



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

**Y Pwyllgor Is-ddeddfwriaeth
The Subordinate Legislation Committee**

**Dydd Mawrth, 27 Tachwedd 2007
Tuesday, 27 November 2007**

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Cofnodir y trafodion hyn yn yr iaith y llefarwyd hwy ynndi yn y pwyllgor. Yn ogystal,
cynhwysir cyfieithiad Saesneg o gyfraniadau yn y Gymraeg.

These proceedings are reported in the language in which they were spoken in the committee.
In addition, an English translation of Welsh speeches is included.

Aelodau'r pwyllgor yn bresennol
Committee members in attendance

Eleanor Burnham	Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru Welsh Liberal Democrats
Alun Davies	Llafur Labour
Andrew R.T. Davies	Ceidwadwyr Cymreig Welsh Conservatives
Paul Davies	Ceidwadwyr Cymreig Welsh Conservatives
Sandy Mewies	Llafur Labour
Janet Ryder	Plaid Cymru (Cadeirydd dros dro) The Party of Wales (Temporary Chair)
Karen Sinclair	Llafur Labour

Swyddogion Gwasanaeth Seneddol y Cynulliad yn bresennol
Assembly Parliamentary Service officials in attendance

Gwyn Griffiths	Cynghorydd Cyfreithiol Legal Adviser
Joanest Jackson	Cynghorydd Cyfreithiol Cynorthwyol Assistant Legal Adviser
Olga Lewis	Dirprwy Glerc Deputy Clerk
Chris Reading	Clerc Clerk

Dechreuodd y cyfarfod am 8.15 a.m.
The meeting began at 8.15 a.m.

Cyflwyniad, Ymddiheuriadau, Dirprwyon a Datgan Buddiannau
Introduction, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

[1] **Mr Reading:** Good morning. Welcome to the meeting of the Subordinate Legislation Committee. I am in the chair because Dai Lloyd has sent his apologies as he is at a meeting in Ireland today. In accordance with Standing Order No. 10.19, we need to appoint a temporary chair, so I ask for nominations.

[2] **Sandy Mewies:** I nominate Janet Ryder.

[3] **Mr Reading:** I see that everyone is happy and there are no other nominations, so Janet Ryder is duly appointed as the temporary chair.

Penodwyd Janet Ryder yn gadeirydd dros dro.
Janet Ryder was appointed temporary chair.

[4] **Janet Ryder:** Thank you, Chris, for starting the meeting. I welcome everyone; we are here nice and early. I also welcome the public. I remind you that in an emergency ushers will indicate the nearest safe exit and that headsets are available for translation and amplification. If members of the public are uncertain how to operate the headsets the ushers will explain. I ask everyone to switch off all mobile phones and electronic devices. Use channel 1 on the

headset for translation, and use channel 0 for amplification.

8.16 a.m.

Offerynnau na Chafodd y Cynulliad ei Wahodd i roi Sylw Arbennig iddynt o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 15.2

Instruments in Respect of which the Assembly is Not Invited to Pay Special Attention under Standing Order No. 15.2

[5] **Janet Ryder:** We are looking at SLC71, the Houses in Multiple Occupation (Certain Blocks of Flats) (Modifications to the Housing Act 2004 and Transitional Provisions for section 257 HMOs) (Wales) Regulations 2007; SLC72, the Licensing and Management of Houses in Multiple Occupation (Additional Provisions) (Wales) Regulations 2007; SLC73, the Assembly Learning Grants and Loans (Higher Education) (Wales) (Amendment) (No.3) Regulations 2007; and SLC74, the Housing (Assessment of Accommodation Needs) (Meaning of Gypsies and Travellers) (Wales) Regulations 2007. Joanest, do you wish to go through these?

[6] **Ms Jackson:** I do not think that I have anything to add to the papers received by Members, but I will do my best to answer any questions.

