

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR WALES

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Housing Renewal Grants (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2000

Background

These Regulations relate to grants for the renewal of private sector housing under chapter 1 of Part I of the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996 ("the Act").

The Housing Renewal Grants Regulations 1996 ("the principal Regulations") set out the means test for determining the amount of renovation and disabled facilities grants which may be paid to owner-occupier and tenant applicants under the relevant provisions of the Act.

The principal Regulations have been amended in England by the Housing Renewal Grants (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2000 and by the Housing Renewal Grants (Amendment No. 2) (England) Regulations 2000 ("the English Regulations"). The English Regulations make amendments which are largely consequential on changes made to the Housing Benefit (General) Regulations 1997 upon which the means test is based. There are also some other minor and drafting amendments.

These Regulations incorporate those amendments by reference to the English Regulations.

The Regulations were made using the urgency procedure on the 30th March 2000.

Standing Order 11.5

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

General Observations

Members will note that the Regulations legislate by reference to English Regulations. Although not the normal practice to date this does not have any detrimental legal implications.

Explanatory Note

It is suggested that "prawf moddion ariannol" in the Welsh language text could be used instead of "prawf moddion" for "means test" to assist the lay reading ("moddion" alone perhaps being

more closely associated with "medicine").

Regulation 2

The word "Regulations" has been left out of "Housing Renewal Grants (Amendment No. 2) (England) Regulations 2000" in the English language text.

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