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Communities, Equality and Local Government Committee

Local Government (Wales) Bill: Stage 1

Response from: Chief Constables in Wales

I am responding to the request for consultation feedback on the above Bill by the 13th March 2015. This e-mail represents the views of the Chief Constables in Wales.

Structural Changes: Chief Constables feel that it would be inappropriate to comment on the need to merge or reform local authorities. However, it is important that police forces are engaged in further specific consultation on the mergers because of the importance of coterminosity with force boundaries and, where possible, with internal force structures to support partnership work.

The current alignment of public service boundaries is not consistent and whilst this Bill is not designed to resolve these matters, the creation of additional inconsistency should be avoided.

Notification of and /or the lead in times for the implementation of change should be sufficient to allow partner organisations to implement any necessary change either to their own organisations or to partnership arrangements.