Conference Notes:

* The recent announcement by Cabinet Secretary Alun Davies regarding local government reorganisation and the consultation which closes on 12 June.
* That the consultation is nothing more than a reworking of proposals previously put forward in 2016 by Leighton Andrews which were met with widespread condemnation and subsequently shelved.
* The need for a co-ordinated Welsh Liberal Democrat response to be put forward to that consultation.

Conference believes:

* There are currently too many Local Authorities in Wales, some too small to be effective either financially or regarding the service they offer the public.
* Welsh Liberal Democrats will not support the proposals being put forward to amalgamate existing councils which represent a quick fix that will not address the issues facing local government nor improve democratic accountability.
* New boundaries, based on a realistic number of councils of between 14 and 16 should be drawn up by the boundary commission, taking account of community links, economic factors such as enhancing major urban centres of employment, the views of local people and geography.
* The number of Councillors overall should be decreased as part of a realignment of democratic accountability and representation which would include increasing the number of Assembly Members. At the same time the role of Councillors should be enhanced giving them greater responsibility to deliver services in their own area.
* The above measures must be accompanied by the introduction of the single transferable vote for all council elections thus ensuring that the councillors running these new authorities have a proper mandate.

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