

Consultation Response Form

Local Government and Transformation Division
Welsh Government
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Consultation Questions

Question 1: Does the type of qualifications specified give confidence that the clerk has the core knowledge, skills and understanding to support a community council in the exercise of the new general power?

Yes No

If not, why not?

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Question 2: Does each title description make it clear which qualifications are being specified?

Yes No

If not, why not?

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Question 3: Are there other appropriate sectoral qualifications that should be considered for inclusion in the draft regulations?

Please specify what they might be and explain why they might be relevant?

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Question 4: We would like to know your views on the effects that the draft regulations would have on the Welsh language, specifically on opportunities for people to use Welsh and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English. What effects do you think there would be? How could positive effects be increased, or negative effects be mitigated?

The consultation document explains that candidates for the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) can submit their portfolio in Welsh or English, and that a Welsh-speaking assessor is available to assess Welsh language portfolios. We strongly support this. It acknowledges the official status of the Welsh language in Wales, which was established by the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011. By facilitating the use of Welsh, it also supports the aim of the Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050 strategy to increase the number of Welsh speakers and increase the use of the Welsh language.

Question 5: Please also explain how you believe the draft regulations could be formulated or changed so as to have positive effects or increased positive effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favorably than the English language, and no adverse effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favorably than the English language

The consultation document explains that the Society for Local Councils Clerks is updating the CiLCA qualification for Wales to incorporate a specific module on the implementation of general power of competence in Wales. It is noted that this module would also be available as a stand-alone module for clerks who already hold any of the qualifications specified in the draft regulations. We support the decision to make the qualification relevant to the specific situation of community councils in Wales. We urge you strongly to discuss with the Society how to make the qualification even more relevant and valuable, by including a module that would ensure an understanding of the status and situation of the Welsh language in Wales. That is, it would train clerks to be aware of the following:

- the official status of the Welsh language in Wales following the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and the situation of Welsh as a language spoken in all communities in the country

- bilingual administration
- Welsh language plans (held by a number of community councils)
- the Welsh language standards deriving from the Welsh Language Measure (although community councils are not subject to them, the standards are relevant to public services in Wales)

Question 6: We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them:

Please enter here:

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Responses to consultations are likely to be made public, on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to remain anonymous, please tick here: