

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES**



Comisiwn Ffiniau  
Llywodraeth Leol  
i Gymru



Local Government  
Boundary Commission  
for Wales

**REVIEW OF COMMUNITY BOUNDARIES IN THE  
COUNTY BOROUGH OF CAERPHILLY**

**REPORT AND PROPOSALS**



# **LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES**

## **REVIEW OF COMMUNITY BOUNDARIES IN THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF CAERPHILLY**

### **REPORT AND PROPOSALS**

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*The Local Government Boundary Commission For Wales  
Caradog House  
1-6 St Andrews Place  
CARDIFF  
CF10 3BE*

*Tel Number: (029) 2039 5031  
Fax Number: (029) 2039 5250  
E-mail: [lgbc.wales@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:lgbc.wales@wales.gsi.gov.uk)  
[www.lgbc-wales.gov.uk](http://www.lgbc-wales.gov.uk)*





## **1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 We the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales (the Commission) have completed the review of community boundaries in the County Borough of Caerphilly as directed by you in your Direction to us dated 17 September 2007 (Appendix 1).

## **2. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

2.1 We propose that:

- the boundary between the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn and the Community of Caerphilly be realigned to follow the boundary shown in green on the maps at Appendices 3 and 4;
- a new Cwrt Rawlins Community Ward be created within the Community of Caerphilly as shown on the map at Appendix 5;
- the boundary between the Communities of Caerphilly and Van be realigned to follow the green line shown on the map at Appendix 6 and that the boundary between the Caerphilly Community Wards of Tonyfelin and Twyn be realigned to follow the blue line at Appendix 6;
- the boundary between the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn and the Community of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant be realigned to follow the green line shown on the map at Appendix 7;
- the boundary between the Trecenydd and Energlyn Wards of the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn be realigned to follow the blue line at Appendix 8;
- the boundary between the Community of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and the Community of Caerphilly and be realigned to follow the green line shown on the map at Appendix 9;
- the boundary between the Community of Pengam and the Community of Maesycwmmmer and be realigned to follow the green line shown on the map at Appendix 10;
- the boundary between the Communities of Maesycwmmmer and Pontllanfraith be realigned to follow the green line shown on the map at Appendix 11;
- the boundary between the Communities of Pengam and Cefn Fforest be realigned to follow the green line shown on the maps at Appendices 13 and 14;
- the Community of Risca should be divided to form two new Communities of Risca West and Risca East as shown on the maps at Appendices 15 and 16; and
- the boundary between the Community of Penmaen and the Community of Crumlin and be realigned to follow the green line shown on the map at Appendix 17.

### **3. SCOPE AND OBJECT OF THE REVIEW**

- 3.1 The purpose of the review is to consider whether, in the interests of effective and convenient local government, the Commission should propose changes to the present community boundaries. The review is being conducted under the provisions of Section 55 of the Local Government Act 1972 (the Act).

#### **Procedure**

- 3.2 Section 60 of the Act lays down procedural guidelines, which are to be followed in carrying out a review. In line with that guidance we wrote on 3 October 2007 to all of the Town and Community Councils in the County Borough of Caerphilly, the Members of Parliament for the local constituencies, the Assembly Members for the area and other interested parties to inform them of our intention to conduct the review and to request their preliminary views. We also publicised our intention to conduct the review in local newspapers circulating in the area and asked the Councils to display public notices. Notification of the start of the review and the closing date for representations to be made by 6 December 2007 was given on the Commission's web site.

### **4. DRAFT PROPOSALS**

- 4.1 In response to our initial invitation, we received representations from Caerphilly County Borough Council; Aber Valley Community Council; Argoed Community Council; Blackwood Town Council; Caerphilly Town Council; Gelligaer Community Council; Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant Community Council; Maesycwmmmer Community Council; Nelson Community Council; Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn Community Council; Rhymney Community Council; and two residents. In our Draft Proposals published on 10 October 2008, we considered the issues raised in the representations.
- 4.2 Suggested changes to community boundaries were made in the following areas: Bedwas Trethomas and Machen, Blackwood, Caerphilly Town, Cefn Fforest, Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant, Maesycwmmmer, Pengam, Penmaen, Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn, Pontllanfraith, Risca and Van.

#### **Caerphilly and Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn**

- 4.3 Caerphilly Town Council and Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn Community Council both suggested that the boundary between their Communities be realigned to follow the Nantgarw Road so that the whole of Sunningdale be transferred from the Community of Caerphilly into the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn. We considered that this suggested boundary followed a clearly defined feature on the ground and was a significant improvement on the existing boundary. In our Draft Proposals report we therefore proposed a change to the boundary between the Community of Caerphilly and the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn.

- 4.4 Caerphilly Town Council and Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn Community Council both also suggested that the boundary between their Communities be realigned to follow the Nantgarw Road so that the whole of the Cwrt Rawlins Estate be transferred from the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn into the Community of Caerphilly. We considered that this suggested boundary followed a clearly defined feature on the ground and was a significant improvement on the existing boundary. In our Draft Proposals report we therefore proposed a change to the boundary between the Community of Caerphilly and the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn.
- 4.5 Caerphilly Town Council suggested that the existing Watford Ward should be divided into two new wards, one of which would include the area of the Cwrt Rawlins Estate transferred into their Community from Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn. The boundary of the Castle Ward should also be realigned to ensure that all of the Cwrt Rawlins Estate falls within the same Ward. The Council suggested that this new ward be named the Cwrt Rawlins Ward. We considered that these suggested arrangements would be a necessary consequential change as a result of the inclusion of the whole of the Cwrt Rawlins Estate within the Community of Caerphilly which would significantly increase the electorate in the existing Watford Ward. In our Draft Proposals report we therefore proposed that the electoral arrangements for the Watford and Castle Wards of Community of Caerphilly be changed as suggested by Caerphilly Town Council.

## **Caerphilly**

- 4.6 Caerphilly Town Council suggested that the existing Wards of Parcyfelin and Tonyfelin be changed to address an increase in the number of electors in the existing Parcyfelin Ward and an anomaly in the boundary between the existing Parcyfelin and Tonyfelin Wards. The Council suggested that three new Wards of Parcyfelin, Pontypandy and Tonyfelin be created to address these problems. However, as we had made no proposals for change to the Community of Caerphilly that impacted on the electoral arrangements for the Parcyfelin and Tonyfelin Wards we were unable to make proposals for consequential changes to the electoral arrangements for those Wards. In our Draft Proposals report we therefore did not propose any change to the Parcyfelin and Tonyfelin Wards of the Community of Caerphilly.

## **Caerphilly and Van**

- 4.7 In the course of the review we noted that there appeared to be an anomaly in the boundary between the Communities of Caerphilly and Van as the existing boundary divides the Castle Court shopping centre and surrounding buildings. We considered that this anomaly could be addressed by realigning the existing boundary between the Communities of Caerphilly and Van to include the whole of the Castle Court shopping centre within the Community of Caerphilly. We also noted that the boundary between the Caerphilly Community Wards of Tonyfelin and Twyn divided buildings belonging to the Castle Court shopping centre. We considered that, consequential to the change proposed to the boundary between the Communities of Caerphilly and Van, the boundary between the Tonyfelin and Twyn Wards of the Community of Caerphilly should be realigned to follow North

View Terrace to include the whole of the Castle Court shopping centre within the Tonyfelin Ward. In our Draft Proposals report we therefore proposed a change to the boundary between the Community of Caerphilly and the Community of Van and a consequential change to the boundary between the Caerphilly Community Ward boundaries of Tonyfelin and Twyn.

### **Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn**

- 4.8 Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant Community Council suggested that the boundary between their Community and the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn be realigned to transfer an area of the Energlyn Estate between Heol Las and Heol Pwllypant from the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn into the Community of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant. The Council also made an alternative suggestion that extended the area to be transferred southwards to the bottom of Court Road. The Council considered that either of these suggested changes would address the anomaly of the existing boundary dividing the Energlyn Estate.
- 4.9 Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn Community Council put forward an alternative suggestion that their Community area should be extended northwards to include the part of the Energlyn Estate currently within the Community of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant within the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn. The Council considered that this suggested change would address the anomaly of the existing boundary dividing the Energlyn Estate.
- 4.10 We noted that Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant Community Council's suggested realignment of the boundary followed clearly defined features on the ground although there was a minor problem regarding access to some properties leaving them without a direct road link to the area which would be transferred to the Community of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant. We also noted the suggested boundary realignment did not completely resolve the anomaly of the Energlyn Estate being divided between the Communities of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn.
- 4.11 We noted that Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn Community Council's suggested realignment of the boundary also followed clearly defined features on the ground and resolved the anomaly of the Energlyn Estate being divided between the Communities of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn and Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant. We also noted that it would resolve the division of the Pwllypant Ward of the Community of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant by a railway line. In our Draft Proposals report we therefore proposed a change to the boundary between the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn and the Community of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant as suggested by Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn Community Council.

### **Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn**

- 4.12 Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn Community Council proposed that the boundary between the Trecenydd and Energlyn Wards of their Community be realigned to transfer Mill Close and Diamond Close from the Trecenydd Ward into



the Energlyn Ward as it was easier to access the polling station in the Energlyn Ward from those properties. We considered that in the interest of effective and convenient local government this change to the electoral arrangements for the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn should be made consequential to the changes made to the boundary of the Community. In our Draft Proposals report we therefore proposed a change to the boundary between the Trecenydd and Energlyn Wards of the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn so as to transfer Mill Close and Diamond Close from the Trecenydd Ward into the Energlyn Ward.

### **Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and Caerphilly Town**

- 4.13 Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant Community Council suggested that two properties at Heol y Gedr off Corbett's Lane in the Community of Caerphilly should be transferred into the Community of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant. We considered that the properties in question were a continuation to similar adjacent properties in the Community of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant. They were also cut off from the Community of Caerphilly by the A468 Road and had no access through the Community of Caerphilly. In our Draft Proposals report we therefore proposed a change to the boundary between the Communities of Caerphilly and Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant to transfer the two properties on Heol y Gedr off Corbett's Lane from the Community of Caerphilly into the Community of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant.

### **Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and Maesycwmmmer**

- 4.14 Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant Community Council suggested that the boundary between the Communities of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and Maesycwmmmer be realigned to follow the Llanbradach by-pass. We considered that the area of the Community of Maesycwmmmer in question was separated from the remainder of that Community by the Llanbradach by-pass and that the by-pass made a clearly defined boundary on the ground. In our Draft Proposals report we therefore proposed a change to the boundary between the Communities of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and Maesycwmmmer to transfer the land adjacent to the Llanbradach by-pass from the Community of Maesycwmmmer into the Community of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant as suggested by Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant Community Council.

### **Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and Bedwas Trethomas and Machen**

- 4.15 Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant Community Council suggested that the boundary between the Communities of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and Bedwas Trethomas and Machen be realigned to follow the Llanbradach by-pass. We considered that the area of the Community of Bedwas Trethomas and Machen in question was separated from the remainder of that Community by the Llanbradach by-pass and that the by-pass made a clearly defined boundary on the ground. In our Draft Proposals report we therefore proposed a change to the boundary between the Communities of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and Bedwas Trethomas and Machen to transfer the land adjacent to the Llanbradach by-pass from the Community of Bedwas Trethomas and Machen into the Community of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant as suggested by Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant Community Council.

