

**Leighton Andrews AC / AM**  
**Y Gweinidog Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus**  
**Minister for Public Services**



**Llywodraeth Cymru**  
**Welsh Government**

Ein cyf/Our ref LA -/00754/15

Paul Matthews  
Chief Executive  
Monmouthshire County Council

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14 January 2016

Dear Paul,

I am writing in response to your letter of 28 October regarding the proposed Electoral Arrangements for Monmouthshire in the 2017 Elections. I apologise for the delay in responding whilst I have been considering this issue.

I am aware that the Electoral Review conducted for Monmouthshire was one of a series of reviews that were interrupted by the dismissal of the Commissioners and that other factors conspired to make the process longer than is ideal.

The original review was subsequently examined by the Chair of the interim Commissioners who were appointed to take over the running of the Commission, who recommended to one of my predecessors that it should be implemented as in their view, it did meet the requirements of the 1972 legislation and would secure acceptable levels of electoral parity.

I am mindful that, on the basis of the proposed reform of local government in Wales, the electoral arrangements proposed will only have effect for the 2017 local government elections.

You will be aware that I have, therefore, decided not to implement the electoral order for Monmouthshire and attach a link to the recently published written statement:

<http://gov.wales/about/cabinet/cabinetstatements/2015/electoralreviews/?skip=1&lang=en>

Yours sincerely,

**Leighton Andrews AC / AM**  
**Y Gweinidog Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus**  
**Minister for Public Services**

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.