

Draft Response: Guidance for Principal Councils on the Review of Communities

The Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the draft Community Review Guidance.

The Council agrees in principle with the best practice guidance, and the consultation process both procedural and time-tabling. It would be useful if good practice examples could be provided on the Local Democracy and Boundary Commissions website as support information.

Terms of Reference

The document helpfully provides examples of common practice on developing a Terms of Reference. It would be of assistance when developing the Council Size Policy to include examples of other authorities for comparative purposes.

We agree with the consultation period of 6 to 12 weeks.

Initial Consultation

It would be useful to provide information on membership of the Project team and examples of documents that may be useful to gather information.

Draft Proposals

We agree with the guidance provided and that the consultation period of 12 weeks is sufficient.

Final Proposals

We agree with the guidance provided and that the consultation period of 6 weeks is sufficient.

The Commission's Role

The guidance explains the Commission's role and procedures following a review. We would like to comment that following the last community review in 2013/14 there was a delay by Welsh Ministers in making our Order. A report was produced by the Commission in October 2015 and our Order was not made until December 2016. For planning purposes delays of this length should be avoided.

The Council values the Commission being available during the whole process to provide advice as required.