

Isle of Anglesey County Council

Report to:	Executive Committee
Date:	23 September 2025
Subject:	Petition request for a community review of Pentraeth Community Council.
Portfolio holder(s):	Cllr Carwyn Jones
Head of service / director:	Lynn Ball
Report author:	Dyfan Sion
Local members:	Cllr Euryrn Morris Cllr Margaret Roberts Cllr Ieuan Williams

A – Recommendation(s) and reasons

Recommendations

1. To agree to conduct a section 31 Community Review of Pentraeth Community Council in accordance with a petition request submitted by members of the electorate.
2. To conduct the review as part of an Island wide section 31 Community review.

Reasons

1. Members of the electorate in the Pentraeth community ward submitted a petition to the County Council on 28 July calling for the Council to initiate a section 31 community governance review of Pentraeth Community Council.
2. The petitioners stated that they had lost confidence in the community council due to alleged persistent failings, poor judgement, and a serious lack of transparency regarding local governance and representation.
3. A section 31 community review may be carried out if it is requested by 30 or more electors that are resident in the community. The Pentraeth petition meets this requirement and is therefore a valid request for a community review.
4. The petition also requested that the County Council suspended any co-option or electoral appointments to Pentraeth Community Council until a community review has taken place. Officers wrote back to the petition organiser on 8 August 2025 to explain that the correct procedures had been followed with election and co-option arrangements to the community council and that the County Council had no lawful authority to intervene in the process.
5. There have been two opportunities over the past three months to call for an election on the Community Council. A casual vacancy notice to fill 4 vacancies on the Community Council was published on 23 May, with a deadline of 13 June. No requests for an election were received therefore the vacancies were processed

through a co-option process. Another casual vacancy notice was published on 11 July to fill a further 3 vacancies on the council, with a deadline of 31 July. Again, no requests for an election were received. Therefore, the vacancies will also be processed through a co-option process.

6. A community review should ideally precede an electoral review by the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales. We were recently informed that the Commission will be undertaking an electoral review in Anglesey from September 2027 to July 2028. The County Council is planning to conduct a section 31 community review across the island before the next local government elections in May 2027 and to start the process before the end of 2025.
7. Therefore, we recommend conducting the Pentraeth review as part of the wider island review allowing for more efficient expenditure of public funds and staffing resources. It should also be noted that resources will be stretched by the need to plan and prepare for the Senedd elections in May 2026.

B – What other options did you consider and why did you reject them and/or opt for this opinion?

The petition request for a community review meets the necessary criteria for consideration by the County Council. However, for the reasons given above, we propose conducting the review as part of a wider island review. A community review will need to be concluded before with local government elections in May 2027 and the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission electoral review in September 2027. We are therefore planning to start the community review before the end of 2025.

C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?

The decision to conduct a community review is an Executive function as there is no relevant power reserved to the Council and no delegated authority to officials.

Ch – Is this decision consistent with policy approved by the full Council?

N/A

D – Is this decision within budget approved by the Council?

Yes

Dd – Assessment of potential impacts (if relevant)

1. How does this decision affect our long-term needs as an island?

A section 31 community review does not address the boundaries of the community under review but looks instead at the arrangements for representation on the community council. This can refer to the number of members on the community council and any arrangements for the division of the community into wards for the purposes of elections to the community council. Conducting a review before the local elections of 2027 will ensure that arrangements are as appropriate and reflective of communities as possible.

2. Is this a decision that is anticipated to prevent future costs/dependencies on the Council? If so, how?

N/A

3. Have we collaborated with other organisations to come to this decision? If so, with whom?

The decision complies with the requirements of the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales.

4. Have the citizens of Anglesey played a part in drafting this way forward, including those directly affected by the decision? Explain how.

The review will require an initial consultation with communities and a further consultation on draft proposals.

5. Note any potential impact this decision would have on the protected groups under the Equality Act 2010.

None identified, but advice will be sought before the initial consultation process.

6. If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impacts the decision would have on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.

None identified.

7. Please note any potential effects that this decision would have on opportunities for people to use Welsh and not treat the language less favourably than English.

None identified.

E – Who did you consult with and what were their comments?

1. Chief Executive / Leadership Team (mandatory)	The report was considered by the Leadership Team on 2 September 2025, and their comments were incorporated.
2. Finance / 151 Officer	Leadership Team (above)
3. Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	Leadership Team (above)
4. HR	Not applicable
5. Property	Not applicable
6. IT	Not applicable
7. Procurement	Not applicable
8. Scrutiny	Not applicable
9. Local members	A copy of the report was shared with the local members on 2 September 2025.

F – Appendices

--

Ff – Background papers (contact the report author for more information)

<p>Guidance by the Local Democracy and Boundary Commission for Wales on how to conduct community reviews: Community-Review-Guidance-new.pdf</p> <p>We will follow the process and timeline outlined in the guidance as closely as possible in conducting the review.</p>
