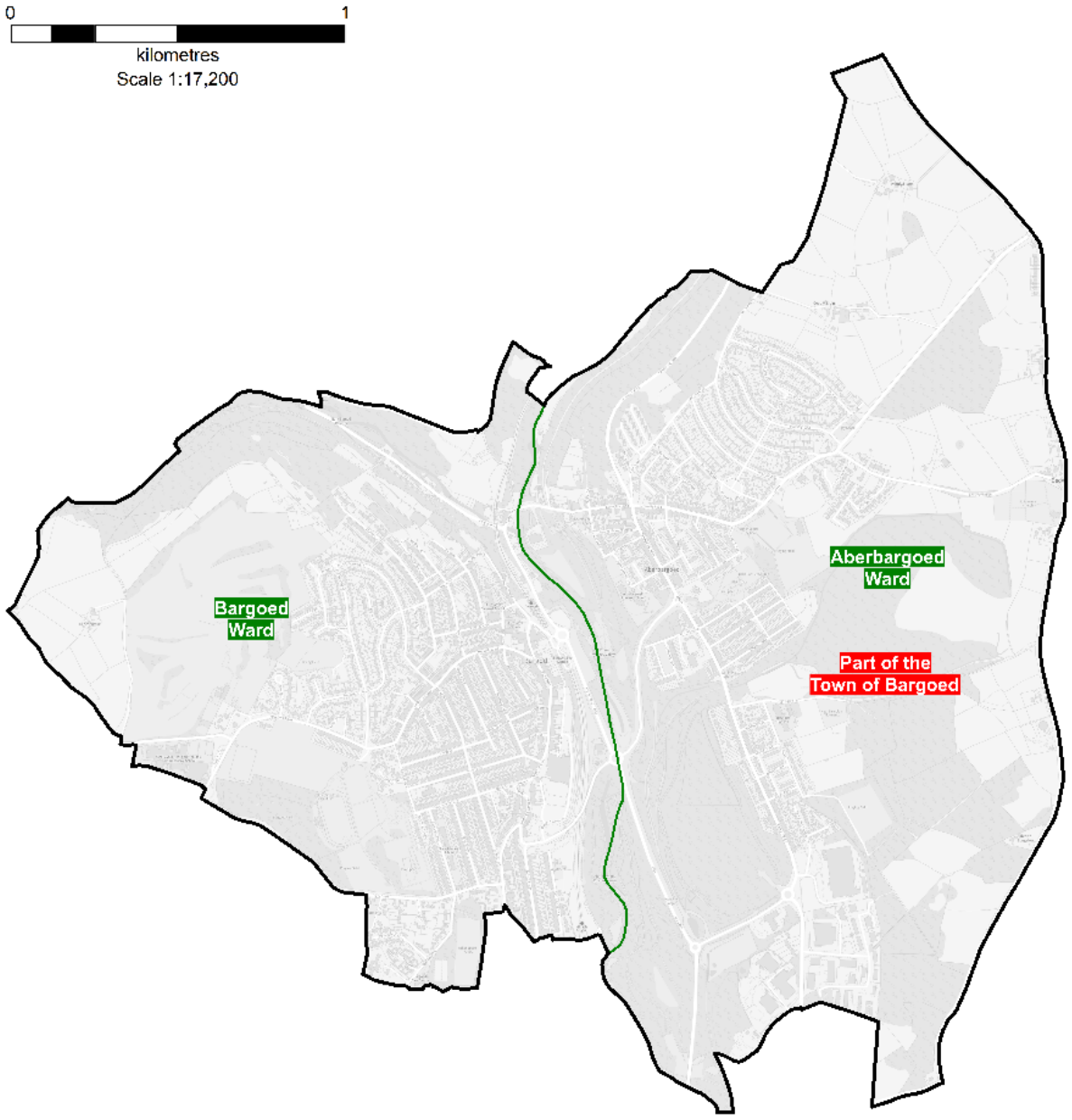
43. The electorate within the recommended Aberbargoed Bargoed electoral ward would be 6,398 represented by 3 councillors which is 8% above the recommended county average of 1,982. The projected 5-year (2030) statistics for the electoral ward would have 6,400 electors represented by 3 councillors, which is 8% above the recommended projected county average of 1,983.

Recommended Names

44. The Commission recommends retaining the existing single language electoral ward name of **Gilfach**. The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

45. The Commission also recommends the new single language electoral ward name of **Aberbargoed Bargoed.** The Welsh Language Commissioner agrees with the recommended name.

