

# Agenda – Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

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Meeting Venue:	For further information contact:
Video conference via Zoom	P Gareth Williams
Meeting date: 16 March 2026	Committee Clerk
Meeting time: 13.30	0300 200 6565
	<a href="mailto:SeneddLJC@senedd.wales">SeneddLJC@senedd.wales</a>

## Remote

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### Public meeting

(13.30 – 14.00)

**1 Introduction, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest**  
(13.30)

**2 Instruments that raise no reporting issues under Standing Order  
21.2 or 21.3**

(13.30 – 13.35)

(Pages 1 – 3)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–09–26 – Paper 1 – Draft report

**Instruments subject to the Senedd approval procedure**

**2.1 SL(6)784 – The Health and Social Care (Wales) Act 2025 (Consequential  
Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2026**

**2.2 SL(6)787 – The National Health Service (Direct Payments) (Wales) Regulations  
2026**



## **Instruments subject to the Senedd annulment procedure**

- 2.3 SL(6)789 – The Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2026**

- 3 Instruments that raise issues to be reported to the Senedd under Standing Order 21.2 or 21.3**  
(13.35 – 13.40)

## **Instruments subject to the Senedd annulment procedure**

- 3.1 SL(6)782 – The Education Workforce Council (Further Education Teacher Qualifications, Periods of Absence from Work and Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2026**

(Pages 4 – 5)

[Regulations](#)

[Explanatory Memorandum](#)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–09–26 – Paper 2 – Draft report

- 3.2 SL(6)783 – The Higher Education (Qualifying Courses and Qualifying Persons) (Wales) Regulations 2026**

(To Follow)

[Regulations](#)

[Explanatory Memorandum](#)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–09–26 – Paper 3 – Draft report

**3.3 SL(6)786 – The Charges for Residues Surveillance (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2026**

(Pages 6 – 7)

[Regulations](#)

[Explanatory Memorandum](#)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–09–26 – Paper 4 – Draft report

**3.4 SL(6)788 – The Independent Review of Determinations (Adoption and Fostering) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2026**

(Pages 8 – 9)

[Regulations](#)

[Explanatory Memorandum](#)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–09–26 – Paper 5 – Draft report

**Instruments subject to the Senedd approval procedure**

**3.5 SL(6)781 – The Representation of the People (Absent Voting and Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2026**

(Pages 10 – 13)

[Regulations](#)

[Explanatory Memorandum](#)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–09–26 – Paper 6 – Draft report

**3.6 SL(6)785 – The Digital Waste Tracking (Wales) Regulations 2026**

(Pages 14 – 20)

[Regulations](#)

[Explanatory Memorandum](#)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–09–26 – Paper 7 – Draft report

LJC(6)-09-26 – Paper 8 – Written Statement by the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs, 3 March 2026

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

(13.40 – 13.45)

##### **4.1 Correspondence from the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery to the Llywydd: The National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts) (Prescription of Drugs Etc.) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2024**

(Pages 21 – 22)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-09-26 – Paper 9 – Letter from the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery to the Llywydd, 11 March 2026

#### **5 Instruments that raise issues to be reported to the Senedd under Standing Order 21.7 – previously considered**

(13.45 – 13.50)

##### **5.1 SL(6)771 – Strategic Priorities and Objectives Statement to Ofwat issued under section 2B of the Water Industry Act 1991**

(Pages 23 – 25)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-09-26 – Paper 10 – Report

LJC(6)-09-26 – Paper 11 – Welsh Government response

#### **6 Inter-Institutional Relations Agreement**

(13.50 – 13.55)

##### **6.1 Correspondence from the Welsh Government: Meetings of inter-ministerial groups**

(Page 26)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-09-26 – Paper 12 – Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales: Transport Inter-Ministerial Standing Committee, 11 March 2026

**6.2 Correspondence from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning: Memorandum of Understanding between the Welsh Government, the North Sea Transition Authority and the UK Government**

(Page 27)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-09-26 – Paper 13 – Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning, 9 March 2026

**6.3 Written Statement and correspondence from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs: The REACH (Amendment) Regulations 2026**

(Pages 28 – 30)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-09-26 – Paper 14 – Written Statement by the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs, 9 March 2026

LJC(6)-09-26 – Paper 15 – Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs, 9 March 2026

**6.4 Written Statement and correspondence from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning: The Provision of Services (Amendment and Transitional Provision) Regulations 2026**

(Pages 31 – 34)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-09-26 – Paper 16 – Written Statement by the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning, 9 March 2026

LJC(6)-09-26 – Paper 17 – Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning, 9 March 2026

**7 Papers to note**

(13.55 – 14.00)

**7.1 Correspondence from the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language to the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee: The Development of Tourism and Regulation of Visitor Accommodation (Wales) Bill – Revised Explanatory Memorandum**

(Pages 35 – 36)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–09–26 – Paper 18 – Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language to the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee, 6 March 2026

**7.2 Correspondence from the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs: Public Office (Accountability) Bill**

(Pages 37 – 38)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–09–26 – Paper 19 – Letter from the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs, 6 March 2026

**7.3 Written Statement by the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language: Publication of independent research into options for income tax devolution in Wales**

(Pages 39 – 40)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–09–26 – Paper 20 – Written Statement by the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language, 6 March 2026

**7.4 Correspondence from the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery to the Finance Committee: Senedd Cymru (Member Accountability and Elections) Bill**

(Pages 41 – 42)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–09–26 – Paper 21 – Letter from the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery to the Finance Committee, 10 March 2026

**7.5 Correspondence from the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery to the Llywydd: Senedd Cymru (Member Accountability and Elections) Bill**

(Pages 43 – 44)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–09–26 – Paper 22 – Letter from the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery to the Llywydd, 10 March 2026

**7.6 Correspondence between the Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee and the Welsh Government: UK–Germany Treaty on Friendship and Bilateral Cooperation**

(Pages 45 – 47)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–09–26 – Paper 23 – Letter from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs to the Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee, 10 March 2026

LJC(6)–09–26 – Paper 24 – Letter from the Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee to the First Minister, 26 February 2026

**7.7 Correspondence from the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee: Welsh Government's Legislative Improvement Plan**

(Pages 48 – 52)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–09–26 – Paper 25 – Letter from the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee, 12 March 2026

**7.8 Correspondence from the Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales: Legislative Consent Memoranda on the Railways Bill**

(Pages 53 – 63)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–09–26 – Paper 26 – Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales, 12 March 2026

LJC(6)–09–26 – Paper 27 – Letter to the Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales, 24 February 2026

**7.9 Written Statement by the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery: The Welsh Government response to the President of Welsh Tribunals Sixth Annual Report 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025**

(Pages 64 – 65)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-09-26 – Paper 28 – Written Statement by the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery, 12 March 2026

**8 Motion under Standing Order 17.42(vi) and (ix) to resolve to exclude the public from the remainder of today's meeting**  
(14.00)

**Private meeting**

(14.00 – 14.10)

**9 Statutory Instrument Consent Memorandum on the Plant Varieties Act (Amendment) Regulations 2026: Draft report**

(14.00 – 14.05)

(Pages 66 – 69)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-09-26 – Paper 29 – Draft report

**10 Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No. 5) on the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill**

(14.05 – 14.10)

(Pages 70 – 77)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-09-26 – Paper 30 – Legal Advice Note

LJC(6)-09-26 – Paper 31 – Draft letter to the Cabinet Secretary for Education

## Statutory Instruments with Clear Reports 16 March 2026

### **SL(6)784 – [The Health and Social Care \(Wales\) Act 2025 \(Consequential Amendments\) \(Wales\) Regulations 2026](#)**

#### **Procedure: Senedd approval procedure**

These Regulations amend the Care Act 2014 and the Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016 (“the 2016 Act”) in consequence of amendments made by the Health and Social Care (Wales) Act 2025 (“the 2025 Act”).

Regulation 2 amends references that the Care Act 2014 makes to certain provisions of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 that are amended by the 2025 Act. These are provisions relating to “direct payments” made towards the cost of meeting a person’s needs for care and support or towards the cost of meeting a person’s need for “after-care” under section 117 of the Mental Health Act 1983.

Regulation 3 amends section 47(d) of the 2016 Act to reflect amendments made to section 32 of that Act by section 17(2) of the 2025 Act.

