

Agenda – Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

Meeting Venue:	For further information contact:
Hybrid – Committee Room 4, Tŷ Hywel and videoconference via Zoom	P Gareth Williams Committee Clerk
Meeting date: 9 June 2025	0300 200 6565
Meeting time: 11.30	SeneddLJC@senedd.wales

Hybrid

Public meeting

(11.30 – 13.00)

1 Introduction, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

(11.30)

2 Scrutiny session with the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs, and the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery

(11.30 – 13.00)

(Pages 1 – 25)

Huw Irranca-Davies MS, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for
Climate Change and Rural Affairs

Julie James MS, Counsel General and Minister for Delivery

Piers Bisson, Director of Constitution and Justice, Welsh Government

James Gerard, Deputy Director, Justice Policy, Welsh Government

Charlie Thomas, Deputy Director, Legislation Division, Welsh Government

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-18-25 – Paper 1 – Briefing

Break

(13.00 – 13.45)



Public meeting

(13.45 – 13.55)

3 Instruments that raise issues to be reported to the Senedd under Standing Order 21.2 or 21.3

4 Instruments that raise issues to be reported to the Senedd under Standing Order 21.2 or 21.3 – previously considered

4.1 Correcting errors in statutory instruments

(Pages 26 – 54)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-18-25 – Paper 2 – Letter from the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery, 4 June 2025

LJC(6)-18-25 – Paper 3 – Letter to the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery, 9 May 2025

4.2 SL(6)457 – The Special School Residential Services (Service Providers and Responsible Individuals) (Wales) Regulations 2024

(Pages 55 – 56)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-18-25 – Paper 4 – Letter to the Minister for Children and Social Care, 9 May 2025

4.3 SL(6)503 – The Cockle Fishing Management and Permitting (Specified Area) (Wales) Order 2024

(Pages 57 – 58)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-18-25 – Paper 5 – Letter to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change, 9 May 2025

5 Inter-Institutional Relations Agreement

5.1 Correspondence from the Welsh Government: Meetings of inter-ministerial groups

(Pages 59 – 61)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-18-25 – Paper 6 – Written Statement by the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs: Interministerial Group on Net Zero, Energy and Climate Change, 2 June 2025

LJC(6)-18-25 – Paper 7 – Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales: Transport Inter-Ministerial Standing Committee, 2 June 2025

LJC(6)-18-25 – Paper 8 – Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language: Finance: Interministerial Standing Committee, 5 June 2025

6 Papers to note

6.1 Independent Water Commission: review of the water sector

[Press release on the interim findings from the Independent Water Commission](#)

6.2 Briefing by the Bevan Foundation: A strategic approach to rebuilding the immigration legal sector

(Pages 62 – 65)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-18-25 – Paper 9 – Briefing

6.3 Written Statement by the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs: Inter-Institutional Relations Agreement: Report on Intergovernmental Relations 2023–2024

(Page 66)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-18-25 – Paper 10 – Written Statement by the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs, 5 June 2025

7 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of the meeting
(13.55)

Private meeting

(13.55 – 15.00)

8 Scrutiny session with the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs, and the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery: Consideration of evidence
(13.55 – 14.15)

9 Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No. 3) on the Public Authorities (Fraud, Error and Recovery) Bill: Draft report

(14.15 – 14.25)

(Pages 67 – 75)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-18-25 – Paper 11 – Draft report

LJC(6)-18-25 – Paper 12 – Letter to the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Trefnydd and Chief Whip, 4 June 2025

10 Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No. 3) on the Employment Rights Bill: Draft report

(14.25 – 14.40)

(To Follow)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-18-25 – Paper 13 – Draft report

11 Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No. 2) on the Planning and Infrastructure Bill

(14.40 – 14.50)

(Pages 76 – 87)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-18-25 – Paper 14 – Legal Advice Note

LJC(6)-18-25 – Paper 15 – Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning, 28 May 2025

12 Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No. 2) on the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill

(14.40 – 15.00)

(Pages 88 – 94)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-18-25 – Paper 16 – Legal Advice Note

LJC(6)-18-25 – Paper 17 – Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Education, 28 May 2025

Document is Restricted

Agenda Item 4.1

Y Cwnsler Cyffredinol a'r Gweinidog Cyflawni
Counsel General and Minister for Delivery



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Mike Hedges MS,
Chair
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

4 June 2025

Annwyl Mike,

Correcting errors in statutory instruments made by the Welsh Ministers

This letter responds to three letters from the Committee regarding corrections to statutory instruments made by the Welsh Ministers, all dated 9 May.

The Cockle Fishing Management and Permitting (Specified Area) (Wales) Order 2024 ("the 2024 Order")

The Committee has asked about reporting point 20. The Government has given this further consideration but does not propose making an amendment to the 2024 Order to address this reporting point.

Schedule 1 to the 2024 Order specifies the areas by reference to precise coordinates. Specifying the areas in the 2024 Order also by an alternative reference to maps would, in the Welsh Government's view, be inappropriate (see provisions of paragraph 2.14 (Diagrams, images or maps) of *Writing Laws for Wales*).

Amending the footnotes or the Explanatory Note to the 2024 Order to include reference to the maps, would not be possible.

The Special School Residential Services (Service Providers and Responsible Individuals) (Wales) Regulations 2024 ("the 2024 Regulations")

The Committee is correct to note that the definition of "DBS certificate" contained within the Adult Placement Services (Service Providers and Responsible Individuals) (Wales) Regulations 2019 ("the 2019 Regulations") differs to the definition that appears in the 2024 Regulations.

The wording that has been used in the 2024 Regulations matches the wording in the Regulated Services (Service Providers and Responsible Individuals) (Wales) Regulations 2017 ("the 2017 Regulations"), at regulation 35(3); that was the template for the various sets of regulations for the regulated services that followed.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

It is agreed that the wording contained within the 2019 Regulations, when this detail was picked up and amended, is clearer and more accessible; therefore an amendment will be made to both the 2024 and the 2017 Regulations to address this.

We have also identified additional non-urgent amendments to be made to the 2017 Regulations and, subject to the legislative timetable, propose to deal with all of these matters in work to be undertaken in 2026-27.

Committee's analysis of errors to be corrected

Thank you for sharing the Committee's latest analysis. As previously, this is very helpful. I have provided a short update on those matters that were not the subject of my letter of 28 April – please see attached Annex.

Annual report to the Senedd on "The Future of Welsh Law"

During the Stage 3 proceedings on the Legislation (Procedure, Publication and Repeals) (Wales) Bill held on 13 May, I made a commitment to ensure the final annual report of the current programme will include information on errors and corrections. It is my current intention that this will be in the form of summary information and would include correction slips as well as amending instruments. It will be drawn from our existing records. However, if there is specific information that would be helpful to the Committee, please write to me before the summer recess, so I can consider whether this can be included.

I am copying this letter to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs and to the Minister for Children and Social Care.

