

P-04-454 Call to end Councillor and Assembly Member Dual Role – Correspondence from Electoral Reform Society Wales to the Clerking team, 27.09.2013

Dear Kayleigh,

Many thanks for your email regarding the issue under consideration by the Petitions Committee. To confirm for your records, I'm the director of ERS Cymru and the contact for future request for information.

The Electoral Reform Society Cymru does not support the proposal that the Welsh Government should bring forward legislation to bar Assembly members from holding office as a councillor in Wales (so called 'double jobbing').

The Society would expect that any conflict of interest, perceived or otherwise, that may arise from an individual holding office in both a local authority and the National Assembly, should be dealt with under exist arrangements. Ultimately it should be for the voters to decide whether or not they are content for an individual to hold both local and national office. The Society does however support further consideration of the implications of 'double jobbing' for AMs who are also MPs, which we expect to be part of the UK Government's forthcoming Draft Wales Bill.

Best wishes

Stephen Brooks