

## Smith Commission Survey: Devolution Preferences in England, Scotland and Wales

### WALES QUESTIONNAIRE

#### BASE: ALL

**1. Some people are more interested in politics than others. Please could you tell us how interested you are in:**

#### START GRID

Politics in general

UK politics at Westminster

Welsh politics at Cardiff Bay

Scottish referendum on independence

#### BY

Very interested

Fairly interested

Not very interested

Not at all interested

Don't know

#### END GRID

#### BASE: ALL

**2. Using a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means very little knowledge and 10 means a very large amount of knowledge, how much knowledge do you think you have about?**

#### START GRID

Politics in general

The consequences if Scotland had voted to become an independent country

The consequences of Scotland having voted to remain within the UK

#### BY

0 – I feel I have very little knowledge

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10 – I feel I have a very large amount of knowledge

Don't know

#### END GRID

#### BASE: ALL

**3. Here is a scale I would like you to use to describe your national identity. To what extent do you**

#### START GRID

Think of yourself as Welsh

Think of yourself as British

Think of yourself as European

#### BY

0 – Not at all

1

2

- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10 – Very strongly
- Don't know

**END GRID**

**BASE: ALL**

**4. And which, if any, of the following best describes how you see yourself?**

- Welsh not British
- More Welsh than British
- Equally Welsh and British
- More British than Welsh
- British not Welsh
- Other nationality
- Don't know

**BASE: ALL**

**5. Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted, or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people? Please tell me on a score of 0 to 10, where 0 means you can't be too careful and 10 means that most people can be trusted.**

- 0-You can't be too careful
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10-Most people can be trusted
- Don't know

**BASE: ALL**

**6. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements**

**START GRID**

- Private enterprise is the best way to solve Britain's economic problems
- It is the government's responsibility to provide a job for everyone who wants one
- Major public services and industries ought to be in state ownership
- Ordinary working people get a fair share of the nation's wealth
- There is no need for strong trade unions to protect employees' working conditions and wages
- The UK government should step in to even out economic differences between the different parts of the UK
- Money should be transferred from the richer parts of the UK to the poorer parts to ensure that everyone can have similar levels of public services

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Because Scotland is poorer than the rest of the UK it should get transfers to ensure that everyone can have similar levels of public services

Because Scotland gets more money for public services than any other part of the UK it should get fewer transfers to ensure that everyone receives similar levels of government funding

Because Wales is poorer than the rest of the UK it should get transfers to ensure that everyone can have similar levels of public services

I would like to see an increase in government spending in Wales even if it has to be financed exclusively by taxpayers in Wales

**BY**

Agree strongly

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Disagree strongly

**END GRID**

**BASE: ALL**

**7. Using a 0 to 10 scale, where 0 means that government should cut taxes a lot and spend much less on health and social services, and 10 means that government should raise taxes a lot and spend much more on health and social services, where would you place yourself?**

0 – Government should cut taxes a lot and spend much less

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10 – Government should raise taxes a lot and spend much more

Don't know

**BASE: ALL**

**8. Some people argue that governments should raise taxes in order to provide public services for all and redistribute wealth. Some other people argue that governments should lower taxes in order to make more money available to people to spend it the way they want. What do you think about it?**

Taxes should be increased to provide more funding for public services

The current level of taxation is appropriate

Taxes should be decreased so that people have more money to spend as they want

**BASE: ALL**

**9. In political matters people talk of 'the left' and 'the right'. On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is the most left and 10 is the most right, where would place your views on this scale, generally speaking?**

0 – Left

1

2

3

4

5

- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10 – Right
- Don't know

**BASE: ALL**

**10. On the whole, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way that democracy works in**

**START GRID**

The UK as a whole

Wales

**BY**

Very dissatisfied

Somewhat dissatisfied

Somewhat satisfied

Very satisfied

**END GRID**

**BASE: ALL**

**11. Can you tell me how much you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

**START GRID**

The Welsh Assembly doesn't care much about what people like me think

The UK Parliament doesn't care much about what people like me think

People like me don't have any say about what the Welsh Assembly in Cardiff does

People like me don't have any say about what the UK Parliament in London does

Sometimes Welsh politics and government seem so complicated that a person like me can't really understand what's going on

Sometimes UK politics and government seem so complicated that a person like me can't really understand what's going on

**BY**

Agree strongly

Agree

Disagree

Disagree strongly

Don't know

**END GRID**

**BASE: ALL**

**12. Which, if any, of the following parties do you think best stands up for the interests of the UK?**

**[ROTATE OPTIONS]**

The British National Party

The Conservative Party

The Labour Party

Plaid Cymru

The Liberal Democrats

The UK Independence Party (UKIP)

Another party (please specify)