Yn gywir,



Julie James AS/MS

Y Cwnsler Cyffredinol a'r Gweinidog Cyflawni
Counsel General and Minister for Delivery

ANNEX

Update on instruments set out in Annex to Committee's correspondence of 9 May 2025 (where an update was not previously provided in correspondence from the Counsel General of 28 April 2025)

Ref ¹	SI number	Title of instrument	Update
023	2025/331	The Welsh Elections Information Platform Regulations 2025	Information in Committee's letter of 09/05/25 remains current. The Government intends to address reporting point 1 before the end of 2025.
024	2024/1251	The Feed Additives (Authorisations) and Uses of Feed Intended for Particular Nutritional Purposes (Amendment of Commission Regulation (EU) 2020/354) (Wales) Regulations 2024	As noted by the Committee, these have been amended (see: SI 2025/384).
025	2025/181	The Procurement (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2025	Information in Committee's letter of 09/05/25 remains current. It is intended that reporting point 1 will be addressed by the Procurement (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2025.
029	2025/285	The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) (Wales) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2025	Information in Committee's letter of 09/05/25 remains current. The Government intends to address reporting point 1 as part of further amendments to the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (SI 2020/1073), planned for summer 2025.
030	2025/293	The Agricultural Wages (Wales) Order 2025	Information in Committee's letter of 09/05/25 remains current. The Committee's views for reporting point 2 will be taken into account when the 2026 Order is prepared.
031	2025/400	The Development Procedure (Consultees) (Wales) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2025	Information in Committee's letter of 09/05/25 remains current. The Government intends to address reporting point 1 before the end of 2025.

¹ This is the Committee's reference number (based on the table attached to correspondence of 9 May 2025)

Julie James MS
Counsel General and Minister for Delivery

9 May 2025

Dear Julie

Correcting errors in statutory instruments considered by the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

Thank you for your letter dated 28 April 2025, in which you outline the Welsh Government's commitments to correct statutory instruments where errors have been identified by the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee in our reports to the Senedd.

We wrote to you in January, drawing to your attention the outcome of our analysis of when and how the Welsh Government has committed to correct errors in Welsh statutory instruments. Today I am enclosing the Committee's latest analysis for your information, which takes into account the information you provided in your recent letter. The Committee intends to write to the relevant Welsh Ministers as regards The Cockle Fishing Management and Permitting (Specified Area) (Wales) Order 2024 and The Special School Residential Services (Service Providers and Responsible Individuals) (Wales) Regulations 2024.

The Committee would also like to thank you for confirming that a set of regulations and an Order will be laid this term that will make amendments to correct errors in various earlier instruments.

Yours sincerely,



Mike Hedges
Chair

ANNEX

New issues / overdue amending instruments as of May 2025 (since the Committee previously considered this document in January)

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	Relevant correspondence	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status
023	582, 4 Feb 2025	The Welsh Elections Information Platform Regulations 2025	<p>1- "The Welsh Government notes the reporting point. The drafting is in line with the language used in existing legislation, including the Government of Wales Act 2006 and the Senedd Cymru (Members and Elections) Act 2024. Both refer to 'individual candidates'. Neither provide for a further definition of an individual candidate. The Welsh Government considers that the meaning behind "an individual who is a candidate to be a Member of the Senedd" is clear on the basis it is followed by the distinct concept of a party list candidate.</p> <p>However, the Welsh Government accepts that there may be scope to clarify this further and is therefore minded to make an amendment to this effect, and to achieve consistency with the draft Conduct Order.</p> <p>The committee is aware that the Welsh Government intends to amend this S.I., once the Conduct Order is made, to cross refer to that Order. The Welsh Government commit to taking that opportunity to make this</p>		Constitution	Amending SI due before the end of 2025

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	Relevant correspondence	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status
			amendment at the same time. This will be done before the end of 2025. There will be no ill effects suffered from waiting until then to amend the definition provision as the amendment will be made well in advance of the 2026 election and while the information platform is being established."			
024	554, 29 Nov 2024	<u>The Feed Additives (Authorisations) and Uses of Feed Intended for Particular Nutritional Purposes (Amendment of Commission Regulation (EU) 2020/354) (Wales) Regulations 2024</u>	The Committee's report includes 10 reporting points. The Welsh Government response states that, for seven of the points (1-3, 5-8), it intends to rectify the issues with use of a "correcting instrument within the first quarter of 2025".		Food	Issues corrected in 607 - <u>The Feed Additives (Authorisations) and Uses of Feed Intended for Particular Nutritional Purposes (Amendment of Commission Regulation (EU) 2020/354) (Wales) Regulations 2025</u>
025	571, 14 Jan 2025	<u>The Procurement (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2025</u>	1 - "On the definition of "utility" we agree that for absolute clarity and as the definition exists it should move from regulation 4 to regulation 2 of The Procurement (Wales) Regulations 2024. We anticipate that additional regulations will be needed to finalise implementation of		Finance	The Explanatory Memorandum to 613 - <u>The Procurement (Wales) (Amendment)</u>

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	Relevant correspondence	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status
			the 2023 Act. We will include this change in those Regulations. All being well, this will be taken forward by late spring, barring any unforeseen circumstances."			<u>Regulations 2025</u> – states that this instrument corrects the issues in 571. 613 is yet to be considered by the Committee.
026	580, 29 Jan 2025	<u>The Bread and Flour (Wales) Regulations 2025</u>	The Committee's report includes seven reporting points. The Welsh Government response states that, for four of the points (1, 3-5), it anticipates including correcting amendments within the planned omnibus amending instrument being brought forward before the summer recess 2025.	Letter from the Counsel General of 28 April 2025 states that the error will be address in one of the omnibus amending instruments expected to be laid in the summer term.	Food	Due to be addressed in one of the omnibus amending instrument planned to be brought forward before the summer recess 2025
027	588, 13 Feb 2025	<u>The Care and Support (Charging) and (Financial Assessment) (Wales) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2025</u>	2 - "The Welsh Government is grateful to the Committee for pointing out that the Secretaries of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, for Science, Innovation and Technology, for Business and Trade, and for Culture, Media and Sport, and the Transfer of Functions (National Security and Investment Act 2021 etc) Order 2023 (S.I. 2023/424) made	Letter from the Counsel General of 28 April 2025 states that the error will be address in one of the omnibus amending	Social Care	Due to be addressed in one of the omnibus amending instrument planned to be brought forward

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	Relevant correspondence	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status
			<p>consequential amendments to the English text of the Financial Assessment Regulations but omitted to make the equivalent change to the Welsh text. Writing Laws for Wales recommends that only relevant amending instruments are cited in a footnote. It would not be usual to cite instruments making minor consequential amendments. In our view this is not changed by the equivalence issue which you have helpfully pointed out, however the Government intends to address this matter in the omnibus amending statutory instrument that will be laid before summer recess."</p>	<p>instruments expected to be laid in the summer term.</p>		<p>before the summer recess 2025</p>
029	598, 7 March 2025	<p><u>The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) (Wales) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2025</u></p>	<p>1 - "The Welsh Government acknowledges that there remain instances where the abbreviation "ETP" is used in the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) (Wales) Regulations 2020 ("2020 Regulations") which have not been captured by the amendments made by these Regulations. Given "ETP" has been a previously used defined term and is well understood within</p> <p>Community Pharmacy, the Welsh Government considers the limited instances where it remains within the 2020 Regulations will be understood by those using the Regulations. The opportunity to clarify the terminology will be taken when further amendments to the</p>		Health	<p>Amending SI planned for summer 2025</p>

