**Easy Read**

**Creating a Parliament for Wales**

**Response Form**

We want to know what you think.  
Please tell us by 6 April 2018

**How to use this document**

This is an easy read version of the questions in ‘Creating a Parliament for Wales’. February 2018



|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | This form has questions about our ideas for the National Assembly for Wales.  Before you answer the questions, please read **‘Making changes to the National Assembly for Wales’**. |
|  | Please try to explain your answers. And give your own thoughts and ideas too.  You may need support to read and understand this document. Ask someone you know to help you.  Some words may be difficult to understand. These are in **bold blue writing** and have been explained in **Hard words** on **page 24**. |
| https://yt3.ggpht.com/a-/AK162_6ydji7UpmY7AsqGFcL5geSmkG70lJyigmTiA=s900-mo-c-c0xffffffff-rj-k-no | Where the document says **we**, this means the National Assembly |
| Envelope_write | To get more copies contact:  Constitutional Change Team National Assembly for Wales Cardiff Bay Cardiff, CF99 1NA |
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# How we will use the information you give us

|  |  |
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| Confidential | We will follow data protection laws. We will keep your information safe. |
| Meeting-Agenda_1024x1024 | Your answers will help us make decisions about how to run the National Assembly.  Our staff will see your answers. Some answers may be seen by **Assembly Members**. |
| Internet | Your answers will be typed into Survey Monkey. They may have different ways that they will use your information. You can check at:  [**www.surveymonkey.com/mp/policy/ privacy-policy/**](http://www.surveymonkey.com/mp/policy/privacy-policy/) |
| No-2_1024x1024 | We may put some or all of your answers on our website. We may use some of your answers in public documents. If your answers are used like this anyone will be able to read them.  If you **do not** want us to use your answers on our website or in documents please **tick** this box: |
| No-2_1024x1024 | If your answer is used and you **do not** want your name to be shown please  tick this box: |
| Yes_2 | We may use the personal information you give us to contact you. Please tick this box if this is ok. If you tick this box:  You can ask us to stop contacting you at any time.  If you are not happy with how we have used your information. Or if you want to ask a question, please contact:  Alison Bond  [**alison.bond@assembly.wales**](mailto:alison.bond@assembly.wales) |
|  | If you are **under 16** please tick this box  to say your parent or guardian is happy for you to give us your answers. |

# **About** **You**



|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Your name: | Write your name here |
| Your address: | Write your address here |
| Phone number: | Write your phone number here |
| E-mail address: | Write your email address here |
| Are you aged 18 or over?  Please choose **one** |  |
|  |

# Questions

Please make sure you have read the easy read version of the ‘Creating a Parliament for Wales’ consultation before answering the questions.

You will need to have the easy read version of the ‘Creating a Parliament for Wales’ consultation with you when you answer the questions.

Before each question it tells you what pages to refer to in the consultation document.

## The number of Assembly Members

**Please read pages 9 to 11 about changing the number of Assembly Members**

1. Do you think we need more **Assembly Members**?

Please use this space to tell us your thoughts on this

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| --- |
| Click here to enter text. |

## How Assembly Members are elected

**Please read pages 12 to 21 about the voting system.**

2. Which voting system do you think would be the best to use?

Please choose **one**:







Why do you think this?

|  |
| --- |
| Click here to enter text. |

**Please read page 22 to 23 about changing the constituencies**

3. If we have to change the **constituencies** should we have

Please choose **one:**



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**Please read page 24 about having a diverse Assembly**

4. Do you think we should try to make the Assembly more **diverse**?

Please choose **one:**







5. **If yes**, do you think making the Assembly more diverse should be done by changing the law? This would mean political parties **must** do things to make sure their candidates are **diverse**. Or should we do it in a less formal way? This would mean political parties would be expected to try their best to have **diverse** candidates.

Please use this space to tell us your thoughts on this.