**Parent Act:** Health and Social Care (Wales) Act 2025

**Date Made:**

**Date Laid:**

**Coming into force date:** 01 April 2026



# Statutory Instruments with Clear Reports

## 16 March 2026

### **SL(6)787 – [The National Health Service \(Direct Payments\) \(Wales\) Regulations 2026](#)**

#### **Procedure: Senedd approval procedure**

These Regulations make provision for the making of direct payments for health care by the Welsh Ministers for the purposes of the provision of certain health services under the National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006.

It is noted that this instrument was [originally laid](#) on 20 January 2026. The Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee agreed its [report on that instrument](#) on 2 February 2026.

Following publication of the report, this instrument was withdrawn and re-laid. It makes corrections as agreed to in the Government response to the report and makes provision about the coming into force of different provisions within the instrument. This secures that the provisions relevant to children come into force on 1 October 2027, to give effect to the intended staggered commencement, rather than on 1 April 2026, as in the originally laid Regulations.

A comprehensive summary of the instrument can be found in the original report.

**Parent Act:** National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006

**Date Made:**

**Date Laid:**

**Coming into force date:**



# Statutory Instruments with Clear Reports

## 16 March 2026

### **SL(6)789 – [The Local Authorities \(Capital Finance and Accounting\) \(Wales\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2026](#)**

#### **Procedure: Senedd annulment procedure**

These Regulations amend the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (Wales) Regulations 2003 (the “2003 Regulations”).

Regulation 24K of the 2003 Regulations provides that, in relation to financial years falling within the period beginning with 1 April 2019 and ending with 31 March 2025, a local authority must not charge an amount to its revenue account to reflect any fluctuation in the fair value of a local authority’s investment in a pooled investment fund. Such amounts must instead be recorded in a separate account established and used solely for that purpose. Regulation 2(2) of these Regulations extends the application of regulation 24K, in respect of investments made by a local authority before 1 April 2025, by an additional four financial years to 31 March 2029.

Regulation 24L of the 2003 Regulations makes provision about the accounting practices to be followed by a local authority where a component of an infrastructure asset has been replaced. Regulation 24L applies to local authorities that are required to prepare a statement of accounts in accordance with regulation 8 of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 (S.I. 2014/3362 (W. 337)). The local authority must either assume the carrying amount of the derecognised part is nil or calculate the carrying amount in line with the accounting practices identified under regulation 25 of the 2003 Regulations. Regulation 2(3) of these Regulations extends the application of regulation 24L by an additional four financial years, to 31 March 2029.

**Parent Act:** Local Government Act 2003

**Date Made:** 02 March 2026

**Date Laid:** 03 March 2026

**Coming into force date:** 27 March 2026



# Agenda Item 3.1

## **SL(6)782 - The Education Workforce Council (Further Education Teacher Qualifications, Periods of Absence from Work and Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2026**

### **Background and Purpose**

These Regulations amend the Education Workforce Council (Main Functions) (Wales) Regulations 2015 (“the 2015 Regulations”) and the Education Workforce Council (Additional Categories of Registration and Further Education Teacher Qualifications) (Wales) Order 2024 (“the 2024 Order”).

Regulation 19 of the 2015 Regulations set out the requirements a person must meet in order to provide further education in or for a further education institution. Regulations 2 to 4 of these regulations amend the 2015 Regulations in order to—

- update the list of qualifications a further education teacher may hold;
- add neonatal care leave and absence due to sickness or injury to the list of reasons that can be disregarded when calculating the period of time a person is permitted to carry out certain registered roles whilst working towards qualifications; and
- correct minor errors.

The 2024 Order provides for registration requirements for any person working in the role of adult learning practitioner. They provide a person may work in a registered role for a specified period, if they are working towards qualifications. These Regulations amend those requirements to provide that, when calculating how long a person has been working towards qualifications, a period of neonatal care leave and absence due to sickness or injury may be disregarded.

### **Procedure**

Senedd annulment procedure.

The Regulations were made by the Welsh Ministers before they were laid before the Senedd. The Senedd can annul the Regulations within 40 days (excluding any days when the Senedd is: (i) dissolved, or (ii) in recess for more than four days) of the date they were laid before the Senedd.

### **Technical Scrutiny**

The following point is identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.2 in respect of this instrument.



## **1. Standing Order 21.2(v) - that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation.**

Regulation 19 of the 2015 Regulations provides that a person may not provide education in or for a further education institution unless they hold a specified qualification. Part 1 (Qualifications) of Schedule 6 (Further education teachers) to the 2015 Regulations list specified qualifications for the purposes of regulation 19.

Regulation 3 of these Regulations updates the list of specified qualifications by inserting 4 new tables into Schedule 6 of the 2015 Regulations. In relation to the awarding bodies listed in the second column of the new tables, some appear to have been named informally without reference to key details such as a full organisational title, company number, charity number or registered or principal address.

For example "OCR" are listed several times. An internet search of the term "OCR" brings up a range of results unconnected with education and one for "Cambridge OCR" who are associated with or part of the Cambridge University Press & Assessment. Similarly "Cambridge English" is also listed as an awarding body. Cambridge English is also part of Cambridge University Press and Assessment. However Companies House also lists two dissolved companies with that name and one existing company that is very similarly named and it is not clear which the inserted table intends to refer to.

The Welsh Government are asked to confirm it is content that each awarding body in the newly inserted tables are described or named in accordance with good legislative practice and in sufficiently precise terms to ensure they will be correctly identified by users of this legislation.

### **Merits Scrutiny**

No points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.3 in respect of this instrument.

### **Welsh Government response**

A Welsh Government response is required.

#### **Legal Advisers**

**Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee**

**11 March 2026**



# Agenda Item 3.3

## **SL(6)786 – The Charges for Residues Surveillance (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations**

### **Background and Purpose**

These Regulations amend the Charges for Residues Surveillance Regulations 2006 ('the 2006 Regulations') to update the charges payable to the Veterinary Medicines Directorate ('VMD') in relation to the surveillance for residues of veterinary medicines and certain other substances in food animals and animal products as part of the National Residues Control Programme (NRCP).

The VMD manages the NRCP, an annual programme of testing and sampling of products of animal origin destined for the food chain. These Regulations increase the rate ceilings to ensure the VMD is able to continue to recover the costs of delivering this programme in future.

### **Procedure**

Senedd annulment procedure.

The Regulations were made by the Welsh Ministers before they were laid before the Senedd. The Senedd can annul the Regulations within 40 days (excluding any days when the Senedd is: (i) dissolved, or (ii) in recess for more than four days) of the date they were laid before the Senedd.

### **Technical Scrutiny**

No points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.2 in respect of this instrument.

### **Merits Scrutiny**

The following point is identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.3 in respect of this instrument.

#### **1. Standing Order 21.3(ii) – that it is of political or legal importance or gives rise to issues of public policy likely to be of interest to the Senedd.**

The Explanatory Memorandum ("EM") does not mention similar statutory instruments being prepared by the UK Government or the Scottish Ministers. Previous EMs in relation to regulations concerning charges for residues surveillance have outlined the importance for alignment, as divergence would lead to "*considerable disruption to industry*". Further explanation would be helpful to establish if the coming into force date of 1 April 2026 for these Regulations is the same as the coming into force dates for statutory instruments laid by the UK Government and Scottish Government in respect of food business operators in England and Scotland respectively.



## Welsh Government response

A Welsh Government response is required.

**Legal Advisers**

**Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee**

**10 March 2026**



Senedd Cymru

**Pwyllgor Deddfwriaeth, Cyfiawnder a'r Cyfansoddiad**

—

Welsh Parliament

**Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee**

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# Agenda Item 3.4

## **SL(6)788 – The Independent Review of Determinations (Adoption and Fostering) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2026**

### **Background and Purpose**

The Independent Review of Determinations (Adoption and Fostering) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2026 (the “**Amendment Regulations**”) amend the Independent Review of Determinations (Adoption and Fostering) (Wales) Regulations 2026 (the “**2026 Regulations**”).

The 2026 Regulations revoked and replaced the Independent Review of Determinations (Adoption and Fostering) (Wales) Regulations 2010 to modernise and clarify the legal framework governing the Independent Review Mechanism (“**IRM**”) in Wales.

The IRM is the process by which a prospective or approved foster carer or a prospective adopter can seek a review of a decision or ‘qualifying determination’ made by a fostering or adoption service.

### **Procedure**

Senedd annulment procedure.

The Regulations were made by the Welsh Ministers before they were laid before the Senedd. The Senedd can annul the Regulations within 40 days (excluding any days when the Senedd is: (i) dissolved, or (ii) in recess for more than four days) of the date they were laid before the Senedd.

### **Technical Scrutiny**

No points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.2 in respect of this instrument.