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	Relevant correspondence	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status
			<p>2020 Regulations are planned in summer 2025."</p> <p>2 - "The Welsh Government acknowledges that the correct terms should be "cyfarpar rhestredig offthalmig" and "meddyginiaeth restredig offthalmig" in all cases as per the amendment made by regulation 2(2) of the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2024. However, we do not believe that the inconsistent use of the terms will affect the understanding or interpretation of the Regulations. We will undertake to amend the relevant regulations alongside the further amendments planned in summer 2025.</p>			
030	600, 11 March 2025	<u>The Agricultural Wages (Wales) Order 2025</u>	<p>2 - "The Welsh Government acknowledge the point raised. Article 5(b) is a negative condition i.e. if the agricultural worker cannot provide documentary evidence of a level 2 qualification which is relevant to their role, then they are an Agricultural Development Worker Grade A. Article 6(a) is a positive requirement i.e. the agricultural worker has to provide</p> <p>documentary evidence of a level 2 qualification, and that qualification must be relevant to their role in agriculture in order to</p>		Agriculture	Issue will be addressed in the 2026 Order

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	Relevant correspondence	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status
			be employed as an Agricultural Worker Grade B. The difference in wording has no direct impact and does not affect the operation of article 5 or its interactions with articles 6,7 and 8 respectively. However, we note your comments and will take them into account for the 2026 Order."			
031	609, 31 March 2025	<u>The Development Procedure (Consultees) (Wales) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2025</u>	1 – "The Welsh Government notes the point that both "the Natural Resources Body for Wales" and "Natural Resources Wales" have been used in the Order. Whilst the Welsh Government do not believe the drafting will lead to confusion for the reader, it is agreed it would have been preferable for the drafting to be consistent. This will be addressed in the next suitable legislative vehicle before the end of the year."		Planning	Issue to be addressed before the end of 2025
032	436, 15 Dec 2023	<u>The Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations</u>	1-3 - "The Welsh Government thanks the Committee for drawing these reporting points to our attention. We are liaising with the SI Registrar on the possibility of producing a Correction Slip to deal with these points at the earliest opportunity."	Letter from the Counsel General of 28 April 2025 states that reporting point 3 will now be dealt with in one of the omnibus amending instruments expected to be laid		Due to be addressed in one of the omnibus amending instrument planned to be brought forward before the summer recess 2025

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	Relevant correspondence	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status
				in the summer term.		

Updated issues as of May 2025

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	Notes and relevant correspondence	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status update
010	466, 8 March 2024	<u>The Education (Pupil Exclusions and Appeals) (Pupil Referral Units) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2024</u>	3 – “The Welsh Government acknowledges that there is an error in the Welsh text of the Schedule to the Education (Pupil Exclusions and Appeals) (Maintained Schools) (Wales) Regulations 2003 (“the Maintained School Regulations”). The reporting point does not relate to an error in the Education (Pupil Exclusions and Appeals) (Pupil Referral Units) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2024 (“the 2024 PRU Regulations”) but to an error in the Maintained School Regulations. The purpose and effect of the 2024 PRU Regulations is to change the law in relation to PRUs. We will make the necessary amendment to the Maintained Schools Regulations to correct the error the next	Corrections should have been made by the end of 2024. <u>Letter</u> from Cabinet Secretary for Education of 29 January 2025 informs the Committee that the Welsh Government is “developing proposals to introduce a periodic amending	Education	Issue due to be addressed in one of the omnibus amending instruments planned to be brought forward before the summer recess 2025

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	Notes and relevant correspondence	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status update
			time those Regulations are amended, which is anticipated to be later this year."	<p>SI to deal with matters such as this, and intend to include this point in that instrument. It is anticipated that it will be made sometime before the summer recess".</p> <p>Letter from the Counsel General of 28 April 2025 states that the error will be address in one of the omnibus amending instruments expected to be laid in the summer term.</p>		
002	427, 5 Dec 2023	<u>The Building Control Profession (Charges) (Wales) Regulations 2023</u>	3 - "We will insert the missing wording into the Welsh regulation when the Regulations are next updated, we do not have a timeframe for this currently. "	Letter from the Counsel General of 28 April 2025 states that the error will be	Climate Change	Issue due to be addressed in one of the omnibus amending instruments

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	Notes and relevant correspondence	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status update
				address in one of the omnibus amending instruments expected to be laid in the summer term		planned to be brought forward before the summer recess 2025
004	437, 20 Dec 2023	<u>The National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2023</u>	5-8 – “The Welsh Government notes this point and will make an amendment to the principal Regulations when the opportunity arises. ”	See <u>SL(6)504</u> and <u>SL(6)542</u> <u>Letter to the Welsh Government</u> , 31 January 2024, and <u>Letter from the Welsh Government</u> , 19 February 2024 Letter from the Counsel General of 28 April 2025 states that the errors will be addressed following contract negotiations during 2024/25	Health	Issue due to be addressed in one of the omnibus amending instruments planned to be brought forward before the summer recess 2025

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	Notes and relevant correspondence	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status update
006	444, 15 Jan 2024	<u>The Independent Schools (Prohibition on Participation in Management) (Wales) Regulations 2024</u>	1 – “The Welsh Government notes the Committee Report and agrees that it would have been helpful to refer to the definition in section 167A(6)(b) of the Education Act 2002. The Independent Schools (Prohibition on Participation in Management) (Wales) Regulations 2024 Regulations will be amended to address this point at the next available opportunity. ”	Letter from the Counsel General of 28 April 2025 states that the error will be address in one of the omnibus amending instruments expected to be laid in the summer term	Education	Issue due to be addressed in one of the omnibus amending instruments planned to be brought forward before the summer recess 2025
008	454, 9 Feb 2024	<u>The National Health Service Joint Commissioning Committee (Wales) Regulations 2024</u>	2 – “The Welsh Government agrees that including a definition of these bodies would have been more precise, however, in context, the intention and legal effect is clear and correct. We will take the opportunity the next time the Regulations are amended to address this issue as necessary.”	Letter from the Counsel General of 28 April 2025 states that the error will be address in one of the omnibus amending instruments expected to be laid in the summer term		Issue due to be addressed in one of the omnibus amending instruments planned to be brought forward before the summer recess 2025
4 – “The Welsh Government agrees that including a definition of Integrated Care Board may have been more precise, however, in context, the intention and legal effect is clear and correct. We will take the opportunity the next time the Regulations						