## **Penmaen, Blackwood and Pontllanfraith**

4.16 A resident of Oakdale suggested that the settlement of Woodfieldside be transferred to the Community of Blackwood from the Community of Penmaen. We also received correspondence from both Caerphilly County Borough Council and Blackwood Town Council who both pointed out that the River Sirhowy formed a long-standing and natural boundary between the two Communities. Caerphilly County Borough Council also considered that Blackwood already had a comparatively large electorate and would not benefit from the additional electorate resulting from such a change. They considered that, if the change were to go ahead, the elected representatives for the Community of Blackwood might become overburdened. We considered that the suggested change had some merit in that the settlement of Woodfieldside was divided from the Community of Penmaen by the Sirhowy Enterprise Way and there were road links between Woodfieldside and the Community of Blackwood. We also considered that the suggested boundary could be slightly improved by being extended along the road southwards to transfer a small area of the Community of Pontllanfraith into the Community of Blackwood. We also considered that the suggested change would not lead to any significant increase in the responsibilities of Blackwood Community Councillors. In our Draft Proposals report we therefore proposed that the boundary between the Communities of Penmaen and Blackwood and Pontllanfraith and Blackwood be realigned and that the area of the Community of Penmaen should be transferred into the Blackwood South Ward.

## **Pengam and Maesycwmmmer**

4.17 In the course of the review we noted that the boundary between the Communities of Pengam and Maesycwmmmer was misaligned at Dol Maes on Summerfield Hall Lane. The existing boundary divided the land surrounding Dol Maes rather than following the periphery. Maesycwmmmer Community Council had no objection to this minor adjustment to the boundary. In our Draft Proposals report we therefore proposed that the boundary between the Communities of Pengam and Maesycwmmmer be realigned to follow the periphery of the land surrounding Dol Maes.

## **Pontllanfraith and Maesycwmmmer**

4.18 In the course of the review we noted that the boundary between the Communities of Maesycwmmmer and Pontllanfraith had become undefined due to developments and could be realigned to follow the clearly defined line of adjacent roads. We noted that Maesycwmmmer Community Council had no objection to the northern part of the suggested boundary realignment but objected to the transfer of five properties south of the A472. The Council considered that the residents of these properties strongly identified with Maesycwmmmer. We considered that the five properties south of the A472 were somewhat detached from the built-up area of Maesycwmmmer and that there seemed little scope for future development in the vicinity. We also noted that the area of the five properties was adjacent to the Bryn area of the Community of Pontllanfraith and that there was a footbridge across the A472 connecting these two areas. In our Draft Proposals report we therefore

proposed that the boundary between the Communities of Pontllanfraith and Maesycwmmmer be realigned to follow the A472 and adjacent roads.

### **Pengam and Cefn Fforest**

4.19 In the course of the review we noted that the boundary between the Communities of Pengam and Cefn Fforest was anomalous in the vicinity of Borfa Place where it divided a row of 10 properties leaving the end two properties in the Community of Pengam. Caerphilly County Borough Council offered no objection to this minor change in the existing boundary. In our Draft Proposals report we therefore proposed that the boundary between the Communities of Pengam and Cefn Fforest be realigned so as to transfer the end properties on Borfa Place from the Community of Pengam into the Community of Cefn Fforest.

4.20 We also noted that the boundary between the Communities of Pengam and Cefn Fforest was anomalous in that it divided a built up area, which appeared to us to be continuous, between the two Communities. It appeared to us that the properties in the Community of Pengam were part of the larger adjacent development in the Community of Cefn Fforest which had extended across the community boundary. Caerphilly County Borough Council said that local members supported this change to the boundary but pointed out that the current wards of Cefn Fforest and Pengam were policed from different police areas, which could lead to different levels of service being provided to the area. We did not consider that such a possibility was sufficient reason to refrain from addressing what appeared to us to be a clear anomaly in the community boundary. In our Draft Proposals report we therefore proposed that the boundary between the Communities of Pengam and Cefn Fforest be realigned so as to transfer the properties within the Community of Pengem into the Community of Cefn Fforest.

### **Risca**

4.21 In the course of the review we noted that the Community of Risca, which is unwarded, has a long history of being divided into the two local government electoral divisions of Risca East and Risca West. This appeared to us to be an unsatisfactory and artificial boundary since the Community of Risca does not have a community council and was not warded. We considered that it would be desirable to create two new communities from the existing Community of Risca, namely the Community of Risca East and the Community of Risca West. We note that Caerphilly County Borough Council had no objection to this suggestion. We considered the existing electoral division boundary, with two minor amendments, would be an appropriate community boundary. In our Draft Proposals report we therefore propose that the existing Community of Risca be dissolved and two new Communities of Risca East and Risca West be created.

### **Caerphilly Town**

4.22 Caerphilly Town Council suggested that the warding arrangements for the area of the existing Parcyfelin and Tonyfelin Wards of their Community be changed to address an increase in electors in the existing Parcyfelin ward and an anomaly in the boundary between existing Parcyfelin and Tonyfelin Wards. The Council

suggested the formation of three new Wards called Parcyfelin, Pontypandy and Tonyfelin. Whilst there appeared to us to be merit in reviewing the electoral arrangements of the community we are unable to do so as part of this review as we could only make proposals for the electoral arrangements of a community that are consequential on a change to the community boundary. We had received no suggestions for a change to the boundary of the Caerphilly Community that impacted on the electoral arrangements of the Parcyfelin and Tonyfelin Wards. In our Draft Proposals report we therefore made no proposals for changes to the electoral arrangements for the Community of Caerphilly in respect of the Parcyfelin and Tonyfelin wards.

### **Penmaen and Crumlin**

4.23 A resident of Oakdale suggested that the part of the settlement of Croespenmaen currently in the Community of Crumlin should be transferred into the Community of Penmaen. We considered that this proposal had some merit as the existing boundary between the Communities of Penmaen and Crumlin divides the settlement of Croespenmaen. Following a site visit to the area however it was noted that the boundary suggested by the resident was undefined in several places and in our view did not constitute a satisfactory boundary. We were unable to determine where a satisfactory boundary could be drawn to achieve the inclusion of Croespenmaen as a whole within either Penmaen or Crumlin. We noted that Caerphilly County Borough Council objected to the proposed realignment of the boundary to transfer the whole of Croespenmaen into the Community of Penmaen. The Council suggested a smaller realignment to the boundary to the north west of Croespenmaen. We were unable to recommend that the boundary between the Communities of Penmaen and Crumlin be realigned to transfer the whole of Croespenmaen into Penmaen, as we were not able to determine that the change would be desirable in the interests of effective and convenient local government in terms of community of interest, service delivery, use of facilities etc. In our Draft Proposals report we therefore made no proposals for change to the boundary between the Communities of Penmaen and Crumlin.

### **Penmaen and Argoed**

4.24 A resident of Oakdale suggested that the settlement of Manmoel be transferred from the Community of Argoed into the Community of Penmaen. We considered that this proposal may have some merit as the Community of Argoed is divided by the River Sirhowy and it appears that the residents of Manmoel cannot easily travel directly to the western part of the Community and that there was a reasonably convenient road link between Manmoel and Penmaen. We noted that Argoed Community Council and a local community councillor objected to the suggested change and in particular their concerns regarding Heads of the Valley funding for Argoed Community and various community projects involving Manmoel which had been undertaken in Argoed Community. We also noted Caerphilly County Borough Council did not support the suggested change. From the information that was provided to us we were unable to recommend the suggested change, as we were not satisfied that the change would be desirable in the interests effective and convenient local government in terms of community of interest, service delivery and

use of facilities. In our Draft Proposals report we therefore made no proposals for change to the boundary between the Communities of Penmaen and Argoed.

## **Gelligaer**

- 4.25 Gelligaer Community Council suggested that the boundary between the Gelligaer Community wards of Cefn Hengoed and Tiryberth should be realigned to transfer the area of Glan-Rhymney Farm from Cefn Hengoed into Tiryberth. They pointed out that the area, which contained a housing development, had no direct road link with the Cefn Hengoed Ward. We considered that this suggestion may have merit in view of the reason put forward by the Council but we were unable to propose this change, as there have not been any changes to the community boundary for Gelligaer, which would justify such a consequential change to the Community's electoral arrangements. In our Draft Proposals report we therefore made no proposals for change to the boundary between the Gelligaer Community wards of Cefn Hengoed and Tiryberth.
- 4.26 We made no proposals for changes to the remaining community areas within the County Borough of Caerphilly.

## **5. REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED IN RESPONSE TO THE DRAFT PROPOSALS**

- 5.1 In response to our Draft Proposals report we received representations from Caerphilly County Borough Council, Aber, Blackwood, Caerphilly, Gelligaer and Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant Community Councils, Councillor Woodyatt and 1 resident of Oakdale. A summary of these representations can be found at Appendix 2.

## **6. ASSESSMENT**

### **Caerphilly Town and Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn**

- 6.1 In our Draft Proposals report we proposed that the boundary between the Communities of Caerphilly and Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn be realigned to transfer the whole of the Sunningdale Estate from the Community of Caerphilly into the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn. We noted that Caerphilly Town Council supported this change to their Community boundary and that Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn Community Council had no further observations to make on the proposed change. In view of the support for our Draft Proposals for this area we are of the view that the change proposed is in the interests of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose the change to the boundary between the Communities of Caerphilly and Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn as shown at Appendix 3.
- 6.2 In our Draft Proposals report we proposed that the boundary between the Communities of Caerphilly and Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn be realigned to transfer the whole of the Cwrt Rawlins Estate from the Community of Penyrheol

Trecenydd and Energlyn into the Community of Caerphilly. We noted that Caerphilly Town Council supported this change to their Community boundary and that Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn Community Council had no further observations to make on the proposed change. In view of the support for our Draft Proposals for this area we are of the view that the change proposed is in the interests of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose the change to the boundary between the Communities of Caerphilly and Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn as shown at Appendix 4.

## **Caerphilly**

- 6.3 In our Draft Proposals report we proposed that a new Cwrt Rawlins Ward be created within the Community of Caerphilly consisting of the area of Cwrt Rawlins Estate transferred from the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn together with part of the existing Watford and Castle Wards of the Community of Caerphilly. We noted that Caerphilly Town Council supported this change to the electoral arrangements within their Community. In view of the support for our Draft Proposals for this area we are of the view that the change proposed is in the interests of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose the change to the Wards of the Community of Caerphilly as shown at Appendix 5.
- 6.4 In our Draft Proposals report we considered the suggestion from Caerphilly Town Council that three new Community Wards of Parcyfelin, Pontypandy and Tonyfelin be formed from the area of the existing Caerphilly Community Wards of Parcyfelin and Tonyfelin. As indicated in 4.6 above we could not make any proposals for changes to these Ward boundaries as there had been no change to the Caerphilly Community boundary that would warrant such a consequential change to the community electoral arrangements and, as we suggested in our Draft Proposals Report, we would recommend that Caerphilly County Borough Council consider undertaking a review of the community electoral arrangements for Caerphilly Community Council under Section 57(4) of the Act.

## **Caerphilly and Van**

- 6.5 In our Draft Proposals report we proposed that the boundary between the Communities of Caerphilly and Van be realigned to include the whole of the Castle Court shopping centre within the Community of Caerphilly and that the boundary between the Caerphilly Community Wards of Tonyfelin and Twyn be realigned to follow North View Terrace to include the whole of the Castle Court shopping centre within the Tonyfelin Ward of the Community of Caerphilly. Having received no further representations in respect of this proposal we remain of the view that the change proposed is in the interests of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose the change to the boundary between the Communities of Caerphilly and Van and the Caerphilly Community Wards of Tonyfelin and Twyn as shown at Appendix 6.

## **Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn**

- 6.6 In our Draft Proposals report we proposed that the boundary between the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn and the Community of

Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant be realigned to include the whole of the Energlyn Estate and adjoining area to the north within the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn. We noted Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant Community Council's objection to our proposal and their point that Fairways and Coed Lledyn have strong links to Pwll-y-Pant, however we consider that the railway line forms a significant barrier between these properties and the rest of the Pwll-y-Pant Ward whilst the Commission's proposed realignment is clearly defined and resolves the anomaly of the railway line dividing the south western part of the Pwll-y-Pant Ward. We do not consider that Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant Community Council's alternative suggestion for realigning the boundary resolves the anomaly of the division of the Energlyn Estate between two communities whilst the Commission's proposed realignment fully addresses that anomaly. We remain of the view that the change proposed is in the interests of effective and convenient local government and therefore propose the change to the boundary between the Communities of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn as shown at Appendix 7.

