

## MICK ANTONIW MS/AS

Member of the Senedd for Pontypridd  
Aelod o'r Senedd dros Bontypridd



Senedd Cymru  
Welsh Parliament

Democracy and Boundary Commission Cymru  
Via Consultation Portal  
07 January 2025

Dear Commissioners

### 'Merthyr Cynon Taf' constituency name

Thank you for the further opportunity to contribute to the development of the new Senedd constituency boundaries.

I am pleased to support the Commission's recommendation in respect of the creation of a new Senedd constituency from the existing Pontypridd and Merthyr and Aberdare Westminster constituencies.

I also strongly support the proposal for all constituencies to be named using the Welsh language only.

I am however concerned that 'Merthyr Cynon Taf' is not the most appropriate name for the constituency, which in part, I currently represent. I propose that the most appropriate name would be **Merthyr, Pontypridd ac Aberdâr** for the following reasons:

- I believe that it is highly likely that Merthyr Cynon Taf (MCT) will become regularly confused with Rhondda Cynon Taf (RCT). This is unhelpful to residents but also to our democracy in the sense that making a clear distinction between different parts of government facilitates greater accountability in respect of 'who is responsible for what'.
- The Commission has based its proposed name on existing local authority names, which is why 'Merthyr' is included. For people in the Merthyr area, this provides a tangible link with the Westminster constituency name and a degree of continuity with the existing Senedd constituency. This is not the case for people in Pontypridd. The inclusion of 'Pontypridd' would promote affiliation by providing the same continuity and clarity for people in the existing Pontypridd constituency.
- Merthyr, Pontypridd ac Aberdâr is in fact a minor amendment to the Commission's initial proposal (Merthyr Tydfil, Aberdare and Pontypridd) I propose this placename order to avoid mutations.

Yours sincerely,

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Mick Antoniw MS  
Member of Senedd for Pontypridd

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Pontypridd

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