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			<p>are amended to address this issue as necessary."</p> <p>5 – "The Welsh Government agrees that the reference to section 11 of the Act within Schedule 2, in paragraph 6(1)(a) was unnecessary, however, the provision has the correct legal effect. We will take the opportunity the next time the Regulations are amended to address this issue as necessary."</p> <p>6 - "The Welsh Government agrees with the point raised by the Committee, however, the intention and legal effect is clear and correct. We will take the opportunity the next time the Regulations are amended to address this issue as necessary."</p>			
011	470, 11 March 2024	<u>The Home Energy Efficiency Schemes (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2024</u>	2 – "We note the merit points concerning regulation 6 of the Regulations and the historical error in regulation 9(1)(a) of the principal Regulations. However, we do not think the current drafting creates any uncertainty or lack of clarity to the reader such that any amendments are required at this stage, but these errors will be corrected the next time the principal Regulations are amended."		Climate Change	Issue due to be addressed in one of the omnibus amending instruments planned to be brought forward before the summer recess 2025

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	Notes and relevant correspondence	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status update
014	503, 26 June 2024	<u>The Cockle Fishing Management and Permitting (Specified Area) (Wales) Order 2024</u>	3 – “In relation to point a), the Welsh Government accepts the point raised and will take steps to correct this. The Welsh Government is satisfied these minor differences do not undermine the legal effect of the instrument. In relation to point b), a line of text has been erroneously omitted from the definition. An amendment will be brought forward to rectify this.”	The SI breached the 21 day rule - <u>letter to Llywydd</u> , 26 June 2024.	Rural Affairs	Issues now due to be addressed in one of the omnibus amending instruments planned to be brought forward before the summer recess 2025. However, the Counsel General’s letter does not address reporting point 20.
5 – “In article 8(3) the intention is to refer to the period of any given permit period and not to the definition of the “single permit period”. The term “permit period” takes its ordinary meaning. The Welsh Government are satisfied no additional definition is required. However, steps will be taken to ensure equivalence between the English and Welsh texts.”	The Welsh Government response to the report concluded – “The Welsh Government aim to bring forward legislation which will make the required corrections by Spring 2025.”					
7 – “The Welsh Government agrees with the point raised. An amendment will be brought forward to rectify this.”	Letter from the Counsel General of 28 April 2025					
10 – “The Welsh Government agrees with the point raised and will take steps to correct this typographical error.”	states that reporting points 3, 5, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16 and 17 will be					
11 – “The Welsh Government agrees with the reporting point and will take steps to	addressed in one of the omnibus					

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			address this. "Bernir" is the better term and "barnu" is the glossary term for "deem"."	amending instruments expected to be laid in the summer term		
			14 – "The Welsh Government agrees with the reporting point and steps will be taken to correct the omission."			
			15 – "The Welsh Government agrees with the reporting point and steps will be taken to remove remaining references to "cockle" from Byelaw 13A of the Byelaws of the former North Western and North Wales Sea Fisheries Committee."			
			16 – "The Welsh Government agrees with the reporting point and steps will be taken to correct the reference to the Byelaws."			
			17 – "In relation to article 9(4), the Welsh Government agrees with the reporting point and steps will be taken to replace the verb "will". In relation to article 12(1)(b) and (c), the Welsh Government agrees with the reporting point and steps will be taken to replace the verb "will". In relation to article 16(2), the Welsh Government agrees with the reporting point and steps will be taken to replace the verb "will"."			
			20 – "As indicated in the Explanatory			

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			Memorandum, maps have been made available online. Maps of the individual fisheries are also provided with permit conditions. However, the point is noted and the Welsh Government will consider an amendment to the Order to add clarity."			
020	538, 18 October 2024	The Nutrition and Health Claims (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2024	2,3,6	<p>Letter to the Welsh Government, 28 November 2024, and Letter from the Welsh Government, 6 January 2025.</p> <p>The original response from the Welsh Government said correction slips would be sought. The Deputy Minister's letter of 6 January stated that "the Welsh Government will now prepare further amending regulations to be laid early in the</p>	Wellbeing	Issues now due to be addressed in one of the omnibus amending instruments planned to be brought forward before the summer recess 2025.

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	Notes and relevant correspondence	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status update
				<p>new year to correct all three points within one Statutory Instrument to aid in the accessibility of the law".</p> <p>Letter from the Counsel General of 28 April 2025 states that reporting points 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be addressed in one of the omnibus amending instruments expected to be laid in the summer term.</p>		
021	544, 8 Nov 2024	<u>The Animal Health (Miscellaneous Fees) (Amendment and Revocation) (Wales) Order 2024</u>	1 – "The Welsh Government accepts that there is an inconsistency between the wording of the entries in Column 1 of Table 1 and will take steps to correct this when the instrument is next amended. However, the Welsh Government is satisfied that this difference does not undermine the legal	Letter from the Counsel General of 28 April 2025 states that the issue will be addressed in one of the omnibus	Rural Affairs	Issues now due to be addressed in one of the omnibus amending instruments planned to be

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	Notes and relevant correspondence	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status update
			<p>effect of the instrument. The wording replicates that of the Animal Gatherings (Fees) (Wales) Order 2018 (the "2018 Order"), which is amended by this instrument. The 2018 Order makes provision for the determination of fees payable to the Welsh Ministers for the issue, amendment or renewal of licences for animal gatherings under the Animal Gatherings (Wales) Order 2010, amongst other provisions. At present, the prescribed fees included in the 2018 Order are scheduled to be reviewed in 2026. However, in the meantime, should the powers under section 84(1) of the Animal Health Act 1981 be exercised by statutory instrument to prescribe other fees, the Welsh Government will consider amending Column 1 of Table 1 in that earlier instrument, if appropriate."</p>	<p>amending instruments expected to be laid in the summer term</p>		<p>brought forward before the summer recess 2025.</p>
016	507, 18 July 2024	<p><u>The Agricultural Tenancies (Requests for Landlord's Consent or Variation of Terms) (Wales) Regulations 2024</u></p>	<p>3 – "The Welsh Government notes the point raised, but do not consider it to have any practical impact on the operation of the provision or instrument. However, as amending regulations are required to address reporting point 6, we will take that opportunity to amend the provision."</p> <p>5 – "The Welsh Government notes the point raised, but do not consider it to have any</p>	<p>Corrections should have been made by the end of 2024.</p> <p><u>Letter</u> from the Deputy First Minister and</p>	Rural Affairs	<p>Issues corrected in 592 - <u>The Agricultural Tenancies (Requests for Landlord's Consent or Variation of Terms) (Wales)</u></p>