### **Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn**

6.7 In our Draft Proposals report we proposed that the boundary between the Trecenydd and Energlyn Wards of the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn be realigned to transfer Mill Close and Diamond Close from the Trecenydd Ward into the Energlyn Ward. The proposal to realign the boundary between these Community Wards was made consequential to realignments made to the boundary of the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn. We received no further views on this proposed change. We therefore propose that the boundary between the Trecenydd and Energlyn Wards of the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn be realigned as shown at Appendix 8.

### **Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and Caerphilly**

6.8 In our Draft Proposals report we proposed that the boundary between the Community of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and the Community of Caerphilly be realigned to transfer two properties on Heol y Gedr off Corbett's Lane from the Community of Caerphilly into the Community of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant. Having received no further representations in respect of this proposal we remain of the view that the change proposed is in the interests of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose the change to the boundary between the Communities of Caerphilly and Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant as shown at Appendix 9.

### **Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and Maesycwmmmer**

6.9 In our Draft Proposals report we proposed that the boundary between the Communities of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and Maesycwmmmer be realigned to follow the Llanbradach by-pass. We noted the representation received from Councillor R Woodyatt objecting to the realignment of the existing boundary on the grounds that the historical boundary between the two Communities was the River Rhymney. Having received no representations in support of this proposal and in view of the fact that there were no electors involved we are not satisfied that the

proposed change is in the interests of effective and convenient local government and we see no reason to realign the existing boundary which historically follows the River Rhymney. We therefore do not make a proposal for a change to the boundary between the Communities of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and Maesycwmmmer.

### **Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and Bedwas Trethomas and Machen**

6.10 In our Draft Proposals report we proposed that the boundary between the Communities of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and Bedwas Trethomas and Machen be realigned to follow the Llanbradach by-pass. We received no further comments regarding this proposal, however we noted that the existing boundary also follows the historical line of the River Rhymney as pointed out by Councillor Woodyatt in respect of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and Maesycwmmmer at 6.9 above. Having received no representations in support of this proposal and in view of the fact that there were no electors involved we are not satisfied that the proposed change is in the interests of effective and convenient local government and we see no reason to realign the existing boundary which historically follows the River Rhymney. We therefore do not make a proposal for a change to the boundary between the Communities of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant and Bedwas Trethomas and Machen.

### **Penmaen, Blackwood and Pontllanfraith**

6.11 In our Draft Proposals report we proposed that the boundary between the Communities of Penmaen, Blackwood and Pontllanfraith be realigned to transfer the settlement of Woodfieldside from the Community of Penmaen, together with a small adjacent area to the south from the Community of Pontllanfraith, into the Community of Blackwood. We received representations from Caerphilly County Borough Council and Blackwood Town Council objecting to our proposed realignment of the boundary between these Communities. We noted the points raised in these representations that the River Sirhowy formed the accepted historical and social boundary between the Communities of Blackwood and Penmaen and that the additional electors transferred into Blackwood would have a detrimental affect on the local councillors ability to fully represent the Community. We also noted the assertion that the road links between Woodfieldside and Penmaen were better than those between Woodfieldside and Blackwood. We also received a representation from a resident of Oakdale who stated that he would support the realignment of the boundary between the Communities of Penmaen and Blackwood only if other suggested boundary changes which would transfer areas of the Communities of Argoed and Crumlin into the Community of Penmaen were realised, otherwise he considered that the area of the Community of Penmaen would be reduced too much as a result of the loss of Woodfieldside.

6.12 We have given consideration to the suggested changes to the boundaries between the Communities of Argoed, Crumlin and Penmaen at paragraphs 6.19 and 6.20 below and have decided that there should be no change to the existing boundaries. We must therefore conclude that in the absence of any additional area being transferred into the Community of Penmaen the resident of Oakdale, as stated in his representation, would no longer support the proposed transfer of the Woodfieldside settlement from the Community of Penmaen into the Community of



Blackwood. We had originally proposed the transfer of Woodfieldside from the Community of Penmaen into the Community of Blackwood largely on the grounds that Woodfieldside was divided from the Community of Penmaen by the Sirhowy Enterprise Way, however, we note Caerphilly County Borough Council's point that there are road links between Woodfieldside and Penmaen and consider that these road links are sufficient for satisfactory communication between the two areas. In view of the factors stated above we are not convinced that the proposed change would be in the interests of effective and convenient local government and we therefore do not make a proposal for a change to the boundary between the Communities of Penmaen, Blackwood and Pontllanfraith.

### **Pengam and Maesycwmmmer**

- 6.13 In our Draft Proposals report we proposed that the boundary between the Communities of Pengam and Maesycwmmmer be realigned to correct a minor anomaly in the area of Dol Maes on Summerfield Hall Lane. Having received no further representations in respect of this proposal we remain of the view that the change proposed is in the interests of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose the change to the boundary between the Communities of Pengam and Maesycwmmmer as shown at Appendix 10.

### **Pontllanfraith and Maesycwmmmer**

- 6.14 In our Draft Proposals report we proposed that the boundary between the Communities of Maesycwmmmer and Pontllanfraith be realigned to follow the link road between the A472 and A4049 transferring five properties at Meadowgate from the Community of Maesycwmmmer into the Community of Pontllanfraith. We received a representation from Caerphilly County Borough Council who considered that the transfer of the five properties at Meadowgate from Maesycwmmmer into Pontllanfraith should be excluded from the proposed boundary realignment. We noted the Council's view that the residents were considered part of the Maesycwmmmer Community and that the status quo should be retained in the absence of any request from these residents for change. We therefore wrote to all five residents seeking their views on the proposed realignment to the boundary and received a response from Mr M Price of the Meadowgate Residents Association. Mr Price considered that it would make perfect sense for the dwellings to be transferred into the Community of Pontllanfraith and that other residents of Meadowgate appeared to be in agreement with this view. Having received this support for our proposal from a Meadowgate resident we remain of the view that the change proposed is in the interests of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose the change to the boundary between the Communities of Pontllanfraith and Maesycwmmmer as shown at Appendix 11.
- 6.15 We also received a representation from Councillor R Woodyatt who considered that the boundary between the Communities of Maesycwmmmer and Pontllanfraith should be realigned to follow the road between the Crown and Gellihaf as shown at Appendix 12. This would have the affect of transferring the Hawtin Industrial Estate from the Community of Maesycwmmmer into the Community of Pontllanfraith. Although we note Councillor Woodyatt's view that this is where the boundary between the two communities is locally considered to be, we can see little benefit in

terms of effective and convenient local government in proposing such a change as no electors are involved. We are therefore do not propose that the boundary between the Communities of Maescwmmmer and Pontllanfraith be realigned as suggested by Councillor Woodyatt.

### **Pengam and Cefn Fforest**

- 6.16 In our Draft Proposals report we proposed that the boundary between the Communities of Pengam and Cefn Fforest be realigned to transfer a number of properties from the Community of Pengam into the Community of Cefn Fforest. These properties were adjoining a similar built up area in the Community of Cefn Fforest. Having received no further representations in respect of this proposal we remain of the view that the change proposed is in the interests of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose the change to the boundary between the Communities of Pengam and Cefn Fforest as shown at Appendix 13.
- 6.17 In our Draft Proposals report we proposed that the boundary between the Communities of Pengam and Cefn Fforest be realigned to transfer two properties on Borfa Place from the Community of Pengam into the Community of Cefn Fforest. Having received no further representations in respect of this proposal we remain of the view that the change proposed is in the interests of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose the change to the boundary between the Communities of Pengam and Cefn Fforest as shown at Appendix 14.

### **Risca**

- 6.18 In our Draft Proposals report we proposed that the Community of Risca should be divided to form two new Communities of Risca West and Risca East with the boundary co-terminous to the boundary of the local government electoral divisions of Risca West and Risca East with the exception of two minor amendments. Having received no further representations in respect of this proposal we remain of the view that the change proposed is in the interests of effective and convenient local government. We therefore propose that the existing Community of Risca be abolished and the new Communities of Risca West and Risca East be formed with the boundaries co-terminous to the amended local government boundary electoral divisions as shown at Appendices 15 and 16.

### **Penmaen and Crumlin**

- 6.19 In our Draft Proposals report we sought further views on suggested changes to the boundary between the Communities of Crumlin and Penmaen in the vicinity of Croespenmaen. We note the view of Caerphilly County Borough Council that the Bevan Park area will be extended westwards into the Community of Penmaen and therefore should be included within that Community so as to avoid the possible situation whereby the development would be served partly by a Penmaen councillor and partly by a Crumlin councillor. We also noted the representation from a resident of Oakdale who said that Croespenmaen had coalesced with Oakdale and that residents of Croespenmaen use facilities in Oakdale therefore making it desirable that Croespenmaen be transferred into the Community of Penmaen. We also noted that he said that residents of Croespenmaen use

facilities in Oakdale. We are not satisfied that it would be possible to find a clearly defined boundary on the ground that would transfer the whole of Croespenmaen from the Community of Crumlin into the Community of Penmaen. We remain of the view that there is insufficient evidence to suggest that transferring the whole of Croespenmaen from the Community of Crumlin into the Community of Penmaen would be in the interests of effective and convenient local government. We consider, however, that Caerphilly County Borough Council's proposal would be desirable given that the Bevan Park area is likely to extend westwards into Penmaen. We therefore propose that the boundary between the Communities of Penmaen and Crumlin be realigned as shown at Appendix 17.

## **Penmaen and Argoed**

- 6.20 In our Draft Proposals report we sought further views on a suggested change to the boundary between the Communities of Penmaen and Argoed in the vicinity of Manmoel. We received a representation from a resident of Oakdale who supported the suggested realignment of the boundary to transfer the area of Manmoel from the Community of Argoed into the Community of Penmaen. We noted the comments made by the resident that Manmoel had good road links with the Community of Penmaen but poor road links with the rest of the Community of Argoed resulting in Manmoel residents using facilities in Penmaen. We are not satisfied, however, that there is enough support for the transfer of such a large area from the Community of Argoed or evidence that such a realignment of the boundary would be in the interests of effective and convenient local government. We are therefore of the view that no change should be made to the boundary between the Communities of Penmaen and Argoed.

## **Gelligaer**

- 6.21 In our Draft Proposals report we considered that a change to the boundary between the Gelligaer Community Wards of Cefn Hengoed and Tiryberth but could make no proposal for such a change as there had been no change to the Gelligaer Community boundary that would warrant such a consequential change to that Community's electoral arrangements. We note Gelligaer Community Council's representation requesting that this change be made to the Ward boundary and, as we suggested in our Draft Proposals Report, we would recommend that Caerphilly County Borough Council consider undertaking a review of the community electoral arrangements for Gelligaer Community Council.

## **7. PROPOSALS**

- 7.1 Having considered all of the evidence available to us we propose that the boundaries of the Communities of Caerphilly, Cefn Fforest, Crumlin, Llanbradach and Pwll-y-pant, Maesycwmmmer, Pengam, Penmaen, Penyrheol Trecenydd and Energlyn, Pontllanfraith, Risca and Van should be realigned in the area under review to follow the boundaries shown in green on the maps at Appendices 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17.

7.2 Detailed maps to a larger scale showing the proposed new boundaries can be inspected at the offices of Caerphilly County Borough Council and at the office of the Commission in Cardiff.

## 8. CONSEQUENTIAL ARRANGEMENTS

8.1 In considering the various changes to the community boundaries it was also necessary for us to take account of the effects on the electoral arrangements for community councils and the principal authority, which would result from these changes. This section of our report details our proposals for consequential changes to the electoral arrangements. The electoral statistics used in this report were provided by Caerphilly County Borough Council.