### **Merits Scrutiny**

The following point is identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.3 in respect of this instrument.

- 1. Standing Order 21.3(ii) – that it is of political or legal importance or gives rise to issues of public policy likely to be of interest to the Senedd.**

The Amendment Regulations make two technical changes to the 2026 Regulations to correct cross-references to the Adoption Agencies (Wales) Regulations 2005. The Explanatory Memorandum explains that these amendments are made in response to this Committee’s report on the 2026 Regulations (SL(6)759).



## Welsh Government response

A Welsh Government response is not required.

### Legal Advisers

**Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee**

**09 March 2026**



Senedd Cymru

**Pwyllgor Deddfwriaeth, Cyfiawnder a'r Cyfansoddiad**

—

Welsh Parliament

**Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee**

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# Agenda Item 3.5

## **SL(6)781 – The Representation of the People (Absent Voting and Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2026**

### **Background and Purpose**

These Regulations make provision to allow voters to apply online, via the Online Absent Voting Application (“OAVA”) system that operates for UK Parliamentary elections in Wales, for postal and proxy votes for Senedd elections and local government elections in Wales from 3 November 2026, and will enable a combined online application system for voters in Wales for all elections. This includes the introduction of a requirement to provide a national insurance number (or alternative supporting documentation) to apply for an absent vote, the verification of information provided in such applications (whether submitted online or not) and a three-year reapplication window for postal votes.

These Regulations set out the arrangements and detail relating to the delivery of extending the OAVA system to Welsh elections. This includes the system’s operation, processes undertaken by Registration Officers for voter identification and the transitional arrangements for its implementation.

These Regulations also make a number of miscellaneous minor and technical amendments to the Senedd Cymru (Representation of the People) Order 2025 (“2025 Order”).

### **Procedure**

Senedd approval procedure.

The Welsh Ministers have laid a draft of the Regulations before the Senedd. The Welsh Ministers cannot make the Regulations unless the Senedd approves the draft Regulations.

### **Technical Scrutiny**

The following ten points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.2 in respect of this instrument.

#### **1. Standing Order 21.2(iv) – that its drafting appears to be defective or it fails to fulfil statutory requirements**

In regulation 2, in the Welsh text, the definition of “etholiad i’r Senedd” (“Senedd election”) is not listed in the correct place according to alphabetical order. It should appear before the definition of “etholiad llywodraeth leol” (“local government election”) because prepositions are counted when ordering the list of definitions



## **2. Standing Order 21.2(iv) – that its drafting appears to be defective or it fails to fulfil statutory requirements**

There are several instances of sub-paragraphs or paragraphs being misdescribed in the Regulations.

- a) In regulation 5(8), in the new paragraph (8A), a reference is incorrectly described as “sub-paragraph (8)” but it should be described as “paragraph (8)”. It also means that it is inconsistent with the other references to “paragraph (1A)” and “paragraph (1)” in that new paragraph (8A).
- b) In regulation 7(3)(b), in the new sub-paragraph (8C), the reference is incorrectly described as “sub-paragraphs (a) to (d) of sub-paragraph (8B)” but it should be described as “paragraphs (a) to (d) of sub-paragraph (8B)”.
- c) In regulation 7(3)(b), in the new sub-paragraph (8D), there are references that are incorrectly described as “paragraph (8C)” and “paragraph (8A)(b)(ii)” but they should be described as “sub-paragraph (8C)” and “sub-paragraph (8A)(b)(ii)” respectively. It also means that they are inconsistent with other references to the same or similar provisions in the new sub-paragraphs (8B) to (8D).
- d) In regulation 20, in the new paragraph 11A(8)(b), the reference is incorrectly described as “in sub-paragraph 8(a)”. However, because it is referring to another provision within the same sub-paragraph as itself, it should be described as “in paragraph (a)”.
- e) In regulation 20, in the new paragraph 11B(3)(a), the reference is incorrectly described as “in relation to paragraph (vii)” but it should be described as “in relation to sub-paragraph (vii)”.

## **3. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation**

In regulation 7(3)(b), in the new sub-paragraph (8B)(b) and (c), the Welsh Government is asked to clarify whether the terms “a declaration of local connection” and “merchant seaman” should be repeated in English after the words that correspond to “within the meaning of” in the Welsh text because those terms have only been defined in English in the Representation of the People Act 1983. The same point applies to the terms “child benefit” and “entitled to housing benefit” in the Welsh text of the new paragraph 11B(4)(e) inserted by regulation 20.

## **4. Standing Order 21.2(vii) – that there appear to be inconsistencies between the meaning of its English and Welsh texts**

In regulation 10, there is a difference between the English and Welsh text. In the English text, in the words in parentheses after the reference to Schedule 1 to the 2025 Order, it notes



“(absent voting and Senedd elections)”. But the meaning given by the Welsh text is “(absent voting at Senedd elections)” which is the heading of Schedule 1 to the 2025 Order.

**5. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation**

In regulation 7(3)(b), in the new sub-paragraph (8D)(a), reference is made on two occasions to the “record” kept under article 8(1)(a). Article 8(1)(a) requires the registration officer to keep the postal voters list. The Welsh Government is asked to explain why it decided to use the word “record” rather than “list” in the new sub-paragraph (8D)(a), as it appears that the latter would be a more accurate representation of the requirement.

**6. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation**

In regulation 15, in the new definition of “UK digital service” that is inserted in article 2(1) of the 2025 Order, it refers to “section 13B(8) of the Government of Wales Act 2006”. However, the Government of Wales Act 2006 has already been defined as “the 2006 Act” in article 2(1) of the 2025 Order. Therefore, the defined term should be used in the reference to that Act in the new definition of “UK digital service”.

**7. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation**

In regulation 20, in the new paragraph 11C(8), a specific meaning is given to the word “copy” for the purpose of paragraph 11C. However, “copy” is also used in the new paragraph 11B under regulation 20. Confirmation is therefore requested as to whether the meaning of “copy” applies to both paragraphs 11B and 11C.

**8. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation**

Regulation 29 defines the term “elector” for the purpose of these Regulations. The definition includes wording such as “register”, “anonymous entry”, and “the record of anonymous entries”. Such wording is defined in the 2025 Order, but is not defined in these Regulations. The Welsh Government is asked to confirm whether the wording used in the definition of “elector” is intended to bear the same meaning as in the 2025 Order.

**9. Standing Order 21.2(iv) – that its drafting appears to be defective or it fails to fulfil statutory requirements**

In regulation 32(8)(b), the reference “paragraph 16 of the 2025 Order” is incomplete because it fails to identify the Schedule in which that paragraph is found in the 2025 Order. It appears to be referring to “paragraph 16 of Schedule 1 to the 2025 Order”.

**10. Standing Order 21.2(vii) – that there appear to be inconsistencies between the meaning of its English and Welsh texts**



In regulation 33(2), there is a difference between the English and Welsh text. In the English text, it notes “and the signature refresh date for P’s reserved proxy vote entitlement are aligned” but the meaning given by the Welsh text is “and P’s reserved proxy vote entitlement are aligned”.

## Merits Scrutiny

The following point is identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.3 in respect of this instrument.

### **11. Standing Order 21.3(ii) – that it is of political or legal importance or gives rise to issues of public policy likely to be of interest to the Senedd**

The Regulations amend the donation reporting requirements in the 2025 Order, so that donations below £500 to individual candidates will now be disregarded for official reporting purposes, while donations from permissible donors only need to be reported if they exceed £500. The Welsh Government is asked to provide further information on the reason for this increase.

## Welsh Government response

A Welsh Government response is required.

### **Legal Advisers**

**Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee**

**10 March 2026**



# Agenda Item 3.6

## **SL(6)785 – The Digital Waste Tracking (Wales) Regulations 2026**

### **Background and Purpose**

These Regulations establish a digital waste tracking system, applicable in Wales, the purpose of which is to track controlled waste. They place mandatory requirements on operators of permitted facilities where controlled waste is received for the recording of information about that waste and the entering of information into the digital system.

Controlled waste is household, industrial or commercial waste and has the meaning given in section 75(4) to (8) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Certain waste is excluded from the scope of the Regulations, such as household or other controlled waste deposited at Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs).

Digitally excluded operators of a permitted facility are also exempt from the digital requirements in the Regulations and are instead required to make, keep and, if requested by Natural Resources Wales, provide written records of specified information.

