Bil Etholiadau a Chyrff Etholedig (Cymru) Elections and Elected Bodies (Wales) Bill Ymateb gan: Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Rhondda Cynon Taf

Response from: Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council



## **14 November 2023**

## **Elections and Elected Bodies (Wales) Bill**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have been instructed by this Council's <u>Overview and Scrutiny Committee</u> to convey the comments and observations of Members in relation to the Elections and Elected Bodies (Wales) Bill

The matter was considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on the 13 November 2023 and comments were made during the meeting and following the meeting to the Service Director Democratic Services and Communications and the Director Legal Services

The Committee expressed their support for the proposals in principle and recognised the potential positive impact of the proposals. Members particularly welcomed the proposed arrangements that that seek to improve diversity in the Senedd and Local Government and were optimistic about the potential benefit this would bring in terms of attracting candidates who may not have previously considered standing in an election. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee commented that to support this proposal they would recommend creating a system where appropriate checks and balances are in place to ensure increased diversity is measured and promoted to instil confidence in potential future candidates.

The Council is grateful for the opportunity to formally respond to the consultation and look forward to seeing the Bill progress

Yours faithfully

Christian Hanagan

<u>Service Director, Democratic Services and Communications Rhondda Cynon</u>
<u>Taf County Borough Council</u>