### Community Council Electoral Arrangements

8.2 The Community of Caerphilly is currently divided, for community electoral purposes, into the community wards of Brynccenydd, Castle, Parcyfelin, Tonyfelin, Twyn and Watford. The following table shows the number of electors and councillors for each ward.

Community	Ward	Electors	Councillors	E/C*
Caerphilly Town	Brynccenydd	872	1	872
	Castle	1,687	3	562
	Parcyfelin	3,120	3	1,040
	Tonyfelin	1,009	1	1,009
	Twyn	1,572	2	786
	Watford	2,654	2	1,327
		<b>10,914</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>910</b>

\* Electors per Councillor

8.3 Under our proposals for the Community of Caerphilly Town would be divided, for community electoral purposes, into the community wards of Brynccenydd, Castle, Cwrt Rawlins, Parcyfelin, Tonyfelin, Twyn and Watford. Of the existing Wards of Brynccenydd, Tonyfelin and Twyn which remain unchanged by our proposals we consider that the existing level of representation is satisfactory. We consider that the existing Parcyfelin Ward has an acceptable level of representation and as it will only be subject to a minor reduction in electorate under our proposals we consider that the existing level of representation will remain satisfactory. The Watford Ward currently has 2,654 electors represented by 2 councillors. Under our proposals the electorate will reduce to 1,337 and we therefore propose that in order to maintain a similar level of representation it would be necessary to reduce the number of councillors to 1. We have noted that under the current electoral arrangements the existing Castle Ward has a disproportionate level of representation compared with the other wards. The electorate of the Castle Ward will also fall from 1,687 to 1,497 under our proposals and therefore we propose that the number of councillors for the Castle Ward be reduced from 3 to 2. The new Cwrt Rawlins Ward which will be created by our proposals will have an electorate of 1,955 and we consider that 2 councillors would provide a level of representation for this Ward which would be in-

keeping with the rest of the Community of Caerphilly. The following table shows the proposed number of electors and councillors for each ward.

<b>Community</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Electors</b>	<b>Councillors</b>	<b>E/C*</b>
Caerphilly Town	Bryncenydd	872	1	872
	Castle	1,497	2	749
	Cwrt Rawlins	1,955	2	978
	Parcyfelin	3,116	3	1,040
	Tonyfelin	1,009	1	1,009
	Twyn	1,572	2	786
	Watford	1,337	1	1,337
		<b>11,358</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>947</b>

- 8.4 The Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd Energlyn is currently divided, for community electoral purposes, into the community wards of Energlyn, Penyrheol and Trecenydd. The following table shows the number of electors and councillors for each ward.

<b>Community</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Electors</b>	<b>Councillors</b>	<b>E/C*</b>
Penyrheol Trecenydd Energlyn	Energlyn	1,369	2	685
	Penyrheol	2,948	5	590
	Trecenydd	4,412	5	882
		<b>8,729</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>727</b>

- 8.5 Our proposals for changes to the boundaries of the Communities of Penyrheol Trecenydd Energlyn, Caerphilly and Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant will result in significant changes to the areas and electorates of the Trecenydd and Energlyn Wards and in view of this we are minded to look at the electoral arrangements for the Community as a whole. We consider that it would be desirable to include in our proposals the change to the boundary between the Trecenydd Ward and Energlyn Ward as outlined at paragraph 6.7 above and as shown on the map at Appendix 8. Under our proposals for the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd Energlyn the Energlyn Ward will increase by 425 electors to 1,794 and the Trecenydd Ward will decrease by 616 electors to 3,796. We consider that the existing number of councillors for Energlyn and Trecenydd of 2 and 5 respectively provides an appropriate level of representation for these wards. However, we have noted that under the proposed changes the Penyrheol Ward would have a disproportionate level of representation with 5 councillors resulting in a ratio of 590 electors per councillor. In order to maintain a similar level of representation to the other two Wards in the Community we propose that the number of councillors for Penyrheol be reduced from 5 to 4. The following table shows the proposed number of electors and councillors for each ward.

<b>Community</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Electors</b>	<b>Councillors</b>	<b>E/C*</b>
Penyrheol Trecenydd Energlyn	Energlyn	1,794	2	897
	Penyrheol	2,948	4	737
	Trecenydd	3,796	5	759
		<b>8,538</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>776</b>

- 8.6 The Community of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant is currently divided, for community electoral purposes, into the community wards of Llanbradach, Pwll-y-Pant and

Wingfield. The following table shows the number of electors and councillors for each ward.

<b>Community</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Electors</b>	<b>Councillors</b>	<b>E/C*</b>
Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant	Llanbradach	1,534	4	384
	Pwll-y-Pant	482	1	482
	Wingfield	1,386	4	347
		<b>3,402</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>378</b>

- 8.7 Under our proposals for the Community of Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant the Pwll-y-Pant Ward will decrease by 253 electors to 229. The Pwll-y-Pant Ward is currently represented by the minimum number of councillors and has the lowest ratio of electors to councillors in the Community and therefore we do not consider that any change to the existing electoral arrangements is necessary. The following table shows the proposed number of electors and councillors for each ward.

<b>Community</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Electors</b>	<b>Councillors</b>	<b>E/C*</b>
Llanbradach and Pwll-y-Pant	Llanbradach	1,534	4	384
	Pwll-y-Pant	229	1	229
	Wingfield	1,386	4	347
		<b>3,149</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>350</b>

- 8.8 The Community of Van is currently divided, for community electoral purposes, into the community wards of Brynau, Lansbury and Porset. Our proposals for the Community do not involve the transfer of any electors and therefore the existing community electoral arrangements will continue unchanged.

### **County Borough Council Electoral Arrangements**

- 8.9 The St. Martins electoral division consisting of the Castle, Twyn and Watford wards of the Community of Caerphilly Town currently has 5,921 electors represented by 3 councillors. The proposed amendment to the boundary between the Communities of Caerphilly Town and Penyrheol Trecenydd Energlyn would see a rise in the number of electors to 6,423.
- 8.10 The Penyrheol electoral division consisting of the Community of Penyrheol Trecenydd Energlyn currently has 8,780 electors represented by 4 councillors. The proposed amendment to the boundary between the Communities of Penyrheol Trecenydd Energlyn, Llanbradach and Caerphilly would see a fall in the number of electors to 8,535.
- 8.11 The Llanbradach electoral division consisting of the Community of Llanbradach currently has 3,427 electors represented by 2 councillors. The proposed amendment to the boundary between the Communities of Llanbradach, Penyrheol Trecenydd Energlyn and Caerphilly would see a fall in the number of electors to 3,174.
- 8.12 The Maesycwmmmer electoral division consisting of the Community of Maesycwmmmer currently has 1,763 electors represented by 1 councillor. The proposed amendment to the boundary between the Communities of Maesycwmmmer and Pontllanfraith would see a fall in the number of electors to 1,743.

- 8.15 The Penmaen electoral division consisting of the Community of Penmaen currently has 3,878 electors represented by 2 councillors. The proposed amendment to the boundary between the Communities of Penmaen and Crumlin would see an increase in the number of electors to 3,965.
- 8.16 The Crumlin electoral division consisting of the Community of Crumlin currently has 4,483 electors represented by 2 councillors. The proposed amendment to the boundary between the Communities of Penmaen and Crumlin would see an decrease in the number of electors to 4,396.
- 8.17 The Pengam electoral division consisting of the Community of Pengam currently has 3,004 electors represented by 2 councillors. The proposed amendment to the boundary between the Communities of Pengam and Cefn Fforest would see a fall in the number of electors to 2,758.
- 8.18 The Cefn Fforest electoral division consisting of the Community of Cefn Fforest currently has 2,659 electors represented by 2 councillors. The proposed amendment to the boundary between the Communities of Cefn Fforest and Pengam would see a rise in the number of electors to 2,905.
- 8.19 The Morgan Jones electoral division consisting of the Bryncenydd, Parcyfelin and Tonyfelin Wards of the Community of Caerphilly currently has 5,037 electors represented by 3 councillors. The proposed amendment to the boundary between the Communities of Caerphilly, Llanbradach and Pwll-y-pant and Van would see a fall in the number of electors to 5,033.
- 8.20 The St. James electoral division consisting of the Communities of Van and Rudry currently has 4,398 electors represented by 3 councillors. The proposed amendment to the boundary between the Communities of Caerphilly and Van would see no change to the number of electors.
- 8.21 We are of the view that for all of the above electoral divisions the changes to the number of electors as a consequence of the proposed boundary changes are not so significant as, at this time, to require either an increase or a decrease in the number of councillors representing each electoral division. Over the next few years we will be to conducting a review of the electoral arrangements for all of the principal councils in Wales. As part of this review we will look in detail at the electoral arrangements for Caerphilly County Borough Council and will take into account any changes that arise from these proposed changes to community boundaries.

## **9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- 9.1 We wish to express our gratitude to Caerphilly County Borough Council and the Community Councils for their assistance and to all persons and bodies who made representations to us.

## **10. THE NEXT STEPS**

- 10.1 Having completed our consideration of the review of community boundaries in the County Borough of Caerphilly and submitted our recommendations to the Welsh Assembly Government, we have fulfilled our statutory obligation under the Act.
- 10.2 It now falls to the Welsh Assembly Government, if it thinks fit, to give effect to these proposals either as submitted by the Commission or with modifications, and if the Welsh Assembly Government decides to give effect to these proposals with modifications, it may direct the Commission to conduct a further review.
- 10.3 Any further representations concerning the matters in the report should be addressed to the Welsh Assembly Government. They should be made as soon as possible, and in any event not later than six weeks from the date that the Commission's recommendations are submitted to the Welsh Assembly Government. Representations should be addressed to:

Democracy Team  
Local Government Policy Division  
Welsh Assembly Government  
Cathays Park  
Cardiff  
CF10 3NQ

**MR P J WOOD (Chairman)**

**REV. HYWEL MEREDYDD DAVIES BD (Deputy Chairman)**

**Mr D J BADER (Member)**

**E H LEWIS BSc. DPM FRSA FCIPD (Secretary)**

**July 2009**



**THE WELSH MINISTERS**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 PART IV**

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR WALES (REVIEW OF COMMUNITY BOUNDARIES)(COUNTY BOROUGH OF CAERPHILLY) DIRECTION 2007**

The Welsh Ministers give the following Direction to the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales, in exercise of the powers conferred upon the Secretary of State by section 56 of the Local Government Act 1972<sup>(1)</sup> which powers are now exercisable by the Welsh Ministers<sup>(2)</sup>:

1. This Direction comes into force on 1 October 2007.

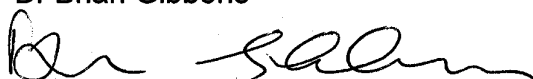
2. In this Direction:

“the Act” (“y Ddeddf”) means the Local Government Act 1972;

“the Commission” (“y Comisiwn”) means the Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales.

3. Pursuant to section 56(1) of the Act, the Welsh Ministers direct the Commission to conduct a review of the community boundaries in the County Borough of Caerphilly. The purpose of the review is to consider whether or not to make such proposals in relation to the areas reviewed as are authorised by section 54 and what proposals, if any, to make, and the Commission must, if they think fit, formulate such proposals accordingly.

Dr Brian Gibbons



Minister for Social Justice and Local Government

Date

17/9/2007

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<sup>(1)</sup> 1972 c.70; section 56 was amended by the Local Government (Wales) Act 1994.

<sup>(2)</sup> See the National Assembly for Wales (Transfer of Functions) Order 1999 (S.I. 1999/672) which transferred the functions of the Secretary of State to the National Assembly for Wales. The functions of the Assembly were subsequently transferred to the Welsh Ministers by schedule 11 to the Government of Wales Act 2006 (2006 c.38).

## **Summary of Representations Received in Response to the Draft Proposals**

### **Caerphilly County Borough Council**

The Council supported the Commission's suggested change to the boundary between the Communities of Penmaen and Crumlin at the Park Bevin site. They pointed out that the site will be extended westwards further into Penmaen which would mean it would be divided between Penmaen and Crumlin should the existing boundary be retained.

