

## Rebecca Evans MS

Minister for Finance and Local Government



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

17 March 2022

Dear Colleague,

I would like to congratulate you on your decision to stand as a candidate at the forthcoming local government elections.

In deciding to stand for election you will already have recognised the valuable contribution councillors can make to improving the lives and experiences of individuals within local communities. We want our councils to be representative of the communities they serve and the greater the diversity of councillors the broader range of views are able to be considered in the way councils plan and deliver services.

We expect high standards of conduct from candidates, which is why all candidates who are elected will be required to declare they will comply with their Councils code of ethical conduct before they can take up their office.

During the last few years the Welsh Government has taken forward initiatives to encourage people from under-represented groups to stand for local government elections. To help us to measure the progress being made, every local authority is required to conduct a survey of candidates at each local government election. The aim of the survey is to provide information about the pool of people actively engaged in seeking election.

While you are not required to complete the survey, either wholly or in part, I would encourage you to do so. It is only through your support in submitting the survey that we are able to have a clear understanding of the range of people putting themselves forward to become councillors.

For this election, Data Cymru will conduct the survey on behalf of local authorities in Wales. The data they collect will then be provided to each local authority. The Welsh Government will be provided with a set of anonymised all Wales data. A report will be published based on the results.

For more information and to complete the survey go to:

[www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/YmgeiswyrYngNghymru\\_CandidatesInWales\\_544/](http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/YmgeiswyrYngNghymru_CandidatesInWales_544/)



The information gained will help us to review and develop policies to widen participation in the democratic process. I would urge you all to respond, whether this is for the first time or whether you completed it for the last elections – your help is invaluable to us. If you would like a paper copy of the survey or have any accessibility requirements, please contact Data Cymru on [surveys@data.cymru](mailto:surveys@data.cymru) or 029 2090 9500.

Yours sincerely,

**Rebecca Evans MS**

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