The Explanatory Memorandum (“EM”) explains that, in order to “ensure the effective introduction of the digital system”, all four governments across the UK are planning to implement mandatory requirements in phases. These Regulations are implementing the first phase of the introduction of mandatory digital waste tracking only. In relation to future phases, the EM states:

*“A second phase will see the making of a further instrument that will impose mandatory requirements on other waste industry operators once the digital system is sufficiently developed, including commercial waste received at HWRCs. This second phase will see the digital tracking of waste movements from sites where the waste is produced through to waste receiving sites, including while the waste is in transport.”*

The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs, Huw Irranca-Davies MS, issued a [written statement](#) in relation to these Regulations on 3 March 2026.

### **Procedure**

Senedd approval procedure.

The Welsh Ministers have laid a draft of the Regulations before the Senedd. The Welsh Ministers cannot make the Regulations unless the Senedd approves the draft Regulations.



## Technical Scrutiny

The following 7 points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.2 in respect of this instrument.

### 1. Standing Order 21.2(vi) – that its drafting appears to be defective or it fails to fulfil statutory requirements

In regulation 2, in the definition of “*digitally excluded operator number*”, reference is made to the unique identifying number assigned to a digitally excluded operator by Natural Resources Wales under regulation 10(2)(a). However, no regulation 10(2)(a) exists in these Regulations and it appears that this should instead be a reference to regulation 9(2)(a).

### 2. Standing Order 21.2(vi) – that its drafting appears to be defective or it fails to fulfil statutory requirements

In regulation 4(6), the term “*digital waste tracking number*” (emphasis added) is used. However, this term is not defined and its use in regulation 4(6) is the only instance of its use in the Regulations. The context suggests that the term “*digital waste record number*” (emphasis added), defined in regulation 2, should have been used instead.

### 3. Standing Order 21.2(vii) - that there appear to be inconsistencies between the meaning of its English and Welsh texts

Regulation 9(2) imposes a duty on Natural Resources Wales regarding digitally excluded operator numbers. Regulation 9(2) of the English text says that the duty must be complied with “on receiving an application”. Regulation 9(2) of the Welsh text says that the duty must be complied with “ar ôl cael cais”, i.e. “after receiving an application”.

The Welsh Government is asked to explain what it means to comply with a duty “on” receiving an application, and what it means to comply with a duty “after” receiving an application, and whether any unintended consequences arise from the apparent inconsistency between the two languages.

### 4. Standing Order 21.2(vii) - that there appear to be inconsistencies between the meaning of its English and Welsh texts

In the English text, paragraph 4 of Schedule 1 cross-refers to paragraph 2(1)(d). However, in the Welsh text, paragraph 4 of Schedule 1 cross-refers to paragraph 3(1)(d).

While we note the inconsistency, it is clear from the context that the Welsh text is correct.

### 5. Standing Order 21.2(vii) – that there appear to be inconsistencies between the meaning of its English and Welsh texts

In the English text, paragraph 12 of Schedule 2 says that, in certain circumstances, Natural Resources Wales **may** decide whether to impose a variable monetary penalty. However, in the Welsh text, paragraph 12 of Schedule 2 says that, in the same circumstances, Natural Resources Wales **must** decide whether to impose a variable monetary penalty.



This appears to be an inconsistency between the English text and the Welsh text.

It also raises a question as to why the wording of paragraph 4(1) of Schedule 2 has not been replicated in paragraph 12(1) of Schedule 2 (or vice versa), given that both paragraphs deal with similar enforcement scenarios albeit in relation to fixed monetary penalties and variable monetary penalties respectively.

Paragraph 12(1) of Schedule 2 is drafted on the basis that Natural Resources Wales may/must decide whether to impose the monetary penalty in the notice of intent, with or without modifications. On the other hand, paragraph 4(1) of Schedule 2 is drafted on the basis that Natural Resources Wales may serve a “final notice” imposing a monetary penalty, without expressly referring to a requirement to make a decision.

The Welsh Government is asked to explain whether, in its view, that difference in drafting is likely to affect the clarity of those enforcement scenarios in paragraphs 4 and 12 of Schedule 2.

#### **6. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation**

Paragraphs 2 and 10 of Schedule 2 provide that Natural Resources Wales must serve on a person a “notice of intent” where it proposes to impose a fixed monetary penalty or a variable monetary penalty respectively on that person. Accordingly, a person who has received a notice of intent may discharge liability within 28 days of receiving the notice of intent by paying the amount specified, in accordance with paragraphs 4(1) and 12(1) of Schedule 2.

Paragraphs 2(2) and 10(2) of Schedule 2 set out the information that must be included in a notice of intent proposing to impose a fixed or variable monetary penalty respectively. It is noted that, in those provisions, there is no requirement for a notice of intent to set out how payment may be made, despite the indication in paragraphs 4(1) and 12(1) of Schedule 2 that liability may be discharged by a person through payment.

The Welsh Government is asked to clarify how a person will be made aware of their ability to discharge liability through payment of the specified amount upon receipt of a notice of intent, and the method for making payment, without a requirement in the Regulations for the provision of this information in a notice of intent.

#### **7. Standing Order 21.2(vi) – that its drafting appears to be defective or it fails to fulfil statutory requirements**

Paragraph 15(2) of Schedule 2 states that a person may not be convicted of a related offence (unless the contravention is a continuing act or omission) if they pay a **variable** monetary penalty or discharge liability for a **fixed** monetary penalty within 28 days of the notice of intent being served.



However, as this provision and the other provisions within Part 2 of Schedule 2 relate to variable monetary penalties, it would appear that the reference in paragraph 15(2) to a **fixed** monetary penalty should instead be a reference to a **variable** monetary penalty.

## Merits Scrutiny

The following 2 points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.3 in respect of this instrument.

**8. Standing Order 21.3(i) – that it imposes a charge on the Welsh Consolidated Fund or contains provisions requiring payments to be made to that Fund or any part of the government or to any local or public authority in consideration of any licence or consent or of any services to be rendered, or prescribes the amount of any such charge or payment**

Regulation 5 makes provision in relation to the “*digital waste tracking system fee*”. That fee is set at £26 by regulation 5(1).

In accordance with regulation 5(2), the fee is payable to the “designated person” (defined in both regulations 2 and 3(1) as the Welsh Ministers) when the obligation to comply with the specified steps under regulation 4(4) first arises and then annually, on the anniversary of the obligation first arising, for each subsequent year in which the operator of a permitted facility is required to comply with that obligation.

**9. Standing Order 21.3(i) – that it imposes a charge on the Welsh Consolidated Fund or contains provisions requiring payments to be made to that Fund or any part of the government or to any local or public authority in consideration of any licence or consent or of any services to be rendered, or prescribes the amount of any such charge or payment**

Under Chapter 3 of Part 5 of the Regulations, Natural Resources Wales has the power to impose civil sanctions on persons where it is satisfied that, on the balance of probabilities, a person has contravened a relevant requirement. These sanctions include fixed monetary penalties and variable monetary penalties.

Regulation 21 provides that Natural Resources Wales must pay any penalty it receives under Part 5 into the Welsh Consolidated Fund.

## Welsh Government response

A Welsh Government response is required in relation to the technical reporting points only.

### Legal Advisers

Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

10 March 2026





Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

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## WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

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**TITLE**        **Laying of The Digital Waste Tracking (Wales) Regulations 2026**

**DATE**        **03 March 2026**

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

Today, I have laid **The Digital Waste Tracking (Wales) Regulations 2026** to implement the first phase of the Digital Waste Tracking System (DWTS) in Wales.

Subject to Senedd approval of the Regulations, they will establish an electronic (digital) system for tracking movements of controlled waste. The Regulations place mandatory requirements on operators of permitted sites where controlled waste is received for management to record information about that waste and ensure that information is entered into the digital system using approved software. The Regulations exclude commercial waste received at Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) as they are planned for inclusion in new regulations during the second phase.

The DWTS will be UK-wide, with each nation making its own but closely aligned regulations.

The measures in these Regulations are aimed at reducing waste crime and supporting the Welsh Government's ambitions for a circular economy. They also deliver a commitment in our [Beyond Recycling Strategy](#) to introduce a mandatory electronic waste tracking system to track where wastes end up.

The UK and Devolved Governments held a public consultation on the proposals in 2022. Engagement has continued with stakeholders via user research and established industry working groups as the development of the digital service continues, and this will inform future statutory instruments as requirements are expanded to other industry operators. Guidance for operators who are affected by these Regulations will be published, and will be kept under review and updated when necessary.