The Council objected to the Commission's proposed change to the boundary between the Communities of Penmaen, Blackwood and Pontllanfraith. They considered that the changes which would involve the transfer of approximately 750 electors would have a detrimental affect on the ability of local councillors to represent the Communities. They also pointed out that the River Sirhowy was the natural accepted boundary between the Communities and defined a community of Woodfieldside in Penmaen which did not identify itself with Blackwood. Also the road links between Woodfieldside and Penmaen were better than those between Woodfieldside and Blackwood.

In respect of the boundary between the Communities of Pontllanfraith and Maesycwmmmer they pointed out that the A472 had always been the historic boundary between the Communities and that the residents to the south of the road were viewed as Maesycwmmmer residents and their children went to school in Maesycwmmmer. These properties were not clearly linked to either Pontllanfraith or Maesycwmmmer, being surrounded on three sides by highway. They did not consider that any change should be made to the existing boundary without the support of the residents of the properties themselves.

### **Aber Valley Community Council**

The Council had no observations to make on the Commission's proposals as they did not affect their Community.

### **Blackwood Town Council**

The Council objected to the Commission's proposal to realign the boundary between the Communities of Blackwood and Penmaen as they considered that the River Sirhowy was the accepted historical and social boundary and that there was no benefit in changing it.

### **Caerphilly Town Council**

The Council agreed with the Commission's proposed changes to the boundary of their community but considered that the increased number of electors in the Community warranted a corresponding increase in the number of councillors.

### **Gelligaer Community Council**

The Council considered that their initial representation that the boundary between the Cefn Hengoed and Tir y Berth wards of their Community should be realigned to transfer

the housing development at Glan Rhymney Farm from the Cefn Hengoed Ward into the Tir y Berth Ward as the development had no link road to Cefn Hengoed.

### **Llanbradach & Pwll y Pant Community Council**

The Council were disappointed that the Commission had not supported their suggestions for realigning the boundary between the Communities of Llanbradach & Pwllypant and Penyrheol Treceenydd and Energlyn. They pointed out that the Fairways and Coed Lledyn had strong links to Pwll y Pant and should remain in their Community area

### **Cllr R Woodyatt**

Said he wished the boundary between the Communities of Maesycwmmmer and Pontllanfraith to be confirmed as the road from the Crown to Gellihaf as this had always been considered the boundary.

In respect of the boundary between Maesycwmmmer and Llanbradach the Rhymney River had always historically been the boundary. He considered that there was no logical reason for altering the boundary away from the Rhymney River to follow the road as this appeared to be change for change's sake.

### **R G Evans**

Mr Evans reiterated his suggestion that Croespenmaen be transferred from the Community of Crumlin into the Community of Penmaen as he considered that Croespenmaen had a stronger community of interest with Oakdale than with Crumlin. He pointed out that Croespenmaen had coalesced with Oakdale along the access road to the Croespenmaen industrial estate and that children from Croespenmaen attend primary and secondary schools in Oakdale as schools in Crumlin are further away. Croespenmaen residents also used Oakdale for services such as shops, places of worship, doctors surgeries etc.

In respect of his suggestion that Manmoel be transferred from the Community of Argoed into the Community of Penmaen he said that children from Manmoel attend primary and secondary schools in Oakdale which are easy to access by local roads. In contrast the closest school in Argoed is 5 miles away with poor road links. Oakdale was nearer to Manmoel for local services and shops than anywhere in Argoed and Oakdale has the only public transport link with Manmoel. He therefore considered that Manmoel had a stronger community of interest with Oakdale than Argoed. In respect of the objections raised to his suggested change he pointed out that Assembly funding of community projects was based on the 2000 Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation and would not be retrospectively withdrawn if the boundary between Penmaen and Argoed changed. Also current EU Convergence Programme funding would in any case tail off over the next few years.

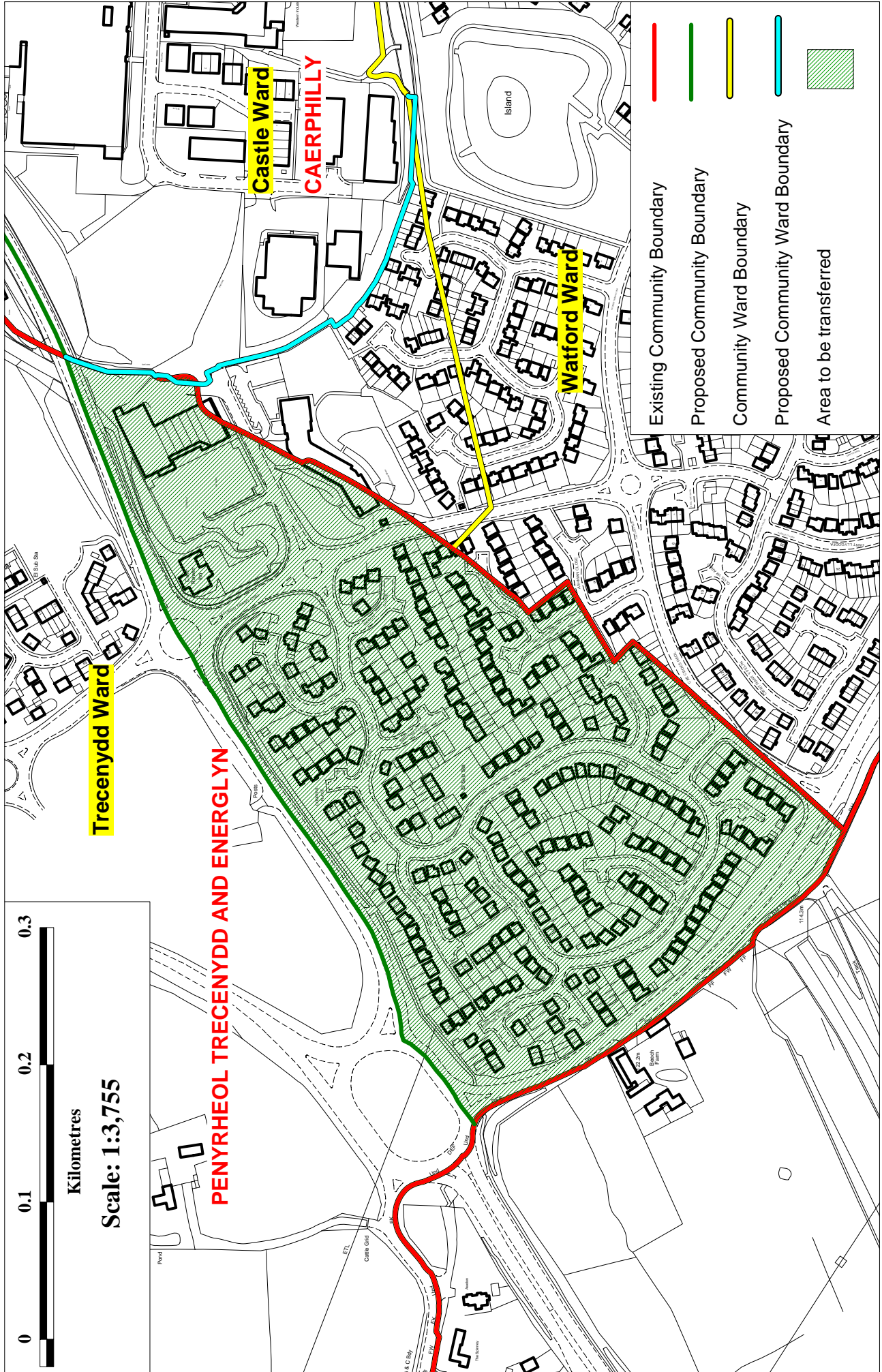
In respect of his suggestion that Woodfieldside be transferred from the Community of Penmaen into either the Community of Blackwood or Pontllanfraith he considered that it was a more logically part of the Community of Pontllanfraith, however, it should only be transferred from the Community of Penmaen if Manmoel and Croespenmaen are transferred into the Community of Penmaen otherwise Penmaen will be reduced.

CAERPHILLY - PENYRHEOL TRECENYDD AND ENERGLYN



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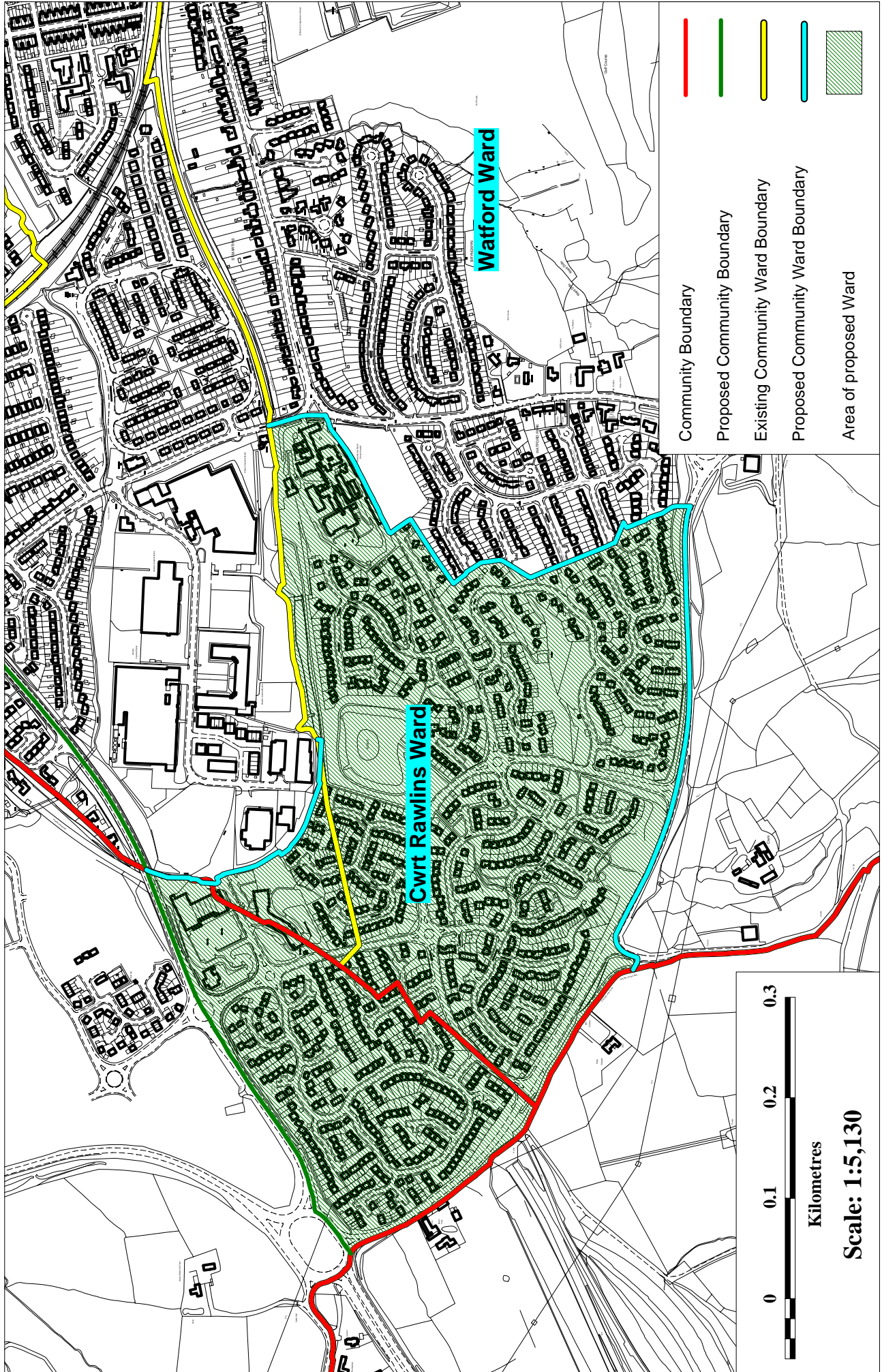
**CAERPHELLY - PENYRHEOL TRECENYDD AND ENERGLYN**