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	Notes and relevant correspondence	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status update
			<p>practical impact on the operation of the provision or instrument. However, as amending regulations are required to address reporting point 6, we will take that opportunity to amend the provision."</p> <p>6 – "The Welsh Government notes the point and will amend these Regulations to achieve a consistent reference to a "period of 4 months". This will be addressed by amending regulations which we aim to introduce before the end of 2024."</p> <p>7 – "The Welsh Government notes the point raised, but do not consider it to have any practical impact on the operation of the provision or instrument. However, as amending regulations are required to address reporting point 6, we will take that opportunity to amend the provision."</p>	<p>Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs of 30 January 2025 stated "I am pleased to confirm the amending instrument has been drafted and is undergoing final legal checks. We anticipate that it will be made within the next month, barring any unforeseen circumstances."</p>		<p><u>(Amendment) Regulations 2025</u></p>
022	N/A	Healthy food environment regulations	N/A	<p><u>Letter</u> of 1 July 2024 from the then Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care stated that the Welsh Government intended to lay the Regulations before</p>	Health	<p>Dealt with in 585 – <u>The Food (Promotion and Presentation) (Wales) Regulations 2025</u></p>

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	Notes and relevant correspondence	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status update
				<p>the end of 2024. "The intention is for there to be a 12-month implementation period, which would allow industry the time to make the necessary changes before, subject to Senedd approval, the coming into force of the regulations towards the end of 2025."</p> <p><u>Letter</u> of 13 January 2025 from the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care: "I am now writing to give you early notification of my intention to lay a</p>		

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	Notes and relevant correspondence	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status update
				draft of the Regulations before the Senedd in Spring 2025."		
013	493, 11 June 2024	The Procurement (Wales) Regulations 2024	<p>2 – "The Government agrees with the point raised and we will amend this via a statutory instrument that is intended to be made in the Autumn ahead of this regulation coming into force."</p> <p>6 – "The Government notes the reporting point and whilst we think the intended meaning is clear here, we will look to amend this by adding 'or' via a statutory instrument that is intended to be made in the Autumn ahead of this regulation coming into force, this amendment will be included in that instrument."</p> <p>7 – "The Government agrees with the reporting point on regulation 28(2)(e)(vi), we will look to amend this via a further statutory instrument intended to be made in the Autumn ahead of this regulation coming into force. Regulation 41(3) signposts the reader to the provision which requires contracting authorities to publish</p>	<p>Letter to the Welsh Government, 1 July 2024, and Letter from the Welsh Government, 2 September 2024</p> <p>2 September letter states "I can confirm this work is being progressed and Regulations to update the names will be laid in September 2024 with the intention that, subject to the will of the Senedd, they will be made in October to</p>	Finance	<p>Issues addressed in 571 (laid on 14 January 2025):</p> <p>The Procurement (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2025</p> <p>(But see entry ref 025 above)</p>

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	Notes and relevant correspondence	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status update
			<p>contracts as modified or modifications in certain cases.”</p> <p>9 – “The Government agrees the reporting point in respect of regulation 46(3)(b) and (c) and regulation 49, we will look to amend this via a further statutory instrument intended to be made in the Autumn ahead of these regulations coming into force and these amendments will be included within that instrument.”</p>	commence on 28 October 2024.”		
003	431, 12 Dec 2023	<u>The Education (Student Finance) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No. 3) (Wales) Regulations 2023</u>	<p>2 – “we will look to make a future amendment to assist the reader in the next appropriate instrument, that is likely to be made in the autumn.”</p> <p>6 – “We agree that there is a historical error that requires correction and will look to make the necessary amendments in the next appropriate instrument. We anticipate that being in the autumn.”</p> <p>7 – “We agree that this is an error and will look to make the necessary amendment in the next appropriate instrument. We anticipate that being in the autumn.”</p> <p>8 – “We agree that the omission of the italicised Welsh definitions following the corresponding English definitions is an error</p>	<p>Corrections should have been made in the autumn of 2024.</p> <p>See <u>SL(6)510</u></p> <p>The Committee’s advisers believe that points 7 and 8 were resolved via a correction slip in August 2024, although this was not drawn to the</p>	Education	Issues addressed in 591 - <u>The Education (Student Finance) (Amounts) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2025</u>

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	Notes and relevant correspondence	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status update
			and will be corrected in the next appropriate instrument. We anticipate that being in the autumn. "	attention of the Committee.		
028	551, 22 Nov 2024	The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2024	2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 13 and 14 – "The Welsh Government notes these reporting points and will be making further amending Regulations in advance of the provisions' operative date of 1 April 2025 to correct these issues." 9: "The reference to direct supervision in the terms of service implies pharmacists must be in proximity to and able to see all these activities in a pharmacy. Once the other terms of service amendments made by these Regulations come into force on 1 April 2025 the need for inclusion of "directly" and "direct" will no longer be necessary and amending Regulations will be made in advance of 1 April 2025 to omit these references."			Issues addressed in 598 - The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) (Wales) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2025 (But see entry ref 030 above)
017	510, 19 July 2024	The Education (Student Finance) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2024	1 – "We agree that there is a historical error and an error made by these Regulations that require correction and will look to make the necessary amendments in the next appropriate instrument. We anticipate that being in early 2025."		Education	Issues addressed in 591 - The Education (Student Finance) (Amounts) (Miscellaneous

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	Notes and relevant correspondence	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status update
			<p>4 – “We agree that there is a historical error that requires correction</p> <p>and will look to make the necessary amendment in the next appropriate instrument. We anticipate that being in early 2025.”</p>			<p><u>Amendments (Wales) Regulations 2025</u></p>
001	292, 22 Nov 2022	<p><u>The Trade in Animals and Related Products (Amendment and Legislative Functions) and Animal Health (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) (EU Exit) Regulations 2022</u></p>	<p>The Committee’s report includes 34 reporting points. The Welsh Government response states that a correcting instrument is needed to address 8, 25 and 30.</p>	<p><u>Letter</u> from the Welsh Government, 18 October 2024</p> <p><u>Letter</u> from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs, 28 March 2025</p>	Rural Affairs	<p>The issues are addressed in 608 - <u>The Trade in Animals and Related Products (Amendment and Legislative Functions) and Animal Health (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) (EU Exit) (Amendment) Order 2025</u></p> <p>With the exception of point 30 of report on 292 (see reporting point 2 of report on 608)</p>

Amending statutory instruments discussed in the meeting of 13 January 2025 where no action has occurred or deadlines passed since the Committee last considered them

Our ref #	SI number, and date laid	SI title	Relevant reporting points, and Welsh Government response	(Amending) Instrument laid?	Relevant correspondence	Notes	Welsh Government department / policy area	Status
009	457, 20 Feb 2024	<u>The Special Schools Residential Services (Service Providers and Responsible Individuals) (Wales) Regulations 2024</u>	3 – “A small alteration to the wording may assist the reader, but this is not an urgent amendment required to the regulations and will be reviewed at the earliest opportunity to amend. ”	No	Letter from the Counsel General of 28 April 2025 states that “it would not be appropriate to alter the wording as this would create an unwelcome difference with the same wording used in five other sets of Regulations. No further action will therefore be taken.”		Social Services	Welsh Government state that no further action will now be taken

Statutory instruments where the errors have been rectified (previously discussed at Committee)