The waste industry includes a large number and complex array of operators. These work across the UK in a wide variety of sectors with varying levels of digital capability. To build a stable, effective and user-friendly service it needs to be developed incrementally. This starts with the creation of a firm foundation, which delivers some of the intended benefits, with additional aspects then being added as we learn from testing the core elements of the service in order to move towards a more complete end-to-end DWTS. Following assessment of the options and international best practice, the first phase to be delivered by these Regulations focuses on waste receiving sites inputting data about waste they receive.

A second phase, planned for delivery through future regulations, will see the digital tracking of waste received at HWRCs and waste movements from sites where the waste is produced through to waste receiving sites, including while the waste is in transport.

[The Regulations and associated Explanatory Memorandum and Regulatory Impact Assessment can be accessed here.](#)

I look forward to engaging with Members of the Senedd during the Plenary debate on the Regulations.

Ein cyf/Our ref: CG/PO/135/2026

Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Elin Jones AS/MS  
Llywydd  
Senedd Cymru

Cc: Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitutional Committee

11 March 2026

Dear Elin,

In plenary on 27 January Adam Price raised a without notice question to me regarding an aspect of the National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts) (Prescription of Drugs Etc) (Wales) (Amendment) (No 2) Regulations 2024 (“the No. 2 Regulations”) which was referred to in the judgment in the case of ATB v Welsh Ministers.

I have reviewed the matter. In strict terms the effect of the No. 2 Regulations was to amend an exception to the restriction on prescribing puberty blockers that was established in the National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts) (Prescription of Drugs Etc.) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2024 (“the 2024 Regulations”). However, in the explanatory notes and explanatory memorandum to the No. 2 Regulations the effect was described as being an extension of that restriction.

In the case of ATB v Welsh Ministers the Welsh Government clarified this point in our summary grounds of resistance.

The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care agrees with the points I set out in this letter.

The overall intention as set out to the Senedd at the time the No. 2 Regulations were considered was accurate and has not changed – that is that puberty blockers cannot be prescribed in NHS general practice in Wales for under-18s save for narrow exceptions. It was in this ordinary sense that the Welsh Government sought to convey the effect of both sets of regulations as imposing restrictions on the prescription of puberty blockers to under 18s by the NHS in 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.

References in the explanatory memorandum and explanatory note to the No. 2 Regulations to extending or widening the restrictions and clarifying that the restrictions apply to “any prescriber working under a general medical services contract” were used in that ordinary sense of describing the overall effect across general practice, namely that all prescribers working under a general medical services contract would be, in essence, caught by the same regime (and therefore subject to the same restrictions and exceptions). This aligns with what Members were told and, I believe, would have understood from the context at the time. The explanatory memorandum, read as a whole and alongside the explanatory note and debate, conveyed that intention and outcome.

It may be helpful to consider the effect of regulation 3 of the National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts) (Prescription of Drugs Etc.) (Wales) Regulations 2004 (“the 2004 Regulations”) which the 2024 Regulations and No. 2 Regulations amended. By virtue of regulation 3 the addition of puberty blockers into Schedule 2 to the 2004 Regulations was to set up a prohibition on ordering puberty blockers for patients under a general medical services contract subject to exceptions (regulation 3(a) and (b)). The 2024 Regulations had made provision so that for under 18s puberty blockers could be ordered by a GP but only for treatment other than puberty suppression in respect of gender dysphoria, gender incongruence or both. The effect was that non-GP prescribers under general medical services contracts were prohibited from doing this by virtue of the amendments made by the 2024 Regulations. The No. 2 Regulations made a further amendment in relation to this restriction on the patients and the purposes for which puberty blockers could be ordered under a general medical services contract. This amendment was, in effect, to ensure that all prescribers under a general medical services contract were subject to the same restriction on the patients and purposes for which puberty blockers could be ordered for treatment. It is in this sense that the references to extending or widening the restriction were made.

In short, the language used in the explanatory memorandum and explanatory note to the No. 2 Regulations reflected the practical reality that the restrictions would apply to anyone prescribing in NHS general practice under general medical services contracts, which was the express policy intention.

I do not consider that the Senedd would have been misled as to the overall effect of the No. 2 Regulations. However, on reviewing the matter I believe that an inadvertent error was made in the explanatory note and explanatory memorandum for the No. 2 Regulations. The Cabinet Secretary and I agree that the record should be corrected and apologise for the inadvertent error in describing the strict legal effect of those Regulations.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee.

Yours sincerely,



**Julie James AS/MS**

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

## **SL(6)771 – Strategic Priorities and Objectives** **Statement to Ofwat issued under section 2B of the** **Water Industry Act 1991**

### **Background and Purpose**

The Water Industry Act 1991 (“the 1991 Act”) enables the Welsh Government to publish a statement setting out strategic priorities and objectives (SPS) for Ofwat in carrying out its regulatory functions relating wholly or mainly to Wales. Ofwat is the independent economic regulator for the water industry in England and Wales. This SPS sets out the Welsh Ministers expectations for Ofwat to engage proactively and transparently with Welsh stakeholders and to develop a regulatory approach best able meet the specific requirements of Wales.

Key stakeholders were consulted between November 2025 and January 2026 in accordance with section 2B of the 1991 Act. The Explanatory Memorandum provides that consultees were generally supportive of the draft SPS.

### **Procedure**

Other procedure.

The Welsh Ministers have laid a draft of the Statement before the Senedd. If, within 40 days (excluding any days when the Senedd is: (i) dissolved, or (ii) in recess for more than four days) of the draft being laid, the Senedd resolves not to approve the draft Statement then the Welsh Ministers must not issue the Statement.

If no such resolution is made, the Welsh Ministers must issue the Statement (in the form of the draft).

### **Scrutiny under Standing Order 21.7**

1. The first paragraph of the Statement provides that the Statement reflects the Welsh Government’s *“policy intent outlined in the the Green Paper Reforming Water Governance for Wales”*. The Green Paper referred to does not exist, however a Green Paper titled *“Shaping the Future of Water Governance in Wales”* was published on 3 February 2026. It would be clearer if this introductory paragraph of the Statement referred to the correct Green Paper.

### **Welsh Government response**

A Welsh Government response is required.



## Committee Consideration

The Committee considered the instrument at its meeting on 9 March 2026 and reports to the Senedd in line with the reporting point above.



Senedd Cymru

**Pwyllgor Deddfwriaeth, Cyfiawnder a'r Cyfansoddiad**

—

Welsh Parliament **Pack Page 24**

**Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee**

**Government Response: Strategic Priorities and Objectives Statement to Ofwat issued under section 2B of the Water Industry Act 1991**

**Scrutiny point under Standing Order 21.7:** The Welsh Government note the reporting point and intend on amending the title of the Green Paper in the Statement prior to issuing.

# Agenda Item 6.1

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/133/2026

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

[SeneddLJC@senedd.wales](mailto:SeneddLJC@senedd.wales)

11 March 2026

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 16 March 2026.

Heidi Alexander, Secretary of State for Transport, UK Government, will be chairing the meeting, and it is likely to cover the topics of Transport Strategy, EU-Reset and Bus.

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.

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Rebecca Evans AS/MS  
Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi, Ynni a Chynllunio

Agenda Item 6.2



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Mike Hedges MS  
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee  
Senedd Cymru

9 March 2026

Dear Mike,

In accordance with the inter-institutional relations agreement, I am writing to notify you that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Welsh Government, the North Sea Transition Authority (NTSA) and the UK Government regarding issues relating to onshore petroleum licencing was published on 9 March 2026. It can be found [here](#).

By mutual agreement, the MoU has been published on the NTSA website and a link will be included on the [Welsh Government's petroleum licencing guidance web page](#), rather than hosting it on the dedicated Concordats, memorandums of understanding and other agreements Welsh Government webpage.

This MoU sets out the agreed working arrangements in relation to reserved matters connected to onshore petroleum licencing in Wales. While onshore oil and gas licencing is devolved, certain functions remain reserved to the UK Government, including the setting and waiving of licence rentals, invoicing and collection of rentals, and the power to revoke licences for non-payment. The MoU clarifies how the parties will work together on these matters, including the roles of the NSTA and HM Treasury, and the processes for information-sharing, consent and decision-making.

I have also copied this letter to the chairs of the following committees: Economy, Trade, and Rural Affairs; Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure; and Finance.

Yours sincerely,

**Rebecca Evans AS/MS**  
Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi, Ynni a Chynllunio

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## WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

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<b>TITLE</b>	<b>The REACH (Amendment) Regulations 2026</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>9 March 2026</b>
<b>BY</b>	<b>Huw Irranca-Davies MS, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs</b>

Members of the Senedd will wish to be aware I have given consent to the UK Government's Defra Secretary of State exercising a subordinate legislation-making power in a devolved area in relation to Wales.