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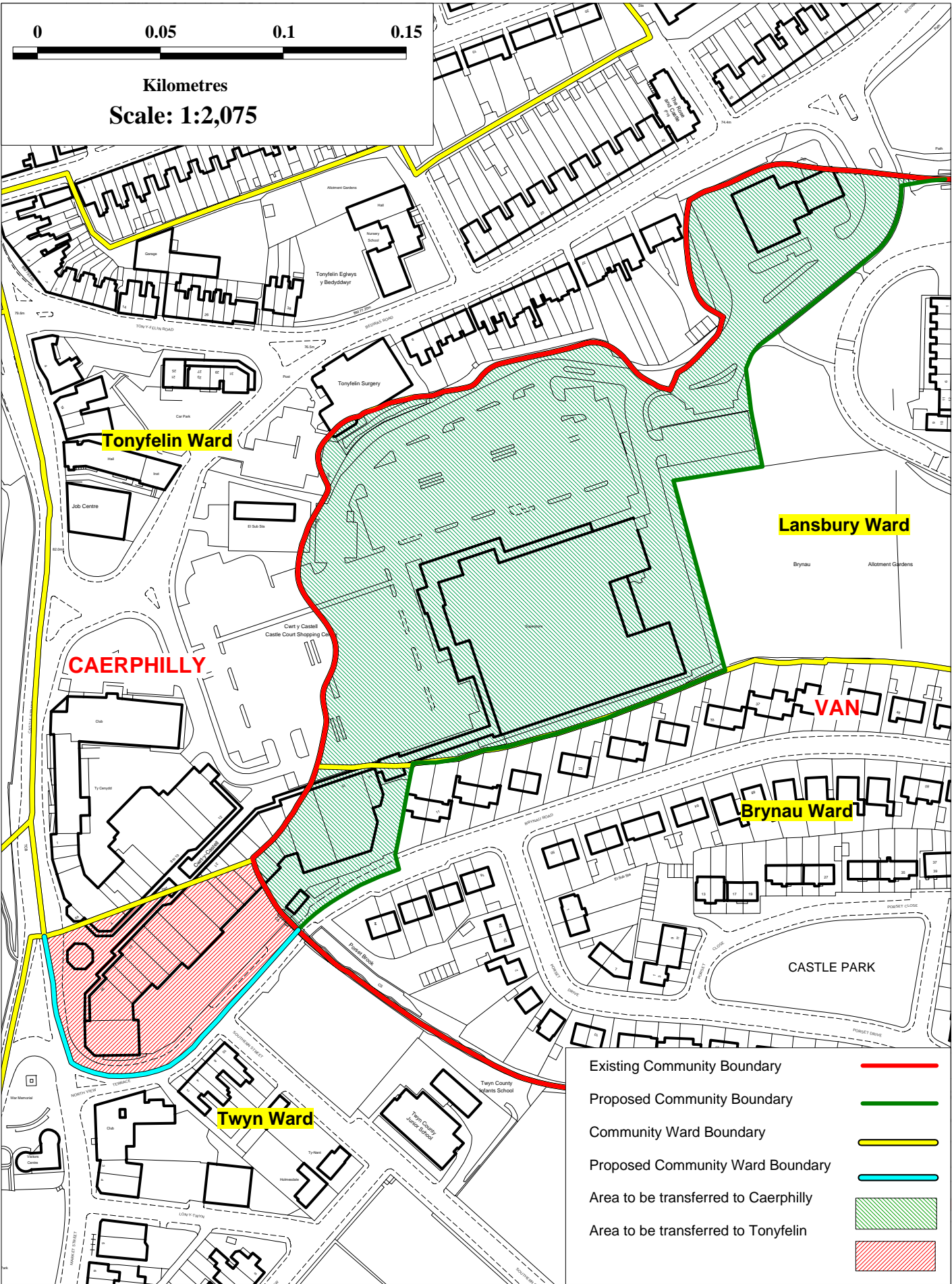


CAERPHELLY - CWRW RAWLINS AND WATFORD WARDS



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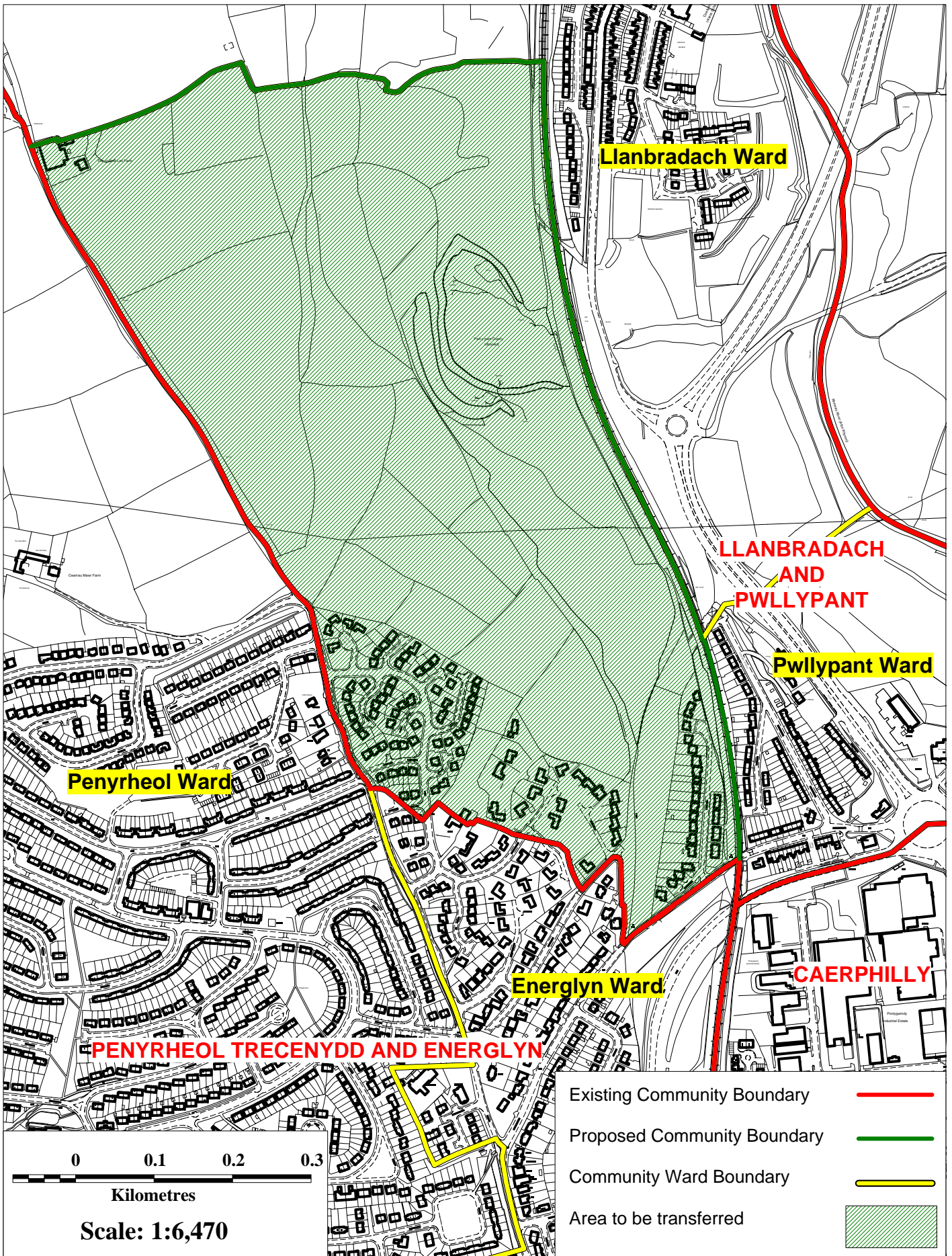
CAERPHELLY - VAN



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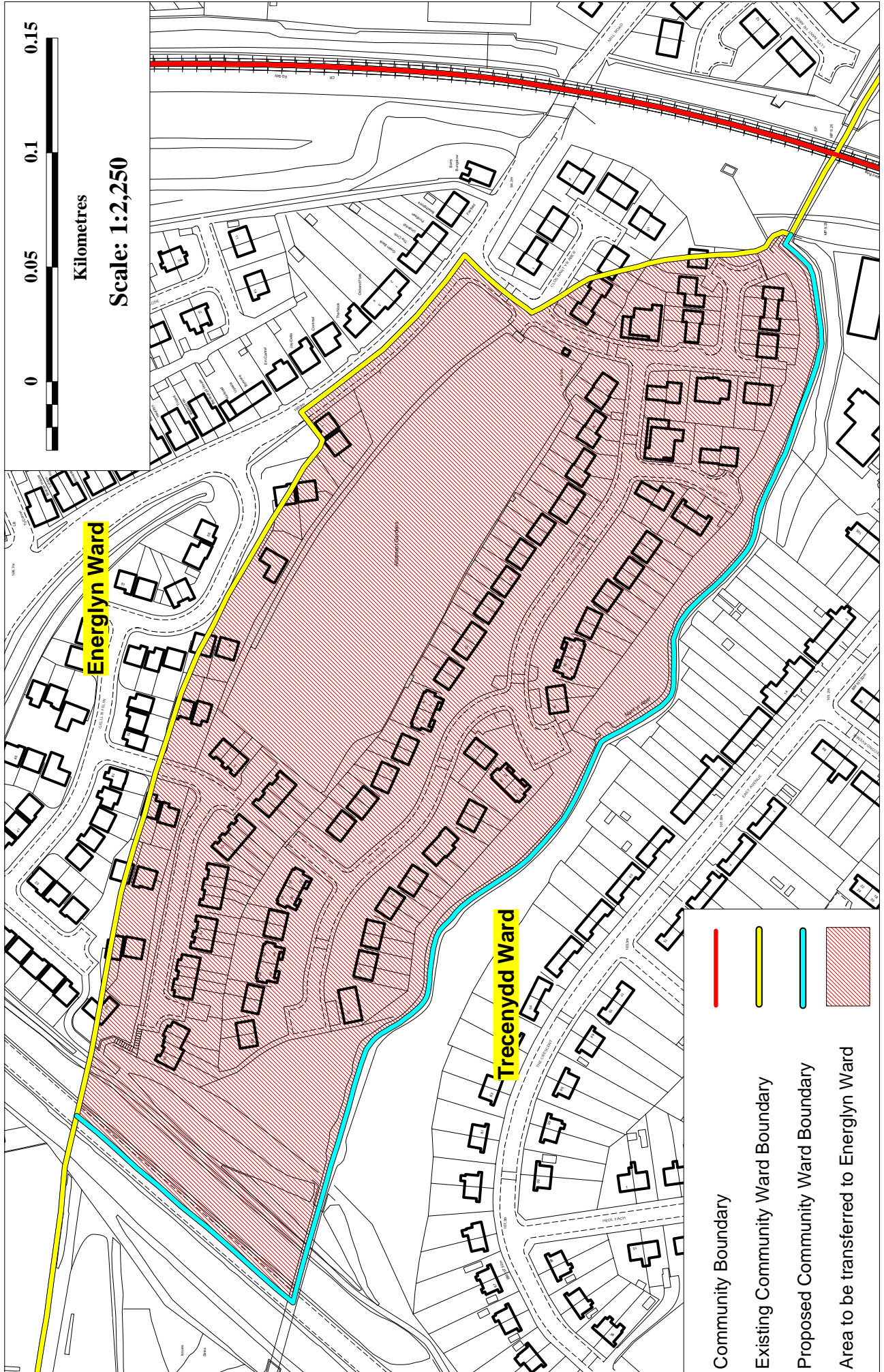
**PENYRHEOL TRECENYDD AND ENERGLYN - LLANBRADACH AND PWLLYPANT**