Not applicable, I do not think any party stands up for the interests of the UK

Don't know

**BASE: ALL**

**13. And which, if any, of the following parties do you think best stands up for the interests of Wales?**

**[ROTATE OPTIONS]**

The British National Party

The Conservative Party

The Labour Party

Plaid Cymru

The Liberal Democrats

The UK Independence Party (UKIP)

Another party (please specify)

Not applicable, I do not think any party stands up for the interests of Scotland

Don't know

**BASE: ALL**

**14. Recently the UK government created the Smith commission. Have you heard of the Smith Commission?**

Yes [go to next question]

No [skip next question]

**BASE: only if answered YES to previous question**

**15. Can you recall what the Smith Commission was intended to do? The Smith Commission is:**

**[ROTATE OPTIONS]**

1. Investigating the prevention of cruelty to animals

2. Negotiating a new budget rebate with the EU

3. Investigating a new electoral system for the UK

4. Investigating constitutional change for Scotland following the referendum

**BASE: ALL**

**16. The Smith Commission is exploring further powers for the Scottish Parliament. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following sentences?**

**START GRID**

If a deal isn't reached quickly we won't get more powers

The 'Vow' for more powers made by the UK party leaders during the referendum was not very well thought through and we should not feel bound by it.

The Scottish Referendum should have included an option on more powers for the Scottish Parliament

Scottish MPs should be prevented from voting at Westminster on laws that apply only to England.

The Scottish Parliament should be given control over the majority of taxes raised in Scotland

The Scottish Parliament should be given the power to decide its own policies on welfare benefits

**BY**

Agree strongly

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Disagree strongly

**END GRID**

**BASE: ALL**

**17. Please, now look at the following picture for a few seconds:**



[Here, a 'Next screen' button]

**Could you tell me what position the person in the previous picture currently occupies?**

[ROTATE OPTIONS]

- Secretary of State for Work and Pensions
- Chancellor of the Exchequer
- Secretary of State for Education
- Secretary of State for Health
- Don't know

**BASE: ALL**

**18. Please, now look at the following picture for a few seconds:**



[Here, a 'Next screen' button]

**Could you tell me what position the person in the previous picture currently occupies?**

[ROTATE OPTIONS]

- The leader of Plaid Cymru
- The leader of the Welsh Green Party
- The leader of the Welsh Conservative Party
- The leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats
- Don't know

**BASE: ALL**

**19. Which of the following positions does the Conservative Party hold in Westminster?**

[ROTATE OPTIONS]

- The Conservative party heads a minority government
- The Conservative party heads a coalition government
- The Conservative party heads a majority government
- The Conservative party is in the opposition

Don't know

**BASE: ALL**

**20. Would you say that compared with other parts of the UK, each of these gets pretty much its fair share of government spending, more than its fair share or less than its fair share?**

**START GRID**

Scotland

England

Wales

Northern Ireland

**BY**

Gets its fair share

Gets more than its fair share

Gets less than its fair share

**END GRID**

**BASE: ALL**

**21. Some people have more than one preference for how Scotland could be run in the future. Please assess how appealing each of the following options is to you. The scale runs from 0 to 10 where 0 is not at all appealing to me and 10 is very appealing to me:**

**START GRID**

Scotland should be an independent country

Scotland should remain within the UK but the Scottish Parliament should have more powers

Scotland should remain within the UK and the Scottish Parliament should have the same powers as it has right now

Scotland should remain within the UK but the Scottish Parliament should have fewer powers

Scotland should remain within the UK but the Scottish Parliament should be abolished

**BY**

11 point scale: 0 to 10

**END GRID**

**BASE: ALL**

**22. And of the options listed above, which one is more appealing to you?**

Scotland should be an independent country

Scotland should remain within the UK but the Scottish Parliament should have more powers

Scotland should remain within the UK and the Scottish Parliament should have the same powers as it has right now

Scotland should remain within the UK but the Scottish Parliament should have fewer powers

Scotland should remain within the UK but the Scottish Parliament should be abolished

**BASE: ALL**

**23. Some people have more than one preference for how Wales could be run in the future. Please assess how appealing each of the following options is to you. The scale runs from 0 to 10 where 0 is not at all appealing to me and 10 is very appealing to me:**

**START GRID**

Wales should be an independent country

Wales should remain within the UK but the Wales Assembly should have more powers

Wales should remain within the UK and the Welsh Assembly should have the same powers as it has right now

Wales should remain within the UK but the Welsh Assembly should have fewer powers

Wales should remain within the UK but the Welsh Assembly should be abolished

**BY**

11 point scale: 0 to 10

**END GRID**

**BASE: ALL**

**24. And of the options listed above, which one is more appealing to you?**

Wales should be an independent country

Wales should remain within the UK but the Wales Assembly should have more powers

Wales should remain within the UK and the Welsh Assembly should have the same powers as it has right now

