



FULL COUNCIL REPORT

Date Written	15 th May 2018
Report Author	Ann Taylor
Service Area	Democratic Services
Exempt/Non Exempt	Non Exempt
Committee Date	6 th June 2018

To: Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen

Welsh Government Consultation Document: Strengthening Local Government: Delivering for People

1.0 SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The Welsh Government has produced a green paper consultation document 'Strengthening Local Government: Delivering for People' to look at the structure of local government in Wales, a copy of which is attached at **Appendix 1**.
- 1.2 The consultation document delivers a case for change and outlines three potential options as to how this restructuring may be created:

Option 1 – Voluntary Mergers
Option 2 – A phased approach with early adopters merging first followed by other authorities
Option 3 – A single comprehensive merger programme.
- 1.3 Questions are posed throughout the consultation document, but they are not intended to be exhaustive because any suggestions for strengthening local government are welcomed.
- 1.4 The deadline for responses is 12 June 2018.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS that

- 2.1 Council's instructions are requested.

3.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

3.1 The Cabinet Secretary for Local Government and Public Services launched the Consultation Green Paper, Strengthening Local Government, Delivering for People on 20 March 2018.

3.2 The green paper presents a case for change and explains their ambitions for local government, consulting on:

- How to ensure elected members have the support and reward they need to undertake their roles effectively;
- What additional powers and flexibilities local government needs; and
- Options for creating stronger, larger local authorities.

3.3 These options include:

- Option 1 – Voluntary mergers;
- Option 2 – A phased approach with early adopters merging first followed by other authorities
- Option 3 – A single comprehensive merger programme.

3.4 A number of questions are posed throughout the consultation document, but they are not intended to be exhaustive as any alternative suggestions for strengthening local government are welcomed.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATION(S)

4.1 No financial implications in relation to this consultation report.

5.0 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) form has been prepared for the purpose of this report. It has been found that a full assessment is not required at this time. The form can be accessed on the Council’s website/intranet via the ‘Equality Impact Assessment’ link.

GARETH CHAPMAN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

COUNCILLOR ANDREW BARRY
CABINET MEMBER FOR GOVERNANCE,
PERFORMANCE, BUSINESS CHANGE &
CORPORATE SERVICES

BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Title of Document(s)	Document(s) Date	Document Location
Does the report contain any issue that may impact the Council’s Constitution?		

Consultation has been undertaken with the Corporate Management Team in respect of each proposal(s) and recommendation(s) set out in this report.