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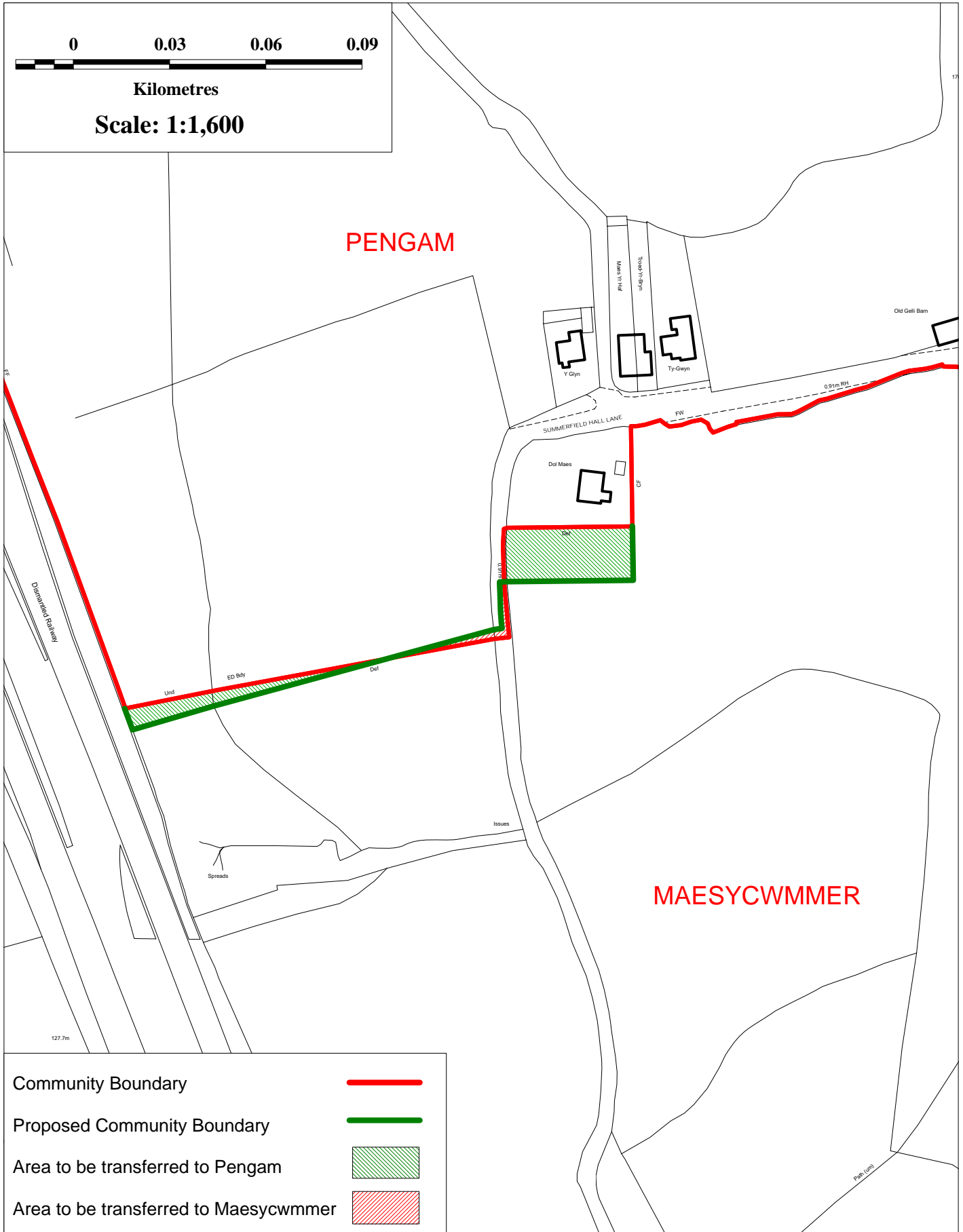


PENYRHEOL TRECENYDD ENERGLYN - ENERGLYN AND TRECENYDD WARDS



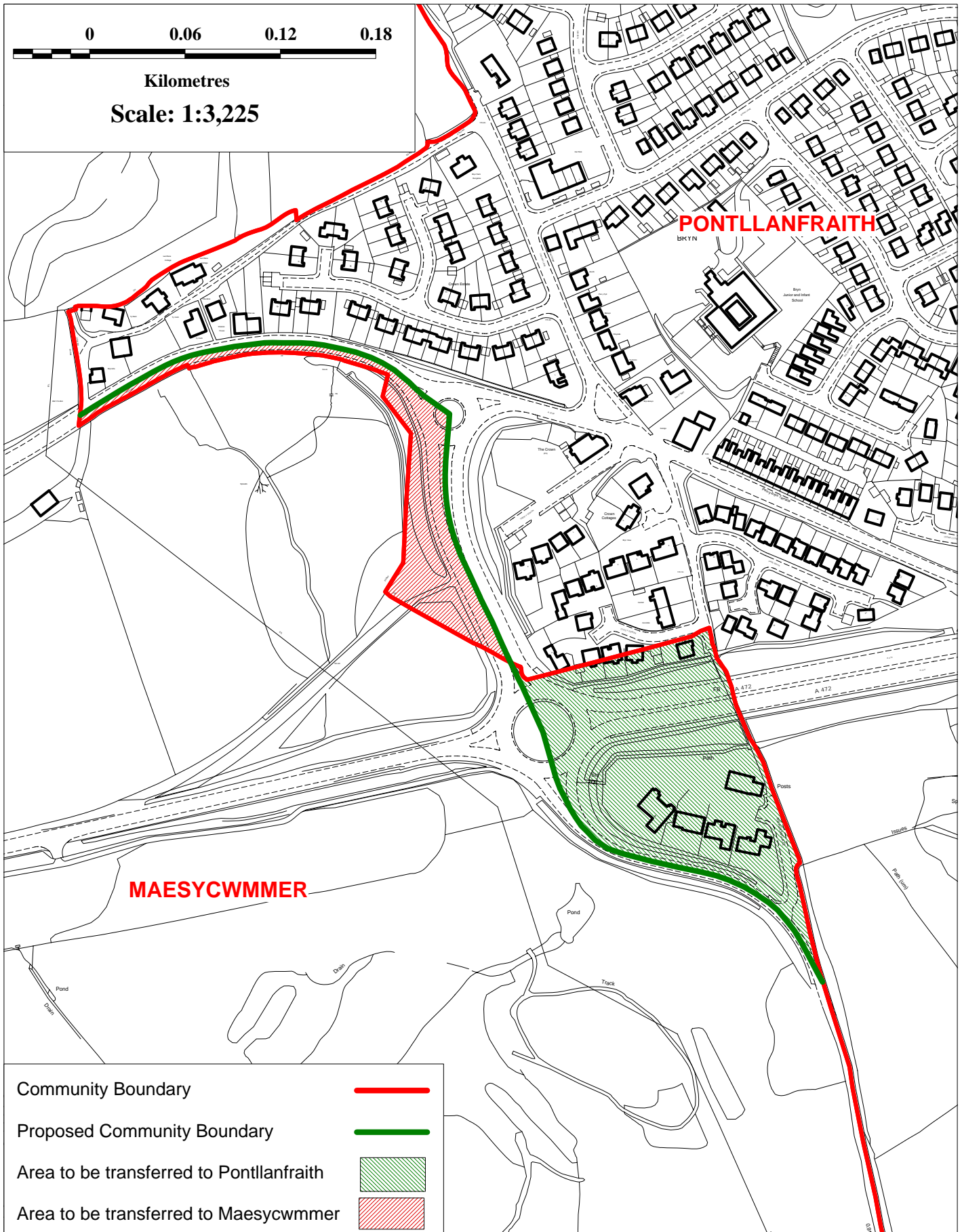
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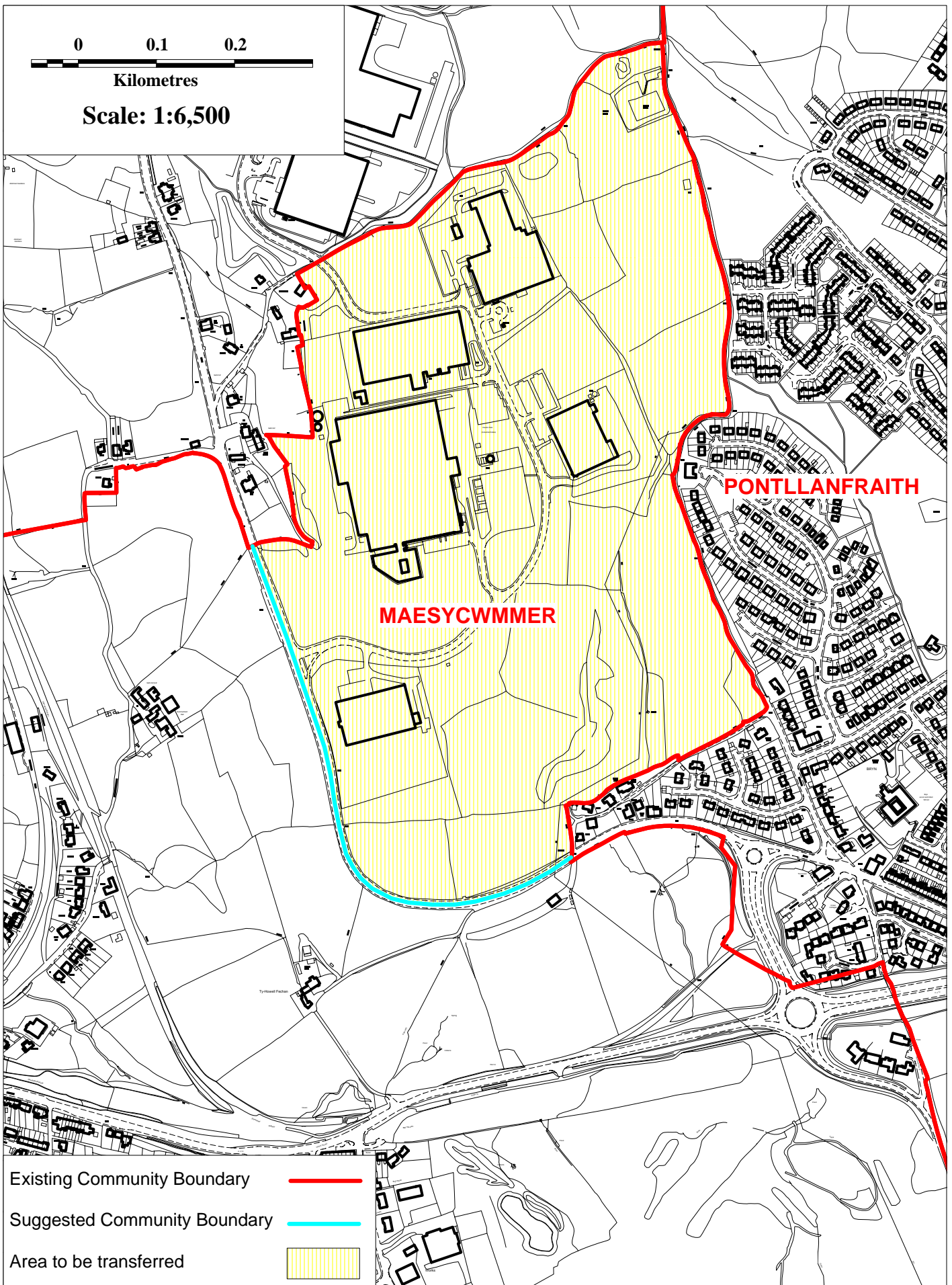
# PONTLLANFRAITH - MAESYCWMMER