In accordance with Article 4A(3) of (EC) No 1907/2006 ("UK REACH") Welsh Ministers' consent was sought from Baroness Hayman of Ullock to make a Statutory Instrument titled [\*The REACH \(Amendment\) Regulations 2026\*](#) ("the Regulations") in relation to Wales.

The Regulations amend Annex XVII of the UK REACH. They introduce new restrictions on the use and placing on the market of ammunition containing lead and its compounds. These changes align UK law with the latest scientific evidence and policy commitments to reduce environmental and health risks associated with lead in shooting activities.

The Regulations amend Annex XVII to add new entries and requirements for projectiles containing lead, including shot and other types of ammunition. The amendments set concentration limits for lead in projectiles and establish phase-out dates for their use at outdoor shooting ranges and in other contexts. Exemptions are provided for air weapons, elite athletes, certain shooting disciplines, and specific professional uses such as police, military, and technical testing.

Additional provisions require outdoor shooting ranges to implement risk reduction measures and maintain documentation for enforcement authorities. Labelling requirements are introduced for certain projectiles containing lead, and suppliers must keep records of sales to elite athletes.

Outdoor shooting ranges must keep documentation of risk reduction measures and submit specified information to Natural Resources Wales (NRW) at least every three years, or whenever there is a change. NRW is also required to establish, publish, and maintain a list of sites that have submitted this information, and may request documentation at any time to verify compliance. Failure to comply may result in enforcement action under the REACH

Enforcement Regulations 2008, including investigation, the issuing of notices, and potential prosecution. NRW will be responsible for ensuring compliance with the requirements.

Each category of projectile and use is assigned a specific date by which its use or placing on the market is prohibited, with transitional arrangements for compliance. The overall aim is to reduce the risks posed by lead in ammunition to wildlife, livestock, soil, water, and public health, while providing proportionate exemptions for specific users and uses.

While the Welsh Government's general principle is that subordinate legislation in devolved areas should be made by the Welsh Ministers where there is executive competence, under UK REACH the Welsh Ministers do not have the power to make these Regulations themselves. Therefore, in this case it is considered appropriate for the Regulations to be made by the Secretary of State. I consider it appropriate for the substance of the UK Government's amendments to apply to Wales to ensure compliance with our environmental and public health commitments and maintain regulatory consistency across the UK.

The Regulations were made on 2 March 2026 by the Secretary of State in exercise of powers conferred by Articles 68(1), 73(2), and 132A of UK REACH and come into force on 1 April 2026.

Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS  
Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog ac Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros  
Newid Hinsawdd a Materion Gwledig  
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate  
Change and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: HID/PO/128

Mike Hedges MS Chair,  
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee  
Senedd Cymru  
[SeneddLJC@senedd.wales](mailto:SeneddLJC@senedd.wales)

9 March 2026

Dear Mike,

### **The REACH (Amendment) Regulations 2026**

I refer to my letter to you of 11 December 2025 regarding The REACH (Amendment) Regulations 2026 ("the Regulations") in which I notified the Committee of my intention to give consent to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs for the Regulations to apply in relation to Wales.

In making the Regulations, the Secretary of State has exercised their functions within an area of devolved competence. Pursuant to Article 4A(3) of (EC) No 1907/2007 the Secretary of State sought my consent and I have now given this. I have also laid a Written Statement which can be found at [The REACH \(Amendment\) Regulations 2026](#)

The Regulations, subject to the negative procedure, were laid and made on 2 March 2026 and will come into force on 1 April 2026. They will apply to Wales, England and Scotland.

Yours sincerely,

**Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS**

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog ac Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Newid Hinsawdd  
a Materion Gwledig  
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs

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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.



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**WRITTEN STATEMENT  
BY  
THE WELSH GOVERNMENT**

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<b>TITLE</b>	<b>UK Statutory Instrument – The Provision of Services (Amendment and Transitional Provision) Regulations 2026</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>9 March 2026</b>
<b>BY</b>	<b>Rebecca Evans MS, Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning</b>

Members of the Senedd will wish to be aware that I have given consent to the Secretary of State to exercise a subordinate legislation-making power in a devolved area in relation to Wales.

Consent was sought by Blair McDougall MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State (Minister for Small Business and Economic Transformation), to make a statutory instrument (SI) amending [The Provision of Services Regulations 2009](#) ('the PoSRs') in devolved areas. The Regulations will apply across the UK.

The Regulations originally transposed the EU Services Directive 2006/123/EC and currently provide a framework of rules for how service activities are regulated in the UK. They ensure that authorisation schemes<sup>1</sup> which are administered by Competent Authorities<sup>2</sup> (CAs) are proportionate, justified in the public interest, and conducted in a fair, accessible and transparent way for businesses.

The purpose of making targeted changes to the Regulations is to make authorisation schemes more transparent, efficient, and cost-effective, and to reduce regulatory burdens for businesses while supporting the UK's trade agenda.

In summary, the proposed reforms cover six areas, five of which will be implemented by the SI, and one which will be implemented by non-legislative measures.

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<sup>1</sup> Schemes concerning licences that businesses or individuals must secure before providing a service.

<sup>2</sup> Examples of Competent Authorities include Welsh Ministers, local authorities and regulators.

*Reforms to be implemented by the SI:*

- a) Expand the benefits of the PoSRs to anyone regardless of nationality or establishment.
- b) Require CAs to provide information to the Secretary of State about tacit authorisation arrangements, including where tacit authorisation does not apply, to state the public interest reason for it not applying.
- c) Add a requirement for CAs running authorisation schemes to keep applicants informed of the status and outcome of their application.
- d) Increase the flexibility of the application process, for example, by requiring CAs to accept licence applications all year round.
- e) Clarify that CAs are prohibited from charging fees at the time of application that encompass costs for ongoing management and enforcement of the authorisation scheme.

*Reforms to be implemented by non-legislative measures:*

- f) Require specific information to be updated on the *Find a Licence* tool and/or the website of the CA, making the list of information to be provided more comprehensive. This reform is not included in the SI as non-legislative options are being proposed by the UK government to ensure information remains up to date, such as issuing annual reminders to CAs to encourage them to check and update content and conduct regular audits.

The Regulations were laid before the UK Parliament by the Secretary of State on 6 March 2026 in exercise of concurrent powers of the Secretary of State in sections 12(1), 14(2) and 20(1) of the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act 2023 (the “REUL Act”. If approved by Parliament, the Regulations will be made, and will come into force on 1 October 2026.

**Impact the instrument may have on the Senedd’s legislative competence and/or the Welsh Ministers’ executive competence**

The Welsh Ministers are a CA under the PoSRs and therefore must comply with the Regulations in how they regulate service providers. The amendments impose new requirements on CAs in connection with authorisation schemes for service providers, and Welsh Ministers will have to comply with these new requirements too.

Although the Welsh Government’s general principle is that the law relating to devolved matters should be made and amended in Wales, on this occasion, providing consent is deemed appropriate.

The Welsh Government’s Principles on UK Legislation in Devolved Areas states that ‘subordinate legislation in devolved areas should be enacted by the Welsh Ministers where there is executive competence’. The Principles do however go on to say, ‘there may also be situations in which it is in the best interests of Wales for UKG Ministers to make secondary

legislative provision which would be within Welsh Ministers' executive competence, with the consent of the Welsh Ministers'. In particular, where the UK legislation covers both devolved and reserved matters and enables policy objectives to be most effectively achieved, it may be appropriate for UKG Ministers to act.

In addition, there are clear justifications for supporting consent to the UKSI:

- a) These changes are not a policy priority for the WG and therefore it is not sensible to divert resources to making the legislation ourselves. The WG would not choose to make these changes of its own volition given the minimal benefits that can be expected to be realised.
- b) The benefits to business may be minimal, but they exist, and they could have an impact on small businesses by easing any difficulties some may encounter when applying for authorisations from CAs.
- c) The changes are unobjectionable from a policy perspective.

Consequently, it is sensible to allow the UK government to make the proposed changes in devolved areas so that Wales can realise small benefits for our businesses without the Welsh Government having to expend resources.