Our ref #	SI number (and laid date)	SI title	Amending instrument laid?	Notes
005	441, 10 Jan 2024	<u>The Firefighters' Pension Schemes and Compensation Scheme (Amendment) (Wales) Order 2024</u>	Yes <u>SL(6)530</u> , laid 23 September 2024	Discussed at the meeting on 13 Jan 2025
007	453, 2 Feb 2024	<u>The Official Controls (Import of High-Risk Food and Feed of Non-Animal Origin) (Amendment of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793) (Wales) Regulations 2024</u>	Yes <u>SL(6)552</u> , laid 27 November 2024	Discussed at the meeting on 13 Jan 2025
012	489, 29 May 2024	<u>The Education (Co-ordination of School Admission Arrangements and Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2024</u>	Yes <u>SL(6)536</u> , laid 9 October 2024	Discussed at the meeting on 13 Jan 2025
015	504, 28 June 2024	<u>The National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts) (Prescription of Drugs Etc.) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2024</u>	Yes <u>SL(6)542</u> , laid 25 October 2024	Discussed at the meeting on 13 Jan 2025
018	516, 11 Sept 2024	<u>The Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas (Procedure and Interest Rate) (Wales) Regulations 2024</u>	Yes <u>SL(6)555</u> , laid 29 November 2024	Discussed at the meeting on 13 Jan 2025
019	517, 11 Sept 2024	<u>The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023 (Consequential Provision) (Secondary Legislation) Regulations 2024</u>	Yes <u>SL(6)555</u> , laid 29 November 2024	Discussed at the meeting on 13 Jan 2025

Dawn Bowden MS
Minister for Children and Social Care

9 May 2025

Dear Dawn,

The Special School Residential Services (Service Providers and Responsible Individuals) (Wales) Regulations 2024

At the meeting of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee on 6 May 2025, the Committee noted a letter from Julie James MS, Counsel General and Minister for Delivery, which outlined the Welsh Government's commitments to correct statutory instruments where errors have been identified by the Committee in our reports to the Senedd.

You will be aware that the Committee's report identified several issues with The Special School Residential Services (Service Providers and Responsible Individuals) (Wales) Regulations 2024 ("the 2024 Regulations"). Reporting point three stated:

"Regulation 1(3) defines a DBS certificate as the certificate referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 of Schedule 1. The words "the certificate" indicate a single certificate but paragraphs 2 and 3 refer to different certificates. It is not clear whether both certificates are covered by the definition, in which case the plural word should be used, or whether the certificates should be defined separately."

In response, the Committee was told:

"Even though the definition refers to 2 certificates, this is unlikely to be a problem in practice as it will be clear which type of certificate should be applied for. Even though there is a reference to 2 types of certificates either one may be required depending on the circumstances. A small alteration to the wording may assist the reader, but this is not an urgent amendment required to the regulations and will be reviewed at the earliest opportunity to amend."

In her letter to us dated 28 April 2025, the Counsel General told the Committee “it would not be appropriate to alter the wording as this would create an unwelcome difference with the same wording used in five other sets of Regulations. No further action will therefore be taken.”

The Committee acknowledges that consistency is important, but notes that this does not necessarily mean that precedent wording should continue to be used when more accessible phrasing is available.

Further, the Committee is not aware of any other definition of “DBS certificate” in subordinate legislation using the same wording as the 2024 Regulations. As far as the Committee is aware, the closest equivalent definition appears in five sets of Regulations from 2019. For example, regulation 1(3) of the Adult Placement Services (Service Providers and Responsible Individuals) (Wales) Regulations 2019/163 provides that (emphasis added):

“DBS certificate” (“tystysgrif GDG”) means a certificate of a type referred to in paragraph 2 or 3 of Schedule 1;

In our view, this wording is clearer and more accessible than the wording used in the 2024 Regulations:

“DBS certificate” (“tystysgrif GDG”) means the certificate referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 of Schedule 1;

The Committee would therefore welcome confirmation as to which sets of Regulations the Counsel General’s letter refers. If the letter refers to the five sets of Regulations from 2019 then the Committee would welcome an explanation as to why the wording of the 2024 Regulations cannot be amended to match.

The Committee would welcome a response by 28 May 2025.

Yours sincerely,



Mike Hedges

Chair

Huw Irranca-Davies MS

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change

9 May 2025

Dear Huw

The Cockle Fishing Management and Permitting (Specified Area) (Wales) Order 2024

At the meeting of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee on 6 May 2025, the Committee noted a letter from Julie James MS, Counsel General and Minister for Delivery, which outlined the Welsh Government's commitments to correct statutory instruments where errors have been identified by the Committee in our reports to the Senedd.

You will be aware that the Committee's report identified several issues with The Cockle Fishing Management and Permitting (Specified Area) (Wales) Order 2024. In response, the Committee was told that the Welsh Government would aim to bring forward legislation which will make the required corrections by Spring 2025.

In her letter to us dated 28 April 2025, the Counsel General states that reporting points 3, 5, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16 and 17 in the Committee's report will be addressed in one of the omnibus amending instruments planned to be laid before the Senedd in the summer term. However, the Counsel General's letter does not address reporting point 20 of the Committee's report, which noted:

"The specified area is the area described in Schedule 1 to this Order. The Explanatory Memorandum at paragraph 4.3 and 4.4 states that "Maps of the specified area will be provided to permit holders when permits are issued to permit holders under the Order. A programme of work is underway to produce new mapping of the whole of the specified area. The updated mapping will be made available on www.GOV.WALES when the Order comes into force." It would be helpful for the reader to be referred to the maps of the specified area in this Order."

The Welsh Government's response to reporting point 20 stated:

"As indicated in the Explanatory Memorandum, maps have been made available online. Maps of the individual fisheries are also provided with permit conditions. However, the point is noted and the Welsh Government will consider an amendment to the Order to add clarity."

The Committee would welcome clarity as to whether the Welsh Government has now considered an amendment to the 2024 Order to address the issue raised in reporting point 20 of the Committee's report, and confirmation as to whether and when such an amendment will be made.

The Committee would welcome a response by 28 May 2025.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Hedges". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

Mike Hedges

Chair



**WRITTEN STATEMENT
BY
THE WELSH GOVERNMENT**

TITLE	Interministerial Group on Net Zero, Energy and Climate Change, 6 May 2025
DATE	2 June 2025
BY	Huw Irranca-Davies MS, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs

In accordance with the inter-institutional relations agreement, I can report to Members that I chaired the Interministerial Group meeting on Net Zero, Energy and Climate Change on 6 May 2025.

The meeting was attended by Gillian Martin MSP, Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy, Sarah Jones MP, Minister of State at the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, and the Department for Business and Trade, Mary Creagh CBE MP, Minister for Nature, James Murray MP, Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury, Mike Kane MP, Minister for Aviation, Maritime and Security, Andrew Muir MLA, Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and a senior official from the Department for the Economy at the NI executive (deputising for the Minister for the Economy).

The Interministerial Group considered the future direction and objectives of the UK Emissions Trading Scheme. This involved discussions on the UK Government's EU relations activity, each administration's priorities and challenges, as well as areas for cross-UK action in meeting the ambitions of the Scheme, including energy from waste.

