

The Welsh electorate have real power on 3 March 2011, to devastate the credibility of the National Assembly. Prof Roger Scully, Professor of Political Science & Director, Institute of Welsh Politics describes the far reaching implications of a 'No' vote result in his article '[What will Wales powers referendum result mean?](#)'

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"What if Wales voted No?"

*Ostensibly there are no implications: the assembly would continue to exist, operating under the same powers and structures as now. But in reality, things could surely not remain untouched. **A No vote - which would go against the leadership of all the parties in Cardiff Bay - would deal a huge blow to the status of the assembly.***

The emerging consensus among Wales' political elite in recent years has regarded devolution as a developing process, with steadily growing - though not fervent - public support.

A No vote would shatter this consensus, and indicate that it had been based on fundamentally flawed assumptions. The very existence of the assembly would be questioned, and there would likely be calls for a referendum on its abolition.

Certainly, any further requests made to Westminster by the assembly for law-making powers under the current Legislative Competence Order (LCO) system would be viewed with great scepticism."

Your vote really does count on 3rd March 2011. You have heard the evidence now you decide.

The Real Power of a 'No' vote - Welsh Referendum Thursday 3 March 2011.

Written by J. B. Waddell

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If you are still confused on what a Legislative Competency Order (LCO) is then Betsan Powys' short presentation should help. ['Lawmaking in Wales: How does the process work?'](#)

Also [Q&A guide to the Welsh assembly powers referendum](#) .

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