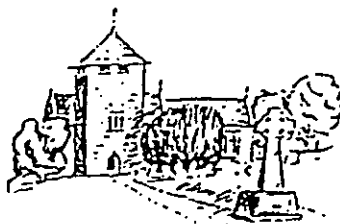


Llangattock Vibon Avel Community Council
Cyngor Cymuned Llangatwg Feibion Afel

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Clerk to the Council Roy G Nicholas *Clerc y Cyngor*
Tel/Fax 01600 780362

Policemans Cottage
Llantilio Crossenny
ABERGAVENNY
NP7 8TF



Bwthyn yr Heddwas
Llandeilo Gresynni
Y Fenni
NP7 8TF

10 August 2006

Local Government & Public Services Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Assembly Offices
Cardiff Bay
CARDIFF
CF99 1NA

Dear Colleagues

Electoral Arrangements in Wales

Attached please find our views in response to the information sought in the Discussion Document on *Electoral Arrangements in Wales*.

Yours sincerely

Roy G Nicholas
Clerk to the Council

Summary of questions

Question 1

Although registration is compulsory in Wales, the penalties for non registration are hardly ever used.

Should penalties be used and would this encourage more people to register?

Yes, yes.

Question 2

What methods could be used to ensure that more people living with their parents, who have moved recently or are living in rented accommodation register?

Advert on TV at prime audience time

Question 3

Will individual registration with personal identification help to increase registration?

Yes

Will it help to make voting more secure if the personal identification has to be produced before you can vote?

Yes

Question 4

Should there be some form of automatic registration as in other countries?

If yes, **Yes, but**

What sources of information could be used to ensure that everyone was automatically registered.

Have to await introduction of identity cards.

Question 5

What methods could be used to encourage more Black and Ethnic Minority people to register?

**This is a task for those seeking election.
What about BEM candidates?**

Question 6

Would an all postal vote be workable in Wales?

**Definitely not. See appendix to these replies.
Please give your reasons for your views.**

The costs!

Question 7

What forms of electronic voting (e.g. internet, text, at polling stations) could be used in Wales?

**Not at present.
'Too open to abuse.**

Schools should steer clear of telling pupils about "how to make an informed decision about how they are going to vote". It is the principles and mechanisms that require explaining.

What could be the benefits/problems of using the methods you have suggested?

Question 8

Could alternative venues be used as polling stations? (e.g. supermarkets, post offices etc) Not 'alternatives' but possibly 'ADDITIONS'.

Question 9

Why do so few young people in Wales vote?
Very little appeal in candidates' manifestos.
Please give any examples you have come across (leaving out any personal details)

Question 10

Are young people given enough information in schools to make an informed decision about how they are going to vote?

Question 11

Should party politics be taught in schools?
No - not party politics.
If so, how?
If not, why not?
Not possible to be truly impartial.

Question 12

Should political parties be involved in informing young people about politics in schools and other youth groups? No.

Question 13 Time better spent improving maths and English!

Are there examples of good practice in informing young people about politics in your area?
No

Please tell us about them (leaving out any personal details).

Question 14

Is there enough provision for people with disabilities to help with the registration process?

If not, what practical things could be done?
Some of the 'registered' disabled meet in groups. They know of others with similar afflictions who are 'stay-at-home' types. They could help with imparting information on transport arrangements, locations, etc.
What about those without transport who live in isolated locations? Local Registration Officers should have a duty to display placards with details of transport assistance.

Question 15

Is there enough provision for people with disabilities to help with voting?

No

If not, what practical things could be done?

See answer to question 14

Question 16

Should there be statutory standards for the accessibility of registration and voting material and polling stations?

Yes

Question 17

What are your views on the use of mobile ballot boxes for people who have difficulty getting to polling stations?

Needs 'trials'

Question 18

Should polling station managers be required to produce a report similar to that in the Netherlands?

Yes

Question 19

What are your views on the availability of help and advice available bilingually at elections in Wales?

Adequate

Question 20

What could be done in terms of documents and advice to encourage more BME people to register and vote? **It is up to local leaders of their ethnicity to advise them. Unless they comprehend the reasons**

Question 21

for voting, their votes would be meaningless.

Do you consider the forms and information given about registration and voting to be straightforward and easily understandable?

Better spacing and layout required on the bilingual forms.

THE TIMES FRIDAY AUGUST 4 2006

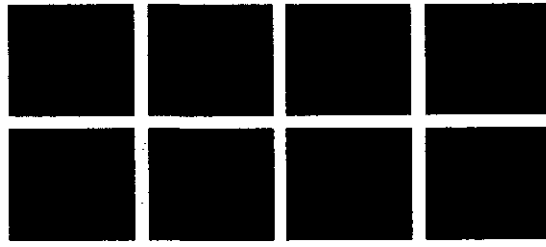
Checks on voter fraud 'too costly'

Checks to detect fraud at elections may add huge costs or delays to the vote-counting process, experiments in last year's local elections suggest.

One system, using electronic scanners to check voters' signatures on postal ballots, cost £10 per scan, which would cost hundreds of thousands of pounds per constituency, the Electoral Commission said. Another relied on election tellers comparing signatures manually. They took five hours to check 200 ballots.