The Regulations are available here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-provision-of-services-amendment-and-transitional-provisions-regulations-2026>

Rebecca Evans AS/MS  
Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi, Ynni a Chynllunio



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Mike Hedges MS  
Chair  
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee  
Welsh Parliament  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

9 March 2026

Dear Mike,

I would like to inform the Committee that I have given my consent to Blair McDougall, MP, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State (Minister for Small Business and Economic Transformation), to lay a Statutory Instrument, The Provision of Services (Amendment and Transitional Provision) Regulations 2026, which will amend the Provision of Services Regulations 2009 ('the Regulations') in devolved areas. I have laid a Written Statement which can be found at: <https://www.gov.wales/written-statement-uk-statutory-instrument-provision-services-amendment-and-transitional-provision>

The Regulations relate to an area of devolved policy and apply to Wales. The Regulations also apply to England, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The Regulations are subject to the affirmative procedure and were laid before Parliament on 6 March 2026 with a commencement date of 1 October 2026.

Yours sincerely,

**Rebecca Evans AS/MS**  
Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi, Ynni a Chynllunio

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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.

**Back Page 34**  
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.



Ein cyf/Our ref: MA-MDFWL-0484-26

Andrew RT Davies MS  
Chair  
Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee  
Senedd Cymru  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

6 March 2026

Dear Andrew

### **Development of Tourism and Regulation of Visitor Accommodation (Wales) Bill – Revised Explanatory Memorandum**

I am writing to inform you that I have laid a copy of the revised Explanatory Memorandum to the Development of Tourism and Regulation of Visitor Accommodation (Wales) Bill, ahead of the Stage 3 proceedings on the Bill on 10 March.

A number of revisions have been made to the Explanatory Memorandum in response to Stage 1 Committee recommendations, and to reflect amendments made to the Bill at Stage 2. The main revisions are:

- changes to reflect the replacement at Stage 2 of the 'fire prevention standard' included in the Bill as introduced, with the 'fire safety standard' (paragraphs 3.51, 7.20, & 8.72-8.74);
- an explanation of the 'prevention of nuisance & annoyance' licensing condition added to the Bill at Stage 2 (paragraph 3.57, the 'Benefits' section at page 42, & paragraph 7.23);
- further detail as to which bodies might potentially be responsible for particular licensing authority functions (paragraphs 3.58, 7.6, & 7.17);
- the addition of a reference to the £0.43m of Welsh Government funding for WRA to support discovery work for the licensing system including interaction with the registration system being established under the VARL Act (paragraph 8.15); and
- the inclusion of outcomes from a sensitivity analysis conducted in relation to how the administrative cost of the scheme may vary according to the number of compliance cases which require physical inspection of a premises to be conducted

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(paragraphs 8.52-8.53).

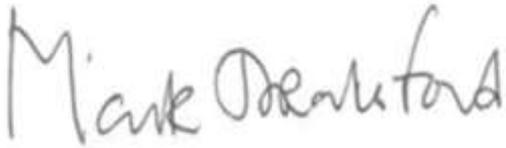
The Explanatory Notes have also been updated to reflect amendments made to the Bill at Stage 2.

Officials have also taken the opportunity to rectify some inconsistencies identified between the Welsh and English versions of the EM laid at introduction. The EM laid at introduction has, of course, been superseded by the new version laid on 4 March.

I hope this information is useful, and I would once again like to thank you and the Committee for your considered scrutiny of the Bill.

I am copying this letter to the Chairs of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, and the Finance Committee, for information.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Drakeford". The signature is written in a cursive style and is enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

**Mark Drakeford AS/MS**

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyllid a'r Gymraeg  
Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language

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

6 March 2026

**Legislative Consent: Public Office (Accountability) Bill**

Dear Huw,

Thank you for attending the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee on 26 February 2026 and giving evidence in relation to the Legislative Consent Memorandum, Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No. 2) and Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No. 3) relating to the Public Office (Accountability) Bill ('the Bill').

The Committee was assured that the Welsh Government has taken steps to engage with stakeholders affected by the Bill and that dialogue between the UK and Welsh governments had improved since the first Legislative Consent Memorandum relating to the Bill was laid in October 2025. Nonetheless we would appreciate responses to the following questions:

- We were encouraged to learn of the stakeholder forum arranged by the Welsh Government for 11 March. We would be grateful if you could clarify what the agenda and intended outputs for the forum will be, and how feedback will be captured and published, including whether this will be made available ahead of the Plenary debate on 24 March?
- During your evidence session, Members raised the potential benefits or drawbacks of aligning approaches across both this Bill and secondary legislation made under Part 3 of the Senedd Cymru (Member Accountability and Elections) Bills, given the overlap in concepts around false or misleading statements. Can you explain how you will ensure standards are coherent and duplication is avoided?

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.  
We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

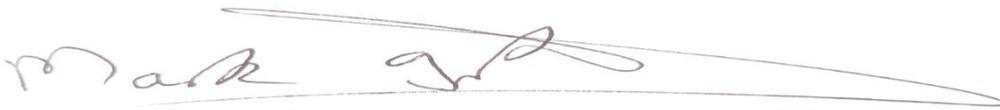
- We are mindful of the practical implications for Welsh public bodies that the proposed duty of candour and offence of misleading the public will have. What assessment has the Welsh Government made of how the Bill could create new civil liabilities or impact public bodies' public indemnity insurance arrangements?

We also note that you made a commitment to provide further information to the Committee on any assessments the Welsh Government has made on the interaction between this Bill and existing mechanisms of parliamentary privilege to ensure clarity for Ministers and Members of the Senedd on the impact of this legislation.

We would be grateful if you could provide this information and a response to the questions outlined above by Monday 16 March to inform the Plenary debate on Tuesday 24 March.

A copy of this letter has been sent to the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Mark Isherwood', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mark Isherwood MS

Chair of the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee

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**WRITTEN STATEMENT  
BY  
THE WELSH GOVERNMENT**

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**TITLE**            **Publication of independent research into options for income tax devolution in Wales**

**DATE**            **6 March 2026**

**BY**                **Mark Drakeford MS, Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language**

Since April 2019, Wales has had the power to set Welsh Rates of Income Tax. However, since then, taxpayers in Wales have paid the same level of income tax as taxpayers in England and Northern Ireland.

The partial devolution of income tax has had a significantly positive impact on the revenue available to the Welsh Government to support public spending over this period. This is because the income tax base in Wales has grown more rapidly than it has in England and Northern Ireland. As a result, the Welsh budget in 2026-27 is £360m higher than it would have been without the partial devolution of income tax.

This is in stark contrast to the claims made by some that income tax devolution would have a negative impact on Wales' fiscal position.

However, this period has also exposed the limits of partial devolution of income tax. To raise substantial revenues either requires an increase in the basic rate, which impacts most on people on modest incomes, or very large increases to the higher or additional rates, which could potentially have significant behavioural impacts and erode revenues. Any reductions in rates would reduce revenues and undermine investment in Welsh public services at a time when public services are under significant pressure.

In March 2025, I commissioned independent research to look at the options for alternative measures of income tax devolution. The research team from the Fraser of Allander Institute and Bangor University have today published their [Future options for income tax devolution in Wales report](#). I would like to thank the team for the quality and clarity of their analysis.

The analysis highlights there is no single, optimal system of income tax devolution. Any change would have to balance appetite for greater policy control and flexibility with appetite for risk. Greater ability to vary rates and bands carries greater risk.

The research demonstrates that a more comprehensive form of devolution increases both the risks and rewards if the taxbase in Wales grows at a different rate to that elsewhere in the UK, particularly at the top end of the income distribution.

The analysis also highlights the importance of considering the specific design of the Block Grant Adjustment (BGA). There is no “correct” form for a BGA and no form comes without risk and opportunity. However, the researchers demonstrate the nature of those risks and opportunities differs with the form of the BGA.

The increased exposure to risk that comes with more control over income tax would need to come with improved tools to manage risk. A point would be reached where the current fiscal flexibilities available to the Welsh Government would not be sufficient to enable proper financial management if the Welsh budget was exposed to greater variation in the net position from income tax.

Any change to income tax in Wales requires discussion and negotiation with the UK Government and legislation in the UK Parliament, with the consent of the Senedd. The current Welsh Rates of Income Tax were the product of a lengthy process of debate and development, including the Silk Commission’s first report, the Wales Act 2014, and the Wales Act 2017.

This Report is therefore published as a contribution to any such future debate.

Peredur Griffiths AS/MS  
Chair, Finance Committee

10 March 2026

Dear Peredur

### **Senedd Cymru (Member Accountability and Elections) Bill**

Further to my letter of 9 January 2026 regarding the Welsh Government's response to the Finance Committee's recommendations on the financial implications of the Senedd Cymru (Member Accountability and Elections) Bill, I am writing to provide an updated position ahead of Stage 3 proceedings.

