

Equality, Local Government and Communities  
Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

22 November 2019

Dear Colleague

### **Consultation on the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill**

The Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee is undertaking an inquiry into the general principles of the [Local Government and Elections \(Wales\) Bill](#). Further details about the Bill and the accompanying [Explanatory Memorandum](#) can be found on the [Bill page](#).

#### **Terms of reference**

In scrutinising the general principles of the Bill at Stage 1, the Committee is invited to consider the following terms of reference:

To consider:

- the general principles of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill and the need for legislation to deliver the stated policy intention. In coming to a view on this you may wish to consider addressing the individual Parts of the Bill:
  - Part 1 – Elections
  - Part 2 – General Power of Competence
  - Part 3 – Promoting Access to Local Government



- Part 4 – Local Authority Executives, Members, Officers and Committees
  - Part 5 – Collaborative Working by Principal Councils
  - Part 6 – Performance and Governance of Principal Councils
  - Part 7 – Mergers and Restructuring of Principal Areas
  - Part 8 – Local Government Finance
  - Part 9 – Miscellaneous
- any potential barriers to the implementation of the Bill’s provisions and whether the Bill takes account of them,
  - the appropriateness of the powers in the Bill for Welsh Ministers to make subordinate legislation (as set out in Chapter 5 of Part 1 of the Explanatory Memorandum).
  - whether there are any unintended consequences arising from the Bill, and
  - the financial implications of the Bill (as set out in Part 2 of the Explanatory Memorandum).

### **Invitation to contribute to the inquiry**

The Committee would like to invite you to submit written evidence to assist in its consideration of the Bill. It would be helpful if you could use the above terms of reference to frame your response.

Submissions should arrive by **Friday 3 January 2020**.

If you wish to submit evidence, please send an electronic copy of your submission to: [SeneddCommunities@assembly.wales](mailto:SeneddCommunities@assembly.wales)

### **Guidance**

Submissions should be no longer than five sides of A4, with numbered paragraphs, and should focus on the terms of reference.

If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please provide a brief description of the role of your organisation.

Please see the [guidance for those providing evidence for committees](#).



## **Bilingual Policy**

The Committee welcomes contributions in both or either of our official languages, English and Welsh. Information not submitted bilingually will not be translated and will be published in the language of submission only. We expect organisations to implement their own standards and schemes and to comply with their statutory obligations.

## **Disclosure of Information**

You can find further details about how we will use your information at [www.assembly.wales/InquiryPrivacy](http://www.assembly.wales/InquiryPrivacy). Please ensure that you have considered these details carefully before submitting information to the Committee.

## **Contact details**

If you wish to speak to someone regarding this consultation, please use the following contact details:

Committee Clerk

Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee


National Assembly for Wales

Cardiff Bay, CF99 1NA.

Email: [SeneddCommunities@assembly.wales](mailto:SeneddCommunities@assembly.wales)

Telephone: 0300 200 6565

Yours sincerely,



John Griffiths AM

**Chair, Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee**