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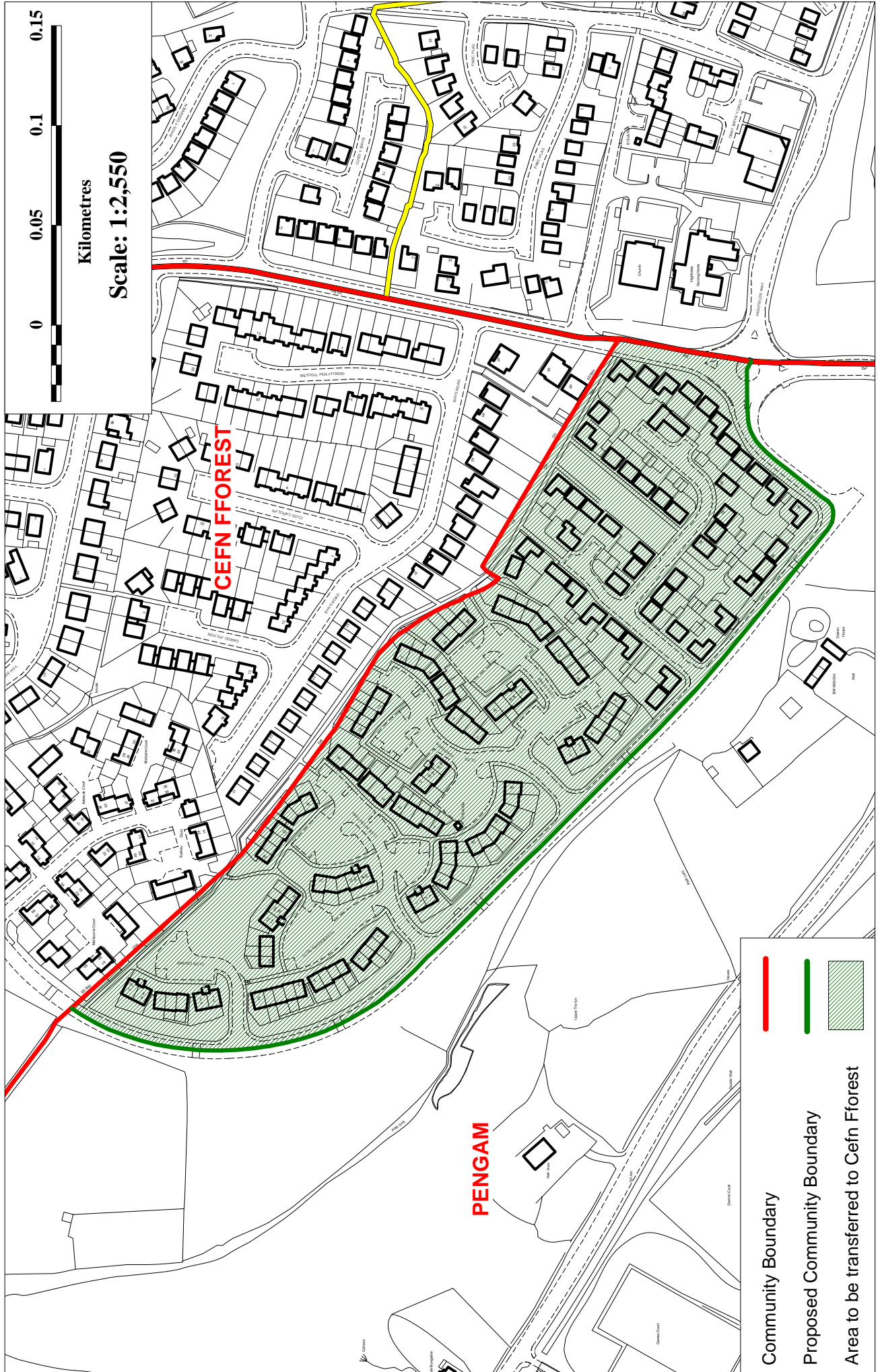
# MAESYCWMMER AND PONTLLANFRAITH - HAWTIN PARK



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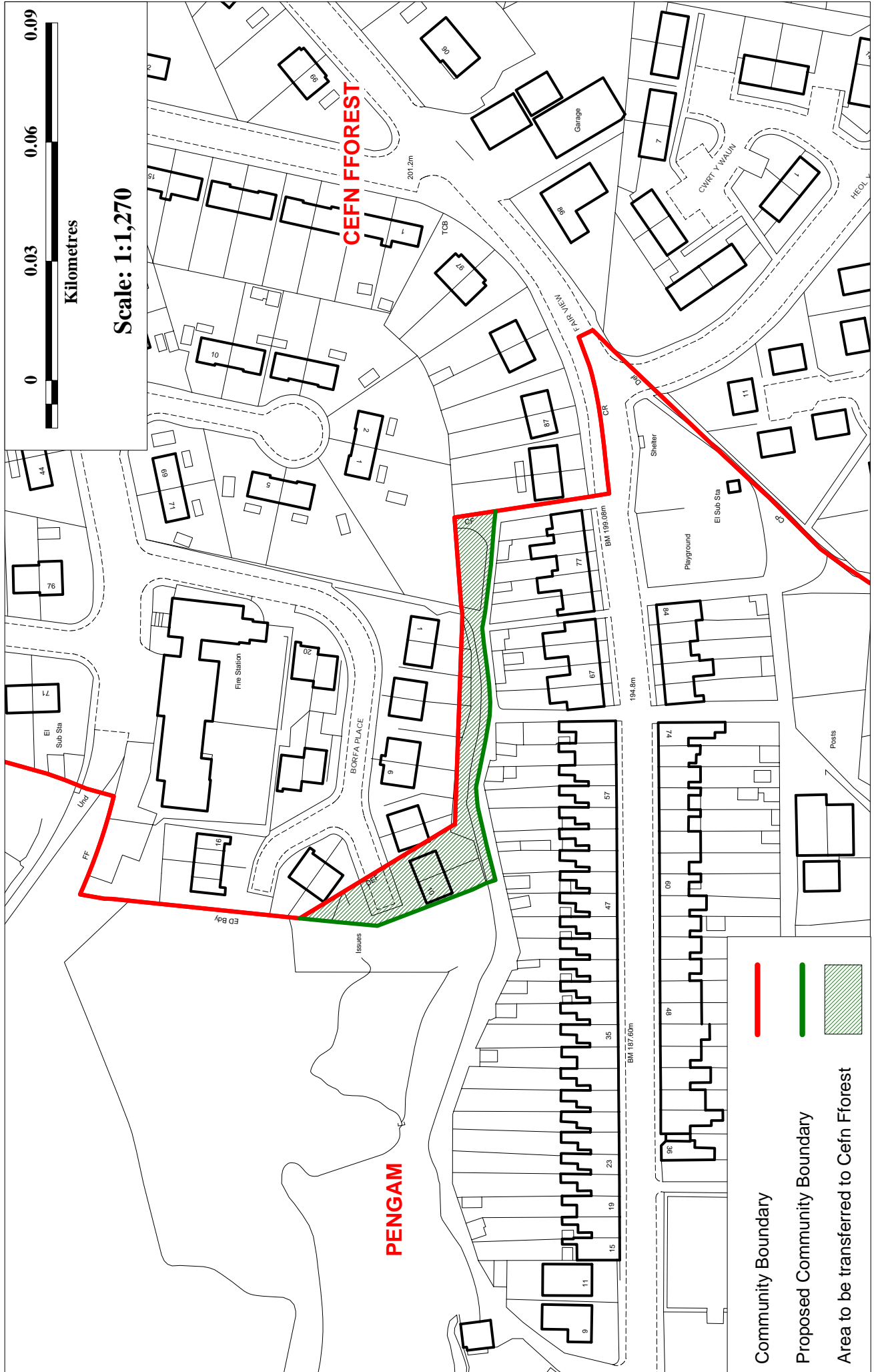
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**CEFN FFOREST - PENGAM**



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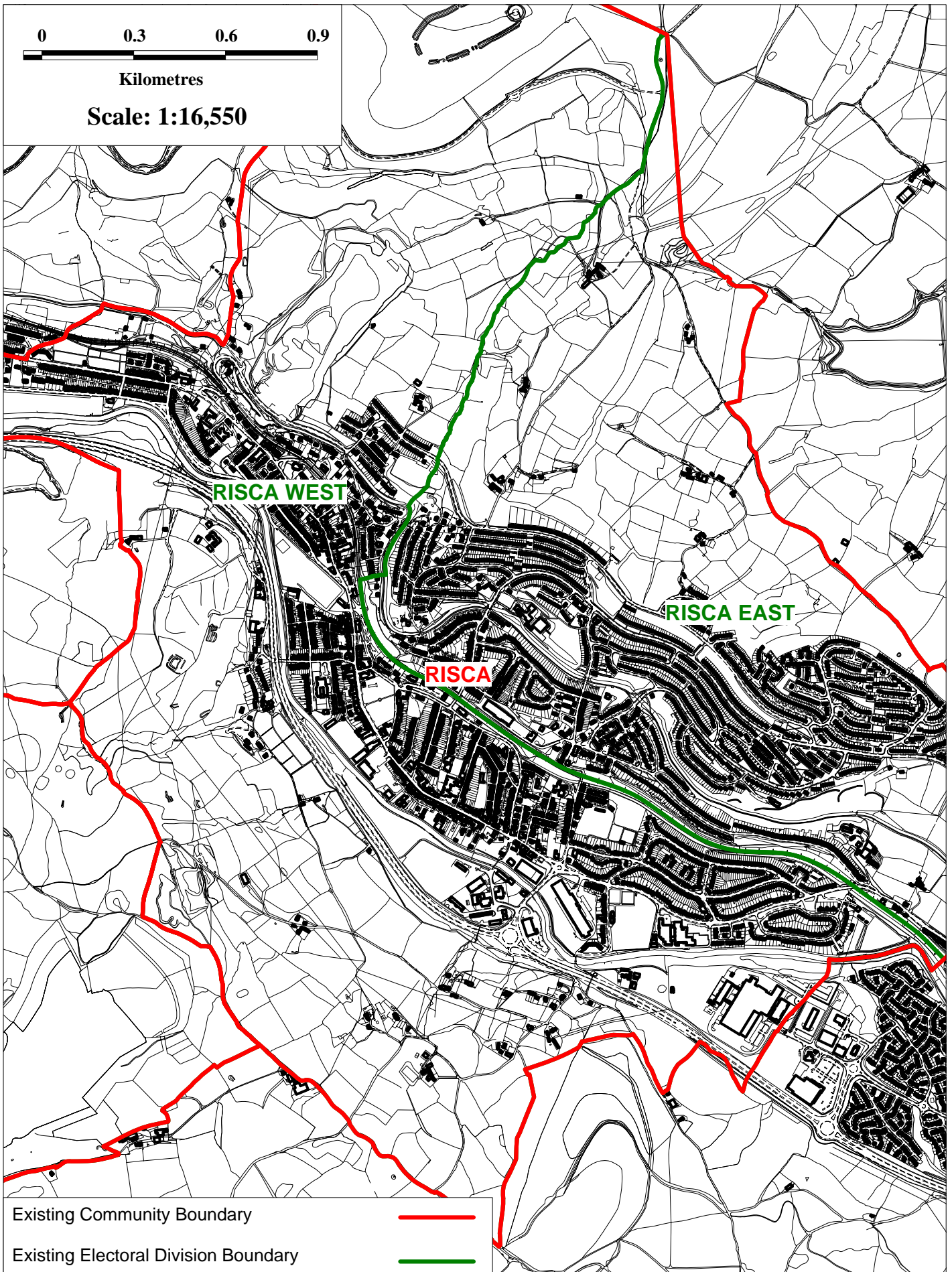
**CEFN FFOREST - PENGAM**



- Community Boundary
- Proposed Community Boundary
- Area to be transferred to Cefn Fforest

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# RISCA - PROPOSED COMMUNITY BOUNDARY



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