



# Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

2021 asc 1

## PART 7

### MERGERS AND RESTRUCTURING OF PRINCIPAL AREAS

#### CHAPTER 1

##### VOLUNTARY MERGERS OF PRINCIPAL AREAS

###### *Merger regulations*

#### **127 Elections**

- (1) Merger regulations must set—
  - (a) the date of the first ordinary election of councillors to the principal council for the new principal area, and
  - (b) the terms of office of councillors returned at that election.
- (2) Merger regulations may include provision—
  - (a) cancelling an ordinary election of councillors to one or more of the merging councils and extending the existing terms of office of councillors;
  - (b) cancelling an election of an elected mayor to one or more of the merging councils and extending the existing terms of office of elected mayors;
  - (c) relating to requirements to fill casual vacancies in the office of councillor, vice-chair or chair, and the holding of elections in any of the merging councils or the shadow council to fill casual vacancies;
  - (d) postponing an ordinary election of councillors to community councils in the new principal area and the extension of the existing terms of office of councillors.

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**Changes to legislation:** *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, Section 127. (See end of Document for details)*

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- (3) Merger regulations may also include provision about—
- (a) the appointment of a returning officer at the first ordinary election of councillors to the principal council for the new principal area;
  - (b) meeting expenditure incurred in holding that election, including provision for the making of determinations by the Welsh Ministers about how expenditure is to be met;
  - (c) declarations of acceptance of the office of councillor of the new principal council;
  - (d) the holding of the first meeting of the new principal council.
- (4) Provision made under subsection (3)(a) may include provision for the Welsh Ministers to give directions to a principal council as to the appointment of a returning officer, and for the enforcement of such directions.

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, Section 127.