The Scottish Government will chair the next Interministerial Group meeting online.

The communiqué from the meeting has been published on GOV.UK:

[Interministerial Group for Net Zero, Energy and Climate Change communiqué: 6 May 2025 - GOV.UK](#)

Ken Skates AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Drafnidiaeth a Gogledd Cymru
Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref KS/PO/259/2025

Mike Hedges MS
Chair
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
Senedd Cymru

SeneddLJC@senedd.wales

02 June 2025

Dear Mike

Inter-Institutional Relations Agreement: Transport Inter-Ministerial Standing Committee

I am writing in accordance with the inter-institutional relations agreement to notify you of the next meeting of the Transport Inter-Ministerial Standing Committee, which will take place on 25th June 2025.

Fiona Hyslop MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Scottish Government, will be chairing the meeting, and it is likely to cover the topics of Road Safety, HGV Decarbonisation and Vehicle Emissions Trading Scheme (VETS).

I will provide an update after the meeting.

I have copied this letter to the Chair of Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee.

Yours sincerely

Ken Skates AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Drafnidiaeth a Gogledd Cymru
Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Mark Drakeford AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyllid a'r Gymraeg
Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Mike Hedges MS
Chair, Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
Senedd Cymru

5 June 2025

Dear Mike,

A meeting of the Finance: Interministerial Standing Committee (F:ISC) will take place on 26 June in London. It will be chaired by the Chief Secretary to the Treasury (CST).

We will discuss the outcomes of the 2025 UK Spending Review, which concludes on 11 June. We will also consider the latest fiscal position and begin to look ahead to the Autumn Budget.

We will discuss the UK government's Industrial Strategy and growth-driving sector plans. I will highlight the priorities for the Welsh Government including opportunities for strategic alignment with our economic priorities, maximising our growth potential, and driving further decarbonisation. We will also discuss the UK government's proposed 10 Year Infrastructure Strategy, which sets out a long-term plan for the country's social, economic and housing infrastructure. Driving economic growth is a shared ambition, so these discussions allow the opportunity to share from our experiences and to collaborate in relation to our Wales Infrastructure Investment Strategy and pipeline.

We will continue previous discussions on fiscal flexibilities. This is a matter of shared interest. I will outline the importance of the Welsh Government having appropriate budgetary flexibilities, and we will discuss options to enable us to maximise our resources to support economic growth and the delivery of public services.

Following the meeting, I will meet separately with the Chief Secretary to the Treasury to discuss the outcome of the UK Spending Review and the implications for Wales.

I will write to the Committee after the F:ISC to update it on discussions.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Drakeford AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyllid a'r Gymraeg
Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Agenda Item 6.2



Briefing: a strategic approach to rebuilding the immigration legal sector

Despite efforts by Welsh Government to strengthen the immigration advice and legal sector, Wales lacks a comprehensive strategy for the sector's regeneration and growth. The scarcity of immigration legal services in Wales, against a backdrop of general decline in legal provision, demands a strategic approach that builds broad collaboration. Development is more than a matter of funding; the current lack of expertise and poor infrastructure require a long-term strategy.

Decision-makers and stakeholders could seize this opportunity to almost completely reimagine the sector. Due to its geographic and population size, innovative and integrated services could be modelled in Wales on a relatively small scale, while at the same time connecting and engaging nationally.

What will we gain from developing a strategy for the immigration advice and legal sector?

Developing a co-produced strategy has many benefits. Engaging with a broad range of stakeholders and people with lived experience of migration will bring new insights and a deeper understanding of challenges facing people who need access to advice and justice. Competing interests can be better balanced and potential impacts of changes better highlighted. Strategic sector development will lead to a more sustainable, longer-term vision that builds on current strengths and addresses hidden challenges. Some of the benefits are set out below.

An integrated sector

A strategy for development can target resources to support existing relationships and partnerships and identify where there is potential to develop new collaborations and where they are needed.

Community focus

A strategy that is co-produced with people with lived experience and which aims to strengthen and develop community-based approaches would result in services that are more accessible, more resilient, and more responsive to need. A piecemeal approach to funding and development risks duplication or waste of resources by implementing services that are not targeted where there is most need.

Best practice built on existing resources

Involving a wide range of potential partners brings benefits from the greatest expertise. Identifying what currently works and why will help to develop improved infrastructure for skills exchange, training, and development schemes.

Strong links with frontline and community services

Community organisations, frontline support services, and informal networks can offer insight into need and ease access to regulated immigration advice.

Engaging funders and resource-providers

Strategic involvement of funders results in better targeting of grants and subsidies. A strategy will also benefit from an understanding of what has worked in the past and will be improved by engaging funders' expertise in sector-building, funder partner networks, and identifying under-funded communities or areas of work.

Influencing policy

A well-developed strategy can give a clear picture to decision-makers and funders and demonstrate where policy changes can be effective in addressing priority needs. Engaging influencers, researchers, and policy experts in developing a strategy will strengthen its evidence base.

Evaluation, monitoring, and evidencing need

Developing a strategy for the immigration advice sector in Wales could present an opportunity to develop and implement a workable, common approach to reporting and data collection, focusing on a few vital key indicators. This could provide valuable Welsh-specific data about migration, needs, and services that could be used to attract future funding and inform the further development of services.

In short, developing a comprehensive, co-produced strategy would make for a more effective and more sustainable immigration advice and legal sector.

What is an effective and sustainable sector?

An effective and sustainable immigration advice and legal sector is one that...

...is financially sustainable

Legal aid is the biggest single funding source enabling access to justice in the UK. The loss of legal aid for many types of immigration case since 2012, the extreme inadequacy of Emergency Case Funding as a safety net, and the crumbling network of immigration legal aid solicitors, all continue to have a devastating effect on access to justice in Wales. But it is not the only source. Welsh Government funding is essential to meet duties in relation to human, economic and social rights, and to address social injustice. Other potential sources of funding include local authority funding or commissioning, trust and foundations, private sources, and other forms of statutory funding, including funds from public health and police commissioners. A strategic approach to harnessing and integrating funding is essential to the long-term health of the sector.

...meets need

The sector must meet the needs of all migrants who need immigration legal advice and help, and free or low-cost advice and representation must be available to all who cannot afford it. Good geographical coverage is vital to reach migrant communities in North and West Wales, in rural areas, and without good transport links. Provision must be adaptable to changing need and fluctuating populations. It must sustain people throughout the legal process, whether they need one-off advice, casework, or representation at tribunal or in the courts.

...engages and is led by lived experience

An effective strategy should design a sector that is staffed by people with lived experience of the immigration system, and fairly includes them as trustees, managers, policy makers and decision-makers. This means designing structures, training, and regulatory systems that are accessible and supportive for migrants. Service users need to be empowered and able to exercise their rights.

...is resilient and responsive to change

A resilient and responsive sector needs a mix of free, low-cost, and fee-charging provision that ensures that people can access justice when they need it, a strong and balanced mix of legal aid and IAA provision, new legal services, legal and advice services embedded in community organisations and frontline support, and a strong and healthy third sector in which to thrive.

