

# THE FUTURE OF WALES

Tomorrow's Wales strongly supports the intention of the 'One Wales' Government to give the National Assembly for Wales proper law-making powers. This would happen by obtaining primary law-making powers under Part 4 of the Government of Wales Act 2006 (GOWA 06), following a referendum.

The present arrangements, under **Part 3 of GOWA 06**, allow the Assembly to pass laws in twenty policy fields, but only if the UK Parliament has first given it the power to do so. It also means that policy proposals supported by the National Assembly can be blocked by MPs at Westminster or in Whitehall, and this has already happened.

Implementing **Part 4 of GOWA 06** following a referendum would solve these problems by granting the Assembly the full power to pass laws in the twenty policy areas devolved to it without having first to get Westminster's permission. These policy fields include education and training, health, social welfare, housing, planning, local government and the environment.

NOW – PART 3	THE FUTURE – PART 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• cumbersome and inefficient;</li><li>• time-consuming processes;</li><li>• wastes everyone's time and resources;</li><li>• difficult for people to understand;</li><li>• the Assembly's powers are inconsistent and constantly changing.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• more efficient;</li><li>• clearer;</li><li>• more democratic;</li><li>• more accountable;</li><li>• more stable.</li></ul>

Implementing **Part 4** would mean that everyone could then concentrate on developing and implementing policies to improve life in Wales instead of having to go through the time-consuming and wasteful process of devolving power bit by bit. Wales would be able to pass its own laws without first asking for the necessary powers from Westminster - in the same way as Scotland and Northern Ireland already can.

**There is no rational argument for continuing with the seriously flawed arrangements we currently have. Let's take this opportunity to sort out the future governance of Wales and do things properly.**

## Myth-Busting

Because there is no logical argument for sticking with the current arrangements, some misinformation is being spread by opponents of moving Wales forward. Here are the real **facts**:

Part 4 of GOWA 06 does **NOT** include:

- **more elected politicians;**
- **giving the Assembly tax-raising powers.**

It **WOULD** mean **keeping Wales firmly within the UK framework – and giving it a settlement more like Scotland already has.**

## Join in the Debate

Tomorrow's Wales was established in 2004 to press for primary law-making powers for the National Assembly. It is a non-party organisation with members from different aspects of Welsh life and is chaired by the Archbishop of Wales, Barry Morgan

If you support Tomorrow's Wales' ideas you could do the following:

1 Make known your support for primary law-making powers to the All-Wales Convention, which is currently considering the issue. You can do so by visiting its website at [www.allwalesconvention.org](http://www.allwalesconvention.org) or writing to All Wales Convention, Pierhead Building, Cardiff CF99 1NA. The All Wales Convention is holding public events all round Wales. You can make your views known at one of these events.

2 Visit the Tomorrow's Wales website at [www.tomorrow-wales.co.uk](http://www.tomorrow-wales.co.uk) to read our evidence to the Convention and to obtain information about why Wales needs primary law-making powers and ideas about how you can help secure them

3 Join in the discussion on the Tomorrow's Wales blog at [www.tomorrow-wales.co.uk/blog](http://www.tomorrow-wales.co.uk/blog)