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| --- |
| Click here to enter text. |

**Please read page 25 about job sharing.**

6. Should we let Assembly Members job share?

Please choose **one:**







## Who should be allowed to vote in Assembly elections?

**Please read pages 26 to 31 about who should vote in Assembly elections.**

7. Do you agree or disagree with this statement:

**The rules about who can vote in the National Assembly elections should be the same as the rules about who can vote in local government elections.**

**For example, if the rules about voting at age 16 in local government elections changes, then 16 and 17 year olds will be able to vote in National Assembly elections too.**

Please choose **one:**













**Please read pages 26 to 28 about voting age**

8. What should be the youngest age you can vote in Assembly elections?

Please choose **one:**







9. Do you have any thoughts or worries about lowering the voting age?

|  |
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| Click here to enter text. |

**Please read pages 29 to 30 about Non UK people**

10. Do you agree or disagree with this statement:

**Everyone who legally lives in Wales should be allowed to vote in National Assembly elections. It does not matter where they were born.**

Please choose **one:**













11. Do you have any thoughts or worries about Non UK people being allowed to vote?

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| --- |
| Click here to enter text. |

**Please read pages 30 to 31 about prisoners**

12. Do you agree or disagree with this statement:

**Prisoners who have been allowed to leave prison for a short time or who live at home under strict rules should be able to vote.**

Please choose **one:**













13. Do you agree or disagree with this statement:

**Prisoners who live in Wales should be allowed to vote in an Assembly election if they are due to leave prison before the next election is due to happen.**

Please choose **one:**













14. Do you have any thoughts or worries about prisoners who live in Wales being allowed to vote in an Assembly election if they are due to leave prison before the next election is due to happen?

|  |
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| Click here to enter text. |

## Who should be able to be an Assembly Member?

**Please read page 32 about** **who should be able to be an Assembly Member?**

15. Do you think we should change the law to make it easier for people with certain jobs to stand for election?

Please use this space to tell us your thoughts on this.

|  |
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| Click here to enter text. |

## Running elections

**Please read page 33 about running elections and spending money**

16. Do you think the cost of translating between Welsh and English should **not** count as part of how much political parties are allowed to spend?

Please use this space to tell us your thoughts on this

|  |
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| Click here to enter text. |

17. Do you think costs of supporting disabled people should **not** count as part of how much **political parties** are allowed to spend?

Please use this space to tell us your thoughts on this.

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| Click here to enter text. |

**Please read page 34 about the law**

18. Do you think we should make changes to the law about how Assembly elections are run? The changes have been suggested by the **Law Commission**.

Please use this space to tell us your thoughts on this.

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| Click here to enter text. |

## Making changes to how the National Assembly is run

**Please read page 35 about making changes to how the National Assembly is run.**

19. Do you think we should change the law so we can have more control over how the National Assembly is run?

Please use this space to tell us your thoughts on this.

|  |
| --- |
| Click here to enter text. |

# Hard words

**Assembly Member**

**Assembly Members** are the people who are elected to the National Assembly.

**Constituency**

Your **constituency** is your local area. There are 40 **constituencies** in Wales. For example, Caerphilly is a **constituency** in south Wales and Wrexham is a **constituency** in north Wales

**Diverse**

**Diverse** means having people from different groups. For example, men and women or old and young.

**Flexible List Proportional Representation**

In this system voters choose from a list of political parties and candidates.

Parties choose what order their candidates are listed. Voters can choose to vote for the party’s order. Or voters can vote for their favourite candidate.

If enough voters choose the same candidate, that candidate goes to the top of the list.

If not enough voters choose the same candidate, then candidates stay in the order chosen by the party.

This is used to choose which candidates get the seats.

**Job sharing**

**Job sharing** is where 2 people share the work of 1 job role.

**Law Commission**

The **Law Commission** looks at the law and suggests changes to make it better. They are an independent organisation.

**Local elections**

**Local elections** are where you vote for who you want to run your local council.

**Mixed Member Proportional (MMP) system**

The **Mixed Member Proportional** system is a way of organising how a parliament is made up of elected members. It is easier to call it the **MMP system**.

In the **MMP** **system** you have 2 votes. Your 1st vote is for the person you want to represent your constituency.

Your 2nd vote is for a political party to represent your region.

**Political party**

A **political party** is a group who agree how to make life better for people. They come together and have a candidate for an election.

In Wales political parties include:

Plaid Cymru, UK Independence Party (UKIP), Welsh Conservatives, Welsh Labour, Welsh Liberal Democrats

**Single Transferable Vote (STV)**

In this system voters rank the candidates in the order they like them best. For example, number 1 would be their favourite candidate. Number 2 would be their 2nd favourite.

Each constituency would choose more than 1 person to represent them.