Aberbargoed Bargoed



Comisiwn Democratiaeth a Ffiniau Cymru | Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru

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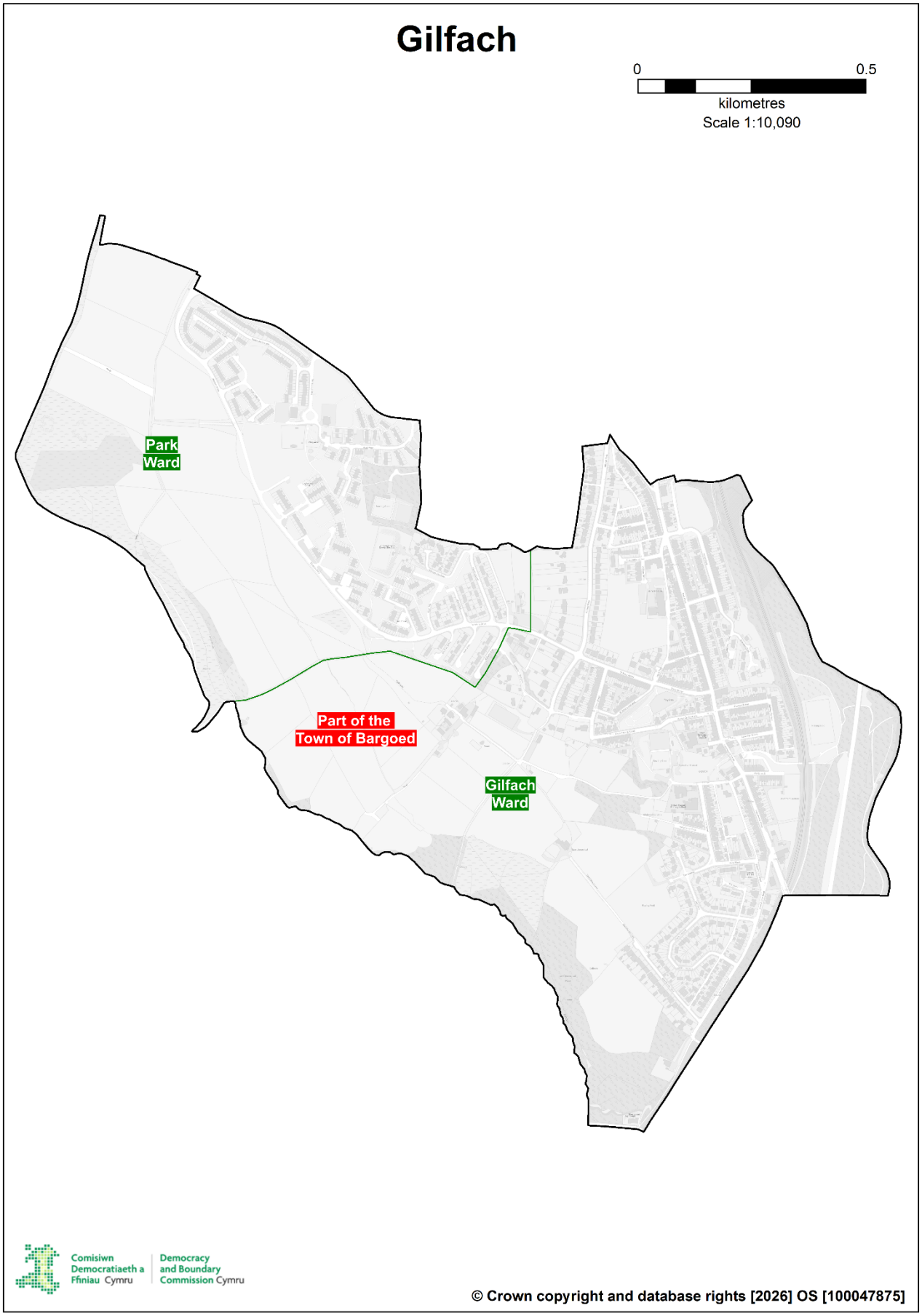
Gilfach
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kilometres
Scale 1:10,090
Park Ward
Part of the Town of Bargoed
Gilfach Ward
Comisiwn Democratiaeth a Ffiniau Cymru
Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru
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Chapter 4. RESPONSES TO THIS REPORT

1. Having completed the review of the principal council area and submitted the Commission's recommendations to the Welsh Government on the future electoral arrangements for the principal authority, the Commission has fulfilled its statutory obligations under the Act.

2. It now falls to the Welsh Government, if it thinks fit, to give effect to these recommendations either as submitted, or with modifications.

