



**Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru
The National Assembly for Wales**

ADRODDIAD GAN Y PWYLLGOR DEDDFAU

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE REPORT

**The Housing Renewal Grants (Prescribed Forms and Particulars) (Amendment)
(Wales) Regulations 2001**

Background

These Regulations amend the bilingual forms to be used by owner-occupiers and tenants when applying for housing renewal grants under Chapter I of Part I of the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration act 1996 in Wales.

The amendments are consequential to those being made by the Housing Renewal Grants (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2001.

Standing Order 11.5

No points have been identified as matter in respect of which the Committee needs to invite the National Assembly to pay special attention.

General Observations

Bilingual Format

Regulation 2 provides for the Welsh form Regulations to be amended as in the Welsh text and for the English form Regulations to be amended as in the English text. This follows the format of other amending Regulations eg. (SI 2000/1710 (W.116)), and accords with comments made by the Legislation Committee in relation to earlier amending Regulations (SI 1999/3469 W.55).

In commenting on the 1999 Regulations the Committee felt that the comprehensive bilingual format of those regulations contained unnecessary duplication and potential for confusion.

It is noted, however, that the Butterworths database states that the amendments made by SI 2000/1710 have not been incorporated, whereas the earlier amendments made by the 1999 Regulations have been.

Thus the Committee is obliged to conclude that there may be merit in reverting to the format of the 1999 Regulations. The point is that in the present Regulations the instructions for the alterations to the Welsh language forms are only in Welsh. This may cause those responsible for the production of commercial databases and consolidated texts to find that they do not have the resources to produce a consolidated Welsh text.

It is accordingly suggested that, notwithstanding the comments made by the Committee in its report of November 1999 (LC22), the format used in the 1999 Regulations might well be appropriate where separate Welsh and English language prescribed forms are amended. As in the 1999 Regulations, duplication can be avoided by using a full-page format for the insertion of block sections of text.

Explanatory Note – heading

There are two full stops in the Welsh text, whereas a full stop is not used at all in the English text.

Explanatory Note – 2nd and 3rd paragraphs

It is thought that “form amended” should be “form to be amended”. Otherwise the impression may be given that the finally amended form is being referred to.

Explanatory Note – 4th paragraph

A reference requires insertion in both the Welsh and English text.

Mick Bates AM
Chair, Legislation Committee

8 May 2001