...develops and draws from a sustained pool of expertise

The problem of how enough specialist immigration advisors can be trained and developed requires careful planning. This requires creativity and a mixture of immediate and longer-term measures. Staff need strong career pathways within the sector but also across sectors, so that varied expertise can be drawn on and can nourish related sectors. Good capacity and a healthily-sized sector are key.

...is integrated with a wider network of provision and support

Collaboration between specialist legal advisors and frontline agencies can result in better referral networks and more seamless support. People's immigration needs do not exist in isolation from their social and welfare needs. It is important that legal services are not segregated from other migrant support services, but that they link into each other and work mutually in the interests of the people who use them.

How could such a strategy be developed?

A strategy for rebuilding the immigration advice and legal sector needs to involve all relevant partners, including people who use immigration legal services. Developing and implementing a strategy involves open and ongoing conversations with stakeholders, comprehensive mapping of existing and potential services, imaginative thinking, and political will.

Over the next year, the Bevan Foundation will deliver a project which aims to create an outline strategy for developing the free-at-source immigration legal sector in Wales. To do this, we will map need and provision across Wales, look at where and how new and complementary services might be developed, and consider how different stakeholders and partners could work together to improve sustainability and development.

More information about this project can be found [on our website](#).

Read the full report

Our report Desert to Oasis, the case for a strategic approach to building a strong immigration legal sector in Wales, is available at <https://www.bevanfoundation.org/resources/strategic-approach-immigration-legal-sector/>

For further information, please contact:

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WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

TITLE	Inter-Institutional Relations Agreement: Report on Intergovernmental Relations 2023-2024
DATE	5 June 2025
BY	Huw Irranca-Davies MS, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs

The Welsh Government has today published a report about intergovernmental relations covering the period of April 2023 to July 2024, in the context of [the Inter-Institutional Relations Agreement between Senedd Cymru and the Welsh Government](#). It is available [here](#).

This report is intended to provide an overview of intergovernmental work across the Welsh Government in the period until the 2024 UK General Election. The experience of intergovernmental working outlined in this Report has developed significantly since that point.

This report is provided alongside regular Welsh Government updates to the Senedd in plenary and committee, and via statements and correspondence, which are [available on the Senedd website](#).

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Jane Hutt MS

Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Trefnydd and Chief Whip

4 June 2025

Dear Jane,

The Welsh Government's Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No. 3) on the Public Authorities (Fraud, Error and Recovery) Bill

At our meeting on 2 June 2025, the Committee considered the Welsh Government's Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No. 3) on the Public Authorities (Fraud, Error and Recovery) Bill (Memorandum No. 3).

In the Committee's first report on the Memorandum and Memorandum No. 2 (laid on 1 May 2025) the Committee said it was not persuaded by your reasoning as to why the Welsh Government did not consider that all clauses in Part 1 of the Bill contain provision that have regards to devolved matters, given that the Minister for the Cabinet Office is able to exercise any of the powers in Part 1 on behalf of a Devolved Welsh Authority. The Committee also said that it did not consider the response it had received from you on this issue to be helpful.

We await your response to recommendation 1 in our first report, which asked you to provide clarity and detailed reasoning as to why the Welsh Government does not consider that the Senedd's consent should be sought for the entirety of Part 1 of the Bill. We would welcome an urgent response to the matter we raise in that recommendation.

Our intention is to report to the Senedd on Memorandum No. 3 in advance of the reporting deadline set by the Business Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Mike Hedges

Mike Hedges

Chair

Agenda Item 11

By virtue of paragraph(s) vi of Standing Order 17.42

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Ein cyf/Our ref MA/RE/1125/25

Mike Hedges MS
Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
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Llyr Gruffydd MS
Chair of Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee
Senedd Cymru
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28 May 2025

Dear Mike and Llyr,

I laid a Legislative Consent Memorandum (LCM) regarding the UK Government's Planning and Infrastructure Bill (the Bill) on 26 March¹. I recently laid a Supplementary LCM (SLCM) which set out my position regarding Government amendments made to the Bill during Committee Stage at the House of Commons.

I am writing to you to update you regarding clause 4(3) of the Bill as introduced². This clause, amongst others, was included in the LCM I laid on 26 March. However, recently tabled Government amendment, Gov 58, proposes to remove clause 4(3) from the Bill. This amendment was not included in the SLCM I recently laid as it is consequential on amendment Gov NC44 and it did not meet the test as set out in Standing Order 29.2. This letter provides clarity on the resulting position.

As introduced, clause 4(3) required a relevant public authority to have regard to guidance issued by the Secretary of State to assist such authorities in responding effectively to consultation under section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 – pre-application procedure: duty to consult. A relevant public authority that must have regard to the guidance included a local authority in Wales.

The LCM laid on 26 March included clause 4(3) as a relevant provision as the provisions would affect the functions of the Devolved Welsh Authorities and therefore requires the consent of the Senedd. The change by Government amendment Gov 58 removes this duty at the pre-application stage as a consequence of amendment Gov NC44 which removes that statutory pre-application consultation stage.

¹ [LEGISLATIVE CONSENT MEMORANDUM](#)

² [Planning and Infrastructure Bill](#)

The requirement for Devolved Welsh Authorities to have regard to guidance issued by the Secretary of State is retained in clause 4(4) and (5) of the Bill. These relate to the production of the local impact reports under section 60 and making any representations about an application (oral or written) under the new section 96A of the Planning Act 2008. Both of these clauses were also included in the LCM I laid on 26 March. For the avoidance of doubt, these clauses remain in the Bill and still require the consent of the Senedd.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca Evans". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rebecca Evans AS/MS

Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi, Ynni a Chynllunio

Agenda Item 12

By virtue of paragraph(s) vii of Standing Order 17.42

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Lynne Neagle AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg
Cabinet Secretary for Education



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref MA-L/LN/1355/25

Mike Hedges MS
Chair, Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
SeneddLJC@senedd.wales

28 May 2025

Dear Mike,

In December 2024, the UK Government introduced the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill, the objectives of which are to remove barriers to opportunity in schools and improve the education system to make it more consistent and safer for every child. It also seeks to strengthen social care regulation to improve quality of care to ensure it meets children's needs, keeping children rooted in their families and local communities where possible.

As you are aware on 24 March 2025, the Welsh Government laid a Legislative Consent Memorandum (LCM) in relation to the Bill before the Senedd as amendments were tabled on 10 March 2025 which require the consent of the Senedd in so far as they relate to education and social care in Wales.

Further amendments were tabled on 13 May ahead of Lords Committee Stage on 20 May, including to Clause 26 (Employment of Children) ahead of Committee Stage in the House of Lords on 20 May. Our legal analysis confirms that the Bill makes relevant provision in relation to Wales and that Standing Order 29 is engaged. I have therefore laid a supplementary LCM today recommending the Senedd gives its consent to this provision.

Yours sincerely,

Lynne Neagle AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg
Cabinet Secretary for Education

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

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We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.