3. Any further comments concerning the matters in this report should be addressed to the Welsh Government. They should be made as soon as possible and, in any event, not later than six weeks from the date the Commission's recommendations are submitted to the Welsh Government. Representations should be addressed to:

   Elections Division
   Welsh Government
   Cathays Park
   Cardiff
   CF10 3NQ

   Or by email to:

   Etholiadau.elections@gov.wales

4. For further information on the review and the review process please refer to the Commission webpage: www.dbcc.gov.wales

Chapter 5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

1. The Commission wishes to express its gratitude to the principal council, all the town and community councils and other interested bodies and persons who made representations to us during the course of developing these final recommendations. We, the undersigned, commend this recommendations report.

KAREN JONES DL, MBA, MA(HRM), FCIPD (Chair)

MICHAEL IMPERATO (Deputy Chair)

DIANNE BEVAN (Member)

FRANK CUTHBERT (Member)

GINGER WIEGAND (Member)

BETHAN PRICE (Member)

FRANCES DUFFY (Member)

SHEREEN WILLIAMS MBE, OStJ, DL (Chief Executive)

March 2026

THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF CAERPHILLY COUNCIL
EXISTING COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP
VARIANCE FROM THE EXISTING COUNTY AVERAGE

Appendix 1

No.	NAME	DESCRIPTION	No. OF COUNCILLORS	ELECTORATE 2025	2025 RATIO	% variance from existing County average	ELECTORATE 2030	2030 RATIO	% variance from existing County average	Population Eligible to Vote
1	**Aber Valley**	The Community of Aber Valley (4,666), [4,668]	3	4,666	1,555	-20%	4,668	1,556	-20%	6,385
2	**Aberbargoed and Bargoed**	The Aberbargoed (2,779), [2,780], Bargoed (3,619), [3,620] and Park (688), [688] wards of the Town of Bargoed	3	7,086	2,362	21%	7,088	2,363	21%	9,963
3	**Abercarn**	The Community of Abercarn (4,075), [4,076]	2	4,075	2,038	4%	4,076	2,038	4%	5,419
4	**Argoed**	The Community of Argoed (2,062), [2,062]	1	2,062	2,062	6%	2,062	2,062	6%	2,764
5	**Bedwas and Trethomas**	The Bedwas (3,488), [3,489] and Trethomas (1,794), [1,795] wards of the Community of Bedwas, Trethomas, Machen and	3	5,282	1,761	-10%	5,284	1,761	-10%	6,561
6	**Blackwood**	The Town of Blackwood (6,508), [6,511]	3	6,508	2,169	11%	6,511	2,170	11%	8,158
7	**Cefn Fforest and Pengam**	The Community of Cefn Fforest and Pengam (5,747), [5,749]	3	5,747	1,916	-2%	5,749	1,916	-2%	7,358
8	**Crosskeys**	The Community of Crosskeys (2,501), [2,502]	1	2,501	2,501	28%	2,502	2,502	28%	3,249
9	**Crumlin**	The Community of Crumlin (4,441), [4,442]	2	4,441	2,221	14%	4,442	2,221	14%	5,801
10	**Darran Valley**	The Community of Darran Valley (1,867), [1,867]	1	1,867	1,867	-4%	1,867	1,867	-4%	2,482
11	**Gilfach**	The Gilfach (1,632), [1,633] ward of the Town of Bargoed	1	1,632	1,632	-16%	1,633	1,633	-16%	2,065
