

**2009 NO. 2**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**Directions to the Local Government Boundary Commission for  
Wales 2009**

*Made* 2009

*Coming into force* 2009

The Welsh Ministers, in exercise of the powers conferred on the Secretary of State by section 59 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972<sup>(1)</sup> and now vested in them <sup>(2)</sup> make the following Directions:

**Title, commencement and application**

1.—(1) The title of these Directions is the Directions to the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales 2009.

(2) These Directions come into force on the day after the day on which they are made.

(3) These Directions are given to the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales and apply in relation to Wales.

**Interpretation**

2. In these Directions—

“the Act” means the Local Government Act 1972; and

“the Commission” means the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales.

**Multi Member Divisions**

3.—(1) Pursuant to paragraph 1A(3) of Schedule 11 to the Act <sup>(3)</sup> the Welsh Ministers direct that the Commission shall consider the desirability of multi member electoral divisions in each county council and county borough council <sup>(4)</sup> in the principal areas in Wales mentioned in section 20, Schedule 4 of the Act.

---

(1) 1972 c.70.

(2) By virtue of the National Assembly for Wales (Transfer of Functions) Order 1999 (S.I. 1999/672) and paragraph 30(1) and 2 (a) of Schedule 11 to the Government of Wales Act 2006.

(3) as inserted by section 7(3) of the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994.

(4) as referred to in the Local Government Act 1972, section 20, Schedule 4, substituted by the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994, section 1 (2), Schedule 1, paragraph 2.

## Review of electoral arrangements

4.—(1) Pursuant to section 59 (1) of the Act the Welsh Ministers give the following directions to the Commission for their guidance in conducting the review of electoral arrangements which they are required to carry out under section 55 of the Act—

- (a) It is considered that a minimum number of 30 councillors is required for the proper management of the affairs of a county or a county borough council;
- (b) It is considered that, in order to minimise the risk of a county council or a county borough council becoming unwieldy and difficult to manage, a maximum number of 75 councillors is ordinarily required for the proper management of the affairs of a county or a county borough council;
- (c) It is considered that the aim should be to achieve electoral divisions with a councillor to electorate ratio no lower than 1:1750;
- (d) It is considered that a decision to alter the existing pattern of multi and single member divisions in the areas referred to in paragraph 3 of these Directions should only be taken where such proposals for alteration are broadly supported by the electorate so far as their views can be obtained in fulfilment of the consultation requirement contained in section 60 of the Act;
- (e) It is considered that the Commission shall, when conducting reviews under Part 4 of the Act, comply with paragraph 1A of Schedule 11 to the Act and these Directions.

## Reports of the review of electoral arrangements

5.—(1) Pursuant to section 58(1) of the Act the Welsh Ministers direct that reports prepared by the Commission in respect of the review of electoral arrangements in relation to county and county borough councils in Wales shall be submitted to the Welsh Ministers by no later than 30 June 2011.



Signed by the Minister for Social Justice and Local Government

Date 13 / 1 / 2009