Returning officers want the count to begin the day after an election, but they have more time to check papers. Bridger Prentice, the Constitutional Affairs Minister, has not made a decision.

Appendix 2



Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation

**Welsh Index
of Multiple Deprivation 2005**

Summary Report

Our Ward!

geographical access to services deprivation scores

rank	score	LSOA name	ONS description	ONS code
1	100.0	Llantilio Crossenny	Monmouthshire 005C	W01001568
2	99.1	Yscir	Powys 016D	W01000503
3	98.2	Cynwyl Gaeo	Carmarthenshire 002B	W01000650
4	97.4	Felin-fâch	Powys 016A	W01000440
5	96.6	Llanover 1	Monmouthshire 005A	W01001566
6	95.8	Llanegwad 2	Carmarthenshire 005C	W01000683
7	95.0	St. Ishmael 1	Carmarthenshire 012D	W01000722
8	94.3	Llangybi	Ceredigion 008D	W01000537
9	93.6	Llanboidy	Carmarthenshire 009A	W01000674
10	92.9	Llangunllo	Powys 011D	W01000464
11	92.2	Maenclochog 1	Pembrokeshire 004A	W01000582
12	91.6	Amroth	Pembrokeshire 011A	W01000553
13	90.9	Aberdaron	Gwynedd 014A	W01000045
14	90.3	Rhiwcynon	Powys 006C	W01000488
15	89.7	Botwnnog & Tudweiliog	Gwynedd 014B	W01000055
16	89.1	Llanbrynmair & Banwy	Powys 004B	W01000452
17	88.6	Langstone 2	Newport 004B	W01001640
18	88.0	Trelech	Carmarthenshire 003D	W01000728
19	87.5	Martletwy	Pembrokeshire 007B	W01000585
20	86.9	Meifod & Llanfihangel	Powys 001E	W01000475
21	86.4	Llansannan	Conwy 014C	W01000162
22	85.9	Cynwyl Elfed 1	Carmarthenshire 006D	W01000648
23	85.4	Devauden	Monmouthshire 007A	W01001549
24	84.9	Beguildy	Powys 011A	W01000427
25	84.5	Trellech United 2	Monmouthshire 007F	W01001595
26	84.0	Wiston	Pembrokeshire 004D	W01000623
27	83.5	Gower (Swansea) 1	Swansea 030A	W01000775
28	83.1	Llanrhian	Pembrokeshire 003B	W01000581
29	82.6	Nantmel	Powys 012D	W01000477
30	82.2	Llanafanfawr	Powys 014C	W01000450
31	81.8	Bronington 2	Wrexham 018B	W01000346
32	81.4	Clydau	Pembrokeshire 001B	W01000559
33	81.0	Glantwymyn	Powys 004A	W01000442
34	80.6	Llandinam	Powys 010B	W01000453
35	80.2	Llanelwedd	Powys 014D	W01000459
36	79.8	Camrose 1	Pembrokeshire 008A	W01000555
37	79.4	Burton	Pembrokeshire 009A	W01000554
38	79.0	Old Radnor	Powys 011E	W01000484
39	78.7	Llanwenog	Ceredigion 008E	W01000541
40	78.3	Talybont-on-Usk	Powys 016C	W01000495
41	77.9	Caerwent	Monmouthshire 009A	W01001542
42	77.6	Efenechtyd	Denbighshire 015B	W01000202
43	77.2	Penbryn	Ceredigion 007D	W01000545
44	76.9	Llanfihangel-ar-Arth 2	Carmarthenshire 001B	W01000686
45	76.6	Maenclochog 2	Pembrokeshire 004B	W01000583
46	76.2	Blaen Hafren	Powys 010A	W01000429
47	75.9	Llangybi Fawr	Monmouthshire 006D	W01001565
48	75.6	Lledrod	Ceredigion 006B	W01000542
49	75.3	East Williamston 1	Pembrokeshire 011B	W01000563
50	74.9	Kerry	Powys 007C	W01000447
51	74.6	Tremeirchion	Denbighshire 008D	W01000248
52	74.3	Llangadog	Carmarthenshire 004C	W01000687
53	74.0	Llandderfel & Llanuwchllyn 1	Gwynedd 015C	W01000082
54	73.7	Churchstoke	Powys 007A	W01000434
55	73.4	Berriew	Powys 005A	W01000428
56	73.1	Llanrhystyd	Ceredigion 005C	W01000538
57	72.9	Llanddarog	Carmarthenshire 012A	W01000675
58	72.6	Trellech United 1	Monmouthshire 007E	W01001594
59	72.3	Llangors & Bwlch	Powys 018D	W01000463
60	72.0	Capel Dewi	Ceredigion 010B	W01000522
61	71.8	Sceddau	Pembrokeshire 002F	W01000617
62	71.5	Cilycwm	Carmarthenshire 002A	W01000647
63	71.2	Crucorney	Monmouthshire 001B	W01001548
64	71.0	Forden	Powys 005B	W01000441
65	70.7	Llanfihangel Ystrad	Ceredigion 008C	W01000535

↓ (List continues + includes 190 places)