12	**Hengoed**	The Cefn Hengoed (1,640), [1,641] and Hengoed (2,203), [2,204] wards of the Community of Gelligaer	2	3,843	1,922	-2%	3,845	1,923	-2%	5,560
13	**Llanbradach**	The Community of Llanbradach and Pwllypant (3,245), [3,247]	2	3,245	1,623	-17%	3,247	1,624	-17%	3,991
14	**Machen and Rudry**	The Machen (2,964), [2,965] and the Rudry (901), [901] wards of the Community of Bedwas, Trethomas, Machen and Rudry	2	3,865	1,933	-1%	3,866	1,933	-1%	5,121
15	**Maesycwmmer**	The Community of Maesycwmmer (1,797), [1,798]	1	1,797	1,797	-8%	1,798	1,798	-8%	2,495
16	**Morgan Jones**	The Bryncenydd (858), [858], Parcyfelin (3,610), [3,611] and Tonyfelin (1,347), [1,347] wards of the Town of Caerphilly	3	5,815	1,938	-1%	5,816	1,939	-1%	7,607
17	**Moriah and Pontlottyn**	The Abertysswg (1,045), [1,045], St Davids and Moriah (1,607), [1,607], and Pontlottyn (1,363), [1,364] wards of the Community of Rhymney	2	4,015	2,008	3%	4,016	2,008	3%	5,390
18	**Nelson**	The Community of Nelson (3,545), [3,546]	2	3,545	1,773	-9%	3,546	1,773	-9%	4,427
19	**New Tredegar**	The Community of New Tredegar (3,330), [3,330]	2	3,330	1,665	-15%	3,330	1,665	-15%	4,661
20	**Newbridge**	The Community of Newbridge (4,873), [4,875]	3	4,873	1,624	-17%	4,875	1,625	-17%	6,259
21	**Penmaen**	The Community of Penmaen (4,562), [4,564]	2	4,562	2,281	17%	4,564	2,282	17%	5,716
22	**Penyrheol**	The Community of Penyrheol, Trecenydd and Energlyn (9,297), [9,301]	4	9,297	2,324	19%	9,301	2,325	19%	12,140
23	**Pontllanfraith**	The Community of Pontllanfraith (6,673), [6,675]	3	6,673	2,224	14%	6,675	2,225	14%	8,269
24	**Risca East**	The Pontymister Tŷ Sign (1,848), [1,849], Pontymister Upper (1,333), [1,333] and Trenewydd (1,547), [1,548] wards of the Community of Risca	3	4,728	1,576	-19%	4,730	1,577	-19%	6,164
25	**Risca West**	The Dan-y-graig (461), [461], Pontymister Lower (644), [644], Risca Town and Fernlea (1,384), [1,385] and Tŷ-Isaf Fields and Ochrwyth (1,490), [1,491] wards of the Community of Risca	2	3,979	1,990	2%	3,981	1,991	2%	5,076
26	**St Cattwg**	The Cascade (2,853), [2,854], Greenhill (1,710), [1,711], and Tir-y-berth (1,078), [1,078] wards of the Community of Gelligaer	3	5,641	1,880	-4%	5,643	1,881	-4%	7,419
27	**St Martins**	The Castle (1,390), [1,390], Twyn (1,702), [1,703], Watford (1,301), [1,301] and Cwrt Rawlins (2,268),[2,269] wards of the Town of Caerphilly	3	6,661	2,220	14%	6,663	2,221	14%	8,470
28	**Twyn Carno**	The Twyn Carno (2,255), [2,256] ward of the Community of Rhymney	1	2,255	2,255	15%	2,256	2,256	15%	3,105
29	**Van**	The Community of Van (3,305), [3,306]	2	3,305	1,653	-15%	3,306	1,653	-15%	4,682
30	**Ynysddu**	The Community of Ynysddu (3,013), [3,014]	2	3,013	1,507	-23%	3,014	1,507	-23%	3,908
31	**Ystrad Mynach**	The Ystrad Mynach (4,487), [4,488] ward of the Community of Gelligaer	2	4,487	2,244	15%	4,488	2,244	15%	5,465
		TOTAL:	69	134,796	1,954		134,842	1,954		