Wales should remain within the UK but the Welsh Assembly should have fewer powers

Wales should remain within the UK but the Welsh Assembly should be abolished

**BASE: ALL**

**25. Which of the following do you think currently HAS the most influence over the way Wales is run?**

Local councils

Welsh Assembly

MPs representing Welsh constituencies

UK Government

European Union

Other

Don't Know

**BASE: ALL**

**26. And which of the following do you think SHOULD have the most influence over the way Wales is run?**

Local councils

Welsh Assembly

UK Government

European Union

Other

Don't Know

**BASE: ALL**

**27. Some people think that only one level of government should be responsible for policy areas because it is less complicated for voters to identify who is responsible and makes government more accountable. Other people think that there should be shared responsibility across levels of government to ensure cooperation and coordination. What about you?**

1. Policy areas should be decided by only one level of government

2. Policy areas should be shared by different levels of government

3. It depends on the policy area

**BASE: ALL**

**28. Some people argue that the Welsh Assembly should have more control over welfare, benefits and taxes in Wales, whereas other people argue that Westminster should retain control over welfare, benefits and taxes. To what extent do you believe that the Welsh Assembly should make decisions about the following?**

**START GRID**

State Pension



Unemployment and low-income benefits

Housing Benefit

Disability benefits

Income tax

Corporation tax

VAT

Alcohol duties

Primary and secondary education

Universities

**BY**

1. Responsibility should be shared across the Welsh Assembly and the UK Parliament
2. The UK Parliament should make decisions
3. The Welsh Assembly should make decisions

**BASE: ALL**

**29. Here are a list of policy areas. Can you tell me whether you think each policy should be uniform across the whole of the UK or should be a matter for Scotland to decide itself?**

**START GRID**

Unemployment benefit

Tuition fees for higher education

Paying for the care of vulnerable old people

Punishment of young offenders

Income tax

Prescription charges

**BY**

Uniform across the UK

Could vary across the UK if regions want

**END GRID**

**BASE ALL**

**30. Below are some statements. For each can you tell me whether you agree strongly, agree, disagree or disagree strongly.**

**START GRID**

We should keep tax levels the same across the UK because it would not be fair if people in different parts of the UK received higher levels of **benefits**

We should keep tax levels the same across the UK because it would not be fair if people in different parts of the UK who earned similar wages pay higher **tax** rates

We should keep tax levels the same across the UK to avoid tax competition across the different parts of the UK

Free university tuition in Scotland is not sustainable in the long term

You should not be entitled to a free bus pass if you are over 60 but are still employed

Levels of public spending in Scotland should be reduced to the levels in the rest of the UK.

Scotland should be able to control the number of immigrants coming into Scotland.

Wales should be able to control the number of immigrants coming into Wales

We should focus less on powers for the UK Parliament or devolved legislatures and more on increasing powers for local authorities.

The Welsh Assembly should be given control over the majority of taxes raised in Wales

The Welsh Assembly should be given the power to decide its own policies on welfare benefits

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There is no need to change tax and benefit rates in Wales at the moment but I would prefer future decisions on taxes and benefits to be made by the Welsh Assembly rather than by the UK Parliament

**BY**

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

**END GRID**

**31. Generally speaking, do you think that the UK's membership of the European Union is a good thing or a bad thing or neither good nor bad?**

Good thing

Bad thing

Neither

Don't know

**BASE: ALL**

**32. If there was a referendum on the UK's membership of the European Union, how would you vote?**

I would vote for the UK to remain a member of the European Union

I would vote for the UK to leave the European Union

I would not vote

Don't know

**BASE: ALL**

**33. How much trust do you have in the UK Government?**

0-None at all

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10-Very much

**BASE: ALL**

**Are you a man or a woman?**

Man

Woman

**BASE: ALL**

**What is your year of birth?**

**BASE: ALL**

**Where were you born?**

England

Scotland

Wales

Northern Ireland

Another European country

A non-European country

**BASE: ALL**

**Where were your parents born?**

**START GRID**

Father

Mother

**BY**

England

Scotland

Wales

Northern Ireland

Another European country

A non-European country

**END GRID**

**BASE: ALL**

**How often do you travel outside the UK either for business or on holiday?**

Several times a year

Once or twice a year

Once every few years

Less often than that

Never or practically never

Don't know

**BASE: ALL**

**Have you ever lived outside Wales for a period of 3 months or longer?**

No

Yes

**BASE: IF YES**

**And where was that? Please select all that apply**

Scotland

England

Northern Ireland

Republic of Ireland

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Somewhere else in the European Union  
Somewhere else outside the European Union

### BASE: ALL

#### How often do you read a daily morning newspaper?

Every day  
Quite often  
Rarely  
Never

### BASE: ALL

#### Which daily morning newspaper do you read most often?

The Express  
The Daily Mail  
The Mirror  
The Daily Star  
The Sun  
The Daily Telegraph  
The Financial Times  
The Guardian  
The Independent  
The Times  
The Western Mail  
Other local daily morning newspaper (please specify)  
Other newspaper (please specify)  
None