[7] **Janet Ryder:** Does anyone wish to raise any points? I see that Members are happy.

8.17 a.m.

Offerynnau y Cafodd y Cynulliad ei Wahodd i dalu Sylw Arbennig iddynt o dan Reol Sefydlog Rhif 15.2

Instruments in Respect of which the Assembly is invited to pay Special Attention under Standing Order No. 15.2

[8] **Janet Ryder:** We are looking at SLC67, the Natural Mineral Water, Spring Water and Bottled Drinking Water (Wales) Regulations 2007 and SLC76, the Animals and Animal Products (Import and Export) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2007. Joanest, do you wish to add anything?

[9] **Ms Jackson:** With regard to SLC67, relating to natural mineral water and so on, the Government has accepted the reporting points identified and will endeavour to correct the discrepancy as quickly as possible.

[10] **Karen Sinclair:** What does 'at the earliest opportunity' mean?

[11] **Ms Jackson:** I think that it means 'at the earliest opportunity'. You will appreciate that we in the parliamentary services do not have any influence over the Government's timetable save that we will encourage it to deal with the matter as soon as possible. I am afraid that I have no information other than what is before you; it has said that it will deal with it at the earliest opportunity.

[12] **Karen Sinclair:** I would like some clarification—not today obviously—of what that means. It is used fairly regularly.

[13] **Ms Jackson:** Very well.

[14] **Sandy Mewies:** Karen is right; we have had this conversation before. At the very least, we should know when it does happen.

[15] **Janet Ryder:** Perhaps we could ask the Chair to write to request clarification.

[16] **Eleanor Burnham:** I wish to make exactly the same point. It shows that it is not being taken seriously. We are not undertaking our duties properly if we do not pursue the matter and get it to put it right. We need to know why there is this ongoing problem.

[17] **Karen Sinclair:** I do not think that it means that it is not being taken seriously. I have to put that on the record. Sometimes they say, 'It will be done at the redrafting stage', 'We will take your points on board', or, 'We will change it at the earliest opportunity' and I would like to know what those terms mean because, otherwise, they are meaningless.

8.20 a.m.

[18] **Janet Ryder:** Are we happy that the Chair, when he returns, should write to the Minister and ask for clarification of what 'the earliest opportunity' means?

[19] **Karen Sinclair:** I would also like clarification of other terms, because there are a number of them.

[20] **Janet Ryder:** Would Members like to submit those other terms to the clerk or the Chair so that we can seek clarification of them by the end of the week, and the Chair will know what to include in his letter? Is everybody happy with that?

[21] **Sandy Mewies:** I would like to add the rider that when it does happen, we should be informed because that is a way in which we could monitor the length of time that it takes for those things to happen. That is one way that we can look at it.

[22] **Janet Ryder:** Perhaps the committee clerk could take that on board. What about SLC76? Joaneest, is there anything to report on that?

[23] **Ms Jackson:** The regulations relate to the monitoring and so on of the movements of animals that are susceptible to bluetongue disease. The regulations have been made in English only. I understand that you have also had notification of the breach of the 21-day rule and I understand that, presumably, a translation will be made available in due course. We will notify you when we are notified that the translation is available, following on from the discussion that we had last week about translations.

[24] **Janet Ryder:** There is no doubt that 'in due course' is one of those terms that you would like to add to the list for clarification. Is everybody satisfied with that? I see that you are.

8.21 a.m.

**Unrhyw Fater Arall
Any Other Business**

[25] **Janet Ryder:** Having passed all of those, item 4 is 'Any Other Business'. There is no other business at present.

8.21 a.m.

**Dyddiad y Cyfarfod Nesaf
Date of the Next Meeting**

[26] **Janet Ryder:** I wish to remind Members that the date of the next meeting is 4 December. Thank you very much. I now bring the meeting to a close.

Daeth y cyfarfod i ben am 8.22 a.m.
The meeting ended at 8.22 a.m.