Ratio is the number of electors per councillor
Electoral figures supplied by the County Borough of Caerphilly Council
Population Eligible to Vote figure provided by the Office for National Statistics (ONS)

	2025		2030	
Greater than + or - 50% of County average	0	0%	0	0%
Between + or - 20% and + or - 50% of County average	4	13%	4	13%
Between + or - 10% and + or - 20% of County average	14	45%	14	45%
Between 0% and + or - 10% of County average	13	42%	13	42%

THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF CAERPHILLY COUNCIL
RECOMMENDED COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Appendix 2

No.	NAME	DESCRIPTION	No. OF COUNCILLORS	ELECTORATE 2025	2025 RATIO	% variance from proposed County average	ELECTORATE 2030	2030 RATIO	% variance from proposed County average
1	**Aber Valley**	The Community of Aber Valley (4,666), [4,668]	3	4,666	1,555	-22%	4,668	1,556	-22%
2	**Aberbargoed Bargoed**	The Aberbargoed (2,779), [2,780], Bargoed (3,619), [3,620] wards of the Town of Bargoed	3	6,398	2,133	8%	6,400	2,133	8%
3	**Aber-carn**	The Community of Abercarn (4,075), [4,076]	2	4,075	2,038	3%	4,076	2,038	3%
4	**Argoed**	The Community of Argoed (2,062), [2,062]	1	2,062	2,062	4%	2,062	2,062	4%
5	**Bedwas Trethomas**	The Bedwas (3,488), [3,489] and Trethomas (1,794), [1,795] wards of the Community of Bedwas, Trethomas, Machen and Rudry	3	5,282	1,761	-11%	5,284	1,761	-11%
6	**Blackwood**	The Community of Blackwood (6,508), [6,511]	3	6,508	2,169	9%	6,511	2,170	9%
7	**Cefn Fforest Pengam**	The Community of Cefn Fforest and Pengam (5,747), [5,749]	3	5,747	1,916	-3%	5,749	1,916	-3%
8	**Crosskeys**	The Community of Crosskeys (2,501), [2,502]	1	2,501	2,501	26%	2,502	2,502	26%
9	**Crumlin**	The Community of Crumlin (4,441), [4,442]	2	4,441	2,221	12%	4,442	2,221	12%
10	**Cwm Darran**	The Community of Darran Valley (1,867), [1,867]	1	1,867	1,867	-6%	1,867	1,867	-6%
11	**Gilfach**	The Gilfach (1,632), [1,633], and Park (688), [688] wards of the Town of Bargoed	1	2,320	2,320	17%	2,321	2,321	17%
12	**Hengoed**	The Cefn Hengoed (1,640), [1,641] and Hengoed (2,203), [2,204] wards of the Community of Gelligaer	2	3,843	1,922	-3%	3,845	1,923	-3%
13	**Llanbradach**	The Community of Llanbradach and Pwllypant (3,245), [3,247]	2	3,245	1,623	-18%	3,247	1,624	-18%
14	**Machen Rudry**	The Machen (2,964), [2,965] and the Rudry (901), [901] wards of the Community of Bedwas, Trethomas, Machen and Rudry	2	3,865	1,933	-3%	3,866	1,933	-3%
15	**Maesycwmwr**	The Community of Maesycwmmer (1,797), [1,798]	1	1,797	1,797	-9%	1,798	1,798	-9%
16	**Morgan Jones**	The Bryncenydd (858), [858], Parcyfelin (3,610), [3,611] and Tonyfelin (1,347), [1,347] wards of the Community of Caerphilly	3	5,815	1,938	-2%	5,816	1,939	-2%
17	**Moriah Pontlotyn**	The Abertysswg (1,045), [1,045], St Davids and Moriah (1,607), [1,607], and Pontlottyn (1,363), [1,364] wards of the Community of Rhymney	2	4,015	2,008	1%	4,016	2,008	1%
18	**Nelson**	The Community of Nelson (3,545), [3,546]	2	3,545	1,773	-11%	3,546	1,773	-11%
19	**New Tredegar**	The Community of New Tredegar (3,330), [3,330]	2	3,330	1,665	-16%	3,330	1,665	-16%
20	**Newbridge**	The Community of Newbridge (4,873), [4,875]	3	4,873	1,624	-18%	4,875	1,625	-18%
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23	**Pontllan-fraith**	The Community of Pontllanfraith (6,673), [6,675]	3	6,673	2,224	12%	6,675	2,225	12%
24	**Risca**	The Community of Risca (8,707), [8,711]	4	8,707	2,177	10%	8,711	2,178	10%
25	**Sant Catwg**	The Cascade (2,853), [2,854], Greenhill (1,710), [1,711], and Tir-y-berth (1,078), [1,078] wards of the Community of Gelligaer	3	5,641	1,880	-5%	5,643	1,881	-5%
26	**Sant Martin**	The Castle (1,390), [1,390], Twyn (1,702), [1,703], Watford (1,301), [1,301] and Cwrt Rawlins (2,268),[2,269] wards of the Community of Caerphilly	3	6,661	2,220	12%	6,663	2,221	12%
27	**Twyncarno**	The Twyn Carno (2,255), [2,256] ward of the Community of Rhymney	1	2,255	2,255	14%	2,256	2,256	14%
28	**Van**	The Community of Van (3,305), [3,306]	2	3,305	1,653	-17%	3,306	1,653	-17%
29	**Ynys-ddu**	The Community of Ynys-ddu (3,013), [3,014]	2	3,013	1,507	-24%	3,014	1,507	-24%
30	**Ystrad Mynach**	The Ystrad Mynach (4,487), [4,488] ward of the Community of Gelligaer	2	4,487	2,244	13%	4,488	2,244	13%
		TOTAL:	68	134,796	1,982		134,842	1,983	

Ratio is the number of electors per councillor
Electoral figures supplied by the County Borough of Caerphilly Council

	2025		2030	
Greater than + or - 50% of County average	0	0%	0	0%
Between + or - 20% and + or - 50% of County average	3	10%	3	10%
Between + or - 10% and + or - 20% of County average	14	47%	14	47%
Between 0% and + or - 10% of County average	13	43%	13	43%

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