### BASE: ALL

#### Are you a citizen of the UK?

Yes  
No

### BASE: ALL

#### What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Use Welsh equivalents to Scotland questionnaire

### BASE: ALL

#### 55 Do you consider yourself as belonging to any particular religion or denomination?

Yes → Q56  
No → Q57

### BASE: ALL

#### 56. If yes to Q55: Which?

Christianity (Catholic)  
Christianity (Protestant – including Anglican, Baptist, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, Free  
Presbyterian, United Reform, Congregational)  
Christianity (other)  
Islam  
Other (please specify)

### BASE: ALL

**57. In general, how often do you attend religious ceremonies?**

- Almost Never
- A few times a year
- Monthly
- Almost every week
- More often

**BASE: ALL**

**49. Which of these descriptions best describes your current situation?**

- In full-time paid work → Q50
- In part-time paid work → Q50
- In education → Q54
- On maternity/paternity leave → Q54
- Unemployed and actively looking for a job → Q54
- Unemployed and not actively looking for a job → Q54
- Permanently sick or disabled → Q54
- In retirement → Q52
- Doing housework/looking after children/other persons → Q54

**BASE: ALL**

**50. If in paid work in Q49: In your main job are you an employee, self-employed or working for your family's own business?**

- Employee → Q51
- Self-employed → Q54
- Working in family business → Q54

**BASE: ALL**

**51. If an employee in Q50: Are you an employee in the public or private sector?**

- Public sector → Q54
- Private sector → Q54

**BASE: ALL**

**52. If in retirement in Q49: In your main job were you an employee, self-employed or working for your family's own business?**

- Employee → Q53
- Self-employed → Q54
- Working in family business → Q54

**BASE: ALL**

**53. If an employee in Q52: Were you an employee in the public or private sector?**

- Public sector
- Private sector

**BASE: ALL**

**54 Are you or have you ever been a member of a trade union or similar organisation?**

- Yes
- No

**BASE: ALL**

**And, which of the following represents the total income of your household from all sources before tax – including benefits, saving and so on?**

- Less than £5,000
- £5,000 to £10,000
- £10,001 to £15,000
- £15,001 to £20,000
- £20,001 to- £25,000
- £25,001 to £30,000
- £30,001 to £35,000
- £35,001 to £40,000
- £40,001 to £45,000
- £45,001 to £50,000
- £50,001 to £60,000
- £60,001 to £70,000
- £70,001 and more
- Prefer not to say
- Don't know

**BASE: ALL**

**Which of these applies to you at present?**

- Married
- Married, but separated
- Single
- Divorced
- Widowed
- In a civil partnership

**BASE: ALL**

**Do you belong to a minority ethnic group in the UK?**

- Yes
- No

**BASE: ALL**

**Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a little closer to one political party than to the others?**

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

**BASE: All who say 'Yes'**

**Which one?**

- Conservative
- Labour
- Liberal Democrat
- Green Party
- United Kingdom Independence Party (UKIP)
- British National Party (BNP)/ National Front
- Other (please specify)
- Don't know

**BASE: ALL**

**41 Thinking back to the last UK general election – that is the one in 2010 – do you remember which party you voted for then, or perhaps you didn't vote in that election?**

Did not vote/not eligible/too young to vote

Voted Conservative

Voted Labour

Voted Liberal Democrat

Voted Green

Voted for Other party

Don't know/can't remember

**BASE: ALL**

**Thinking about the last election to the Welsh Assembly – held in 2011 – you had two votes, one for an individual member of the parliament for your constituency and one for a regional party list. Do you remember which party you voted for on the CONSTITUENCY vote, or perhaps you didn't vote in that election?**

Did not vote/not eligible/too young to vote

Voted Conservative

Voted Labour

Voted Liberal Democrat

Voted Plaid Cymru

Voted Green

Voted for Other party (please specify)

Don't know/can't remember

**BASE: ALL**

**43 And what about the vote for a party list for your region? Do you remember which party you voted for?**

Did not vote/not eligible/too young to vote

Voted Conservative

Voted Labour

Voted Liberal Democrat

Voted Plaid Cymru

Voted Green

Voted for Other party (please specify)

Don't know/can't remember

**BASE: ALL**

**Thinking of the Welsh language, can you**

**START GRID**

Understand Welsh

Speak Welsh fluently

Read Welsh

Write in Welsh

Not understand Welsh at all

**BY**

Yes

No

**END GRID**

**BASE: ALL**

**Which language do you normally use?**

**START GRID**

At home

At work

**BY**

English

Welsh

Both

Other

**END GRID**