



Cllr. Jonathan Millard
Unaligned Independent Councillor
Ebbw Vale South

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8th October 2025

The Rt Hon Nick Smith MP
Member of Parliament for Blaenau Gwent
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear Mr Smith,

I write to you in my capacity as a local councillor representing the people of Ebbw Vale South. As their elected representative at the Borough level, it is both my duty and my earnest intention to bring their views directly to your attention.

Following the Government's announcement of a proposed mandatory digital identity card scheme (the so-called "Brit Card"), I sought immediate feedback from my constituents. Through a public poll I conducted on Facebook, open to all tenants and residents in the ward, the response was unanimous: 100% opposition to the mandatory introduction of a digital ID

This result reflects not just scepticism but a profound and principled rejection of the measure. The concerns expressed locally focus on several key issues:

Civil Liberties: Residents fear that a centralised ID would erode long-held freedoms and expand the scope of government surveillance into the private lives of ordinary citizens.

Social Exclusion: Many in Blaenau Gwent — particularly the elderly, digitally excluded, and economically disadvantaged — would risk exclusion from work and services if such a scheme were imposed.

Public Trust: Previous attempts at national ID schemes in the UK failed precisely because they lacked public support and were judged intrusive, costly, and unnecessary. Those reasons remain valid today.

On behalf of my constituents, I must therefore state in the strongest possible terms that ****This scheme should be halted and not proceed in its current form.**** While it is framed as an administrative necessity, in practice it threatens both the rights of citizens and the inclusiveness of our society.

Residents of Ebbw Vale South, and indeed Blaenau Gwent more broadly, see this proposal not as progress but as an unwarranted imposition. I respectfully urge you to make clear in Parliament that the people you serve do not consent to the introduction of a mandatory digital ID card.

I trust you will give serious weight to the unanimity of opinion expressed within the community, and I ask that you lend your voice in opposing this measure when it comes before the House.

With my highest regards, and in anticipation of your support for the people of Blaenau Gwent,

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Jonathan Millard B.Th (Hons) Oxon, CC, CDMP

Unaligned Independent Councillor - Ebbw Vale South
Blaenau Gwent County Borough Councillor