In accordance with Standing Order 26.28, I have today laid before the Senedd a revised Explanatory Memorandum which takes account of amendments made to the Bill at Stage 2. The Explanatory Memorandum also includes a revised Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA), which responds to a number of the committee recommendations at Stage 1.

My officials have continued to work closely with the Senedd Commission on the Committee's recommendations and further detail has been provided in the RIA in respect of:

- Costs for providing lay Members to be appointed to the Standards of Conduct Committee with an induction programme, and
- The opportunity costs associated with the Commissioner for Standards undertaking own initiative investigations.

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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.

I am copying this letter to the Llywydd, the Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee and all Members of the Senedd for information.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie James". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Julie James AS/MS**

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



Elin Jones MS  
Llywydd  
Senedd Cymru

10 March 2026

Dear Elin,

**Senedd Cymru (Member Accountability and Elections) Bill**

I write to inform you that following engagement with the UK Government, Minister of the Crown consent has been received in respect of the following relevant provisions in the Senedd Cymru (Member Accountability and Elections) Bill:

- Section 4, which places a duty on the courts of England and Wales to notify the Llywydd if a Member of the Senedd is convicted of an offence in England and Wales and sentenced or ordered to be imprisoned or, where a sentence or conviction is overturned on appeal.
- Section 11(3), which will (if amendment 3 tabled in my name is agreed during Stage 3 proceedings) set out a list of reserved authorities in relation to which functions can be placed in respect of recall polls by regulations made under section 11.
- Section 11(4) which requires the Welsh Ministers to consult with the Electoral Commission before making regulations under section 11.
- Paragraph 2(5) and (6) of Schedule 1 which amends sections 6C and 6D of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 to add recall polls to types of proceedings in respect of which individuals and organisations may apply to be accredited observers.

This letter has been copied to the Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, in follow up to my letter dated 6 February 2026.

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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.

I am also copying this letter to the Chair of the Finance Committee and all Members of the Senedd.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie James". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Julie James AS/MS**

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

Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS  
Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog ac Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet  
dros Newid Hinsawdd a Materion Gwledig  
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for  
Climate Change and Rural Affairs

Agenda Item 7.6

Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref HID PO 132 26

Llyr Gruffydd MS  
Chair Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee  
[SeneddClimate@senedd.wales](mailto:SeneddClimate@senedd.wales)

10 March 2026

Dear Llyr,

Thank you for your letter to the First Minister about the UK-Germany Treaty on Friendship and Bilateral Cooperation and its implications for the delivery of our energy and climate change priorities in Wales. I am replying in respect of my portfolio responsibilities.

The Welsh Government's cooperation with Germany is primarily focused on areas of trade and investment and on activities to raise Wales's profile; however, the themes of energy, climate and sustainability underpin our activity, in line with the ambition to establish Wales as a globally responsible nation.

Welsh Government officials engaged with the UK Government during the development of the Treaty and were able to provide input on areas that intersected with devolved responsibilities.

The implementation of the Treaty is the responsibility of the UK Government; however, Welsh Government officials will engage on relevant opportunities in areas of devolved competence.

Yours sincerely,



**Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS**

Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog ac Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Newid Hinsawdd a Materion Gwledig  
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Climate Change and Rural Affairs

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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.

Eluned Morgan MS,  
First Minister, Welsh Government

26 February 2026

Dear Eluned,

**UK-Germany Treaty on Friendship and Bilateral Cooperation**

At our meeting on 25 February, we considered correspondence from the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee in relation to the UK-Germany Treaty on Friendship and Bilateral Cooperation, as the Treaty new means for cooperation across areas that fall within our remit.

We noted that the UK Government's Explanatory Memorandum confirms that the Welsh Government was consulted on the agreement but no further detail is provided. On that basis, we would be grateful if you could clarify:

- whether the Welsh Government is content with the Treaty's specific provisions on climate, energy, nature, environment;
- the Welsh Government's priorities for cooperation with Germany in these areas, and whether any of its feedback, views and priorities were reflected in the final draft; and
- the role, if any, of the Welsh Government in implementation of the Treaty.

A response by midday on 13 March would be much appreciated if possible.

Yours sincerely,



Llyr Gruffydd MS,  
Chair, Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

**Public Accounts and Public  
Administration Committee**

**Senedd Cymru**

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Mike Hedges MS  
Chair, Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee  
Via email

12 March 2026

**Welsh Government's Legislative Improvement Plan**

Dear Mike,

As a member of the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee, you will be aware of the recent evidence sessions held with Dr Andrew Goodall, the Permanent Secretary and other senior officials, scrutinising the Welsh Government on its accounts for 2024 – 25.

During the Committee meeting on 4 February, the Permanent Secretary agreed to write to Members with further details about the Welsh Government's Legislative Improvement Plan and the ways in which the delivery and support of legislation can be improved.

A copy of the Permanent Secretary's correspondence is included as an annex to this letter. I trust that this will be of interest to you as these matters fall within the remit of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee.

Yours sincerely,



Mark Isherwood MS

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.  
We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.



**Dr Andrew Goodall**  
Ysgrifennydd Parhaol  
Permanent Secretary



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Mark Isherwood MS  
Chair, Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee  
Welsh Parliament  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1SN

27 February 2026

Dear Mr Isherwood

At the Public Accounts and Public Administration Committee on 4 February, I committed to provide further detail on the plans to improve the way we support the development and delivery of legislation.

Work to deliver legislation involves various specialisms, including policy development, legal advice, legislative drafting and translation. Our improvement work has therefore been based on a significant internal engagement exercise with staff across the organisation, seeking to understand what works well now, and where we can improve. The focus of this work is on the internal role of the civil service in delivering the legislative priorities of Ministers. In developing and progressing this work we have drawn on external advice and international experience.

Our objective is to improve our effectiveness and consistency in how we develop legislation from its earliest stages; increase collaboration between the many disciplines involved; strengthen our internal governance arrangements; and improve the training and support offered to those working on all stages of legislation.

Some actions have already been completed: although some of its functions were already being fulfilled, a central Legislation Division led by a Senior Civil Servant has been introduced to strengthen the overarching management of the legislative programme (including subordinate legislation), develop and deploy specialist staff to individual projects (as outlined further below) and provide a central hub for advice, support and training in relation to legislation.



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This work is part of our commitment to *continuously* improve how we work, to ensure that the civil service is equipped to support Ministers in the context of a growing legislature. It is therefore an ongoing reform agenda, with a current focus on the following themes:

**Better understanding of the statute book:** Develop deeper and more consistent expertise of the range of primary and secondary law in force across devolved policy areas. This is vital to fulfil two core responsibilities: to advise Ministers on legislative options to deliver their policy priorities and to support routine identification of any technical changes that would improve the law's effectiveness or drive efficiency.

**Smaller, more focused legislation:** Seek to ensure that Bills are more tightly defined in scope, with experience showing that Bills which are more focused in scope can be delivered more quickly and more effectively. Large, wide-ranging Bills can be difficult to support and risk proceeding at the pace of the slowest part; whereas more focused and properly sequenced Bills can expedite progression and delivery of the policy aims.

**Strengthened governance:** Provide regular delivery assurance and an escalation route to Directors General and to me as Permanent Secretary, through group governance arrangements. These have been strengthened through the introduction of specialist cross-cutting arrangements that will provide regular assurance and advice throughout the development cycle; identifying specific actions that will need to be taken later in a Bill's development to secure timely delivery. At Ministerial level, governance for the overall legislative programme is currently provided by the Cabinet Sub-Committee on Legislation, chaired by the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery.

**Central Legislation Specialist Pool:** Provide dedicated project management expertise to policy teams developing primary legislation. A central pool of Bill Managers has been established to allow the flexible deployment of individuals with specialist knowledge of legislation processes to Bill projects.

Understanding how to turn high level policy ideas into legislation is a specific skill and to support subject specific policymakers and raise capability further, the centrally managed pool has been broadened to include this 'policy for legislation' expertise. Further consideration is being given to expanding this approach in the next Senedd.

**Effective inception and collaboration:** A mandated and consistent approach to initiating Bill projects has been piloted, bringing together all relevant functions involved in the development of each Bill and its associated documents. These sessions ensure a shared understanding of the policy goal, the policy and legislative levers available, implementation proposals, and an agreed collaborative operating model for the project. This will be rolled out for all new Bill projects in the Seventh Senedd.



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**Training offer:** Feedback from the current training offer shows sessions are well attended and positively received. To maintain its relevance and take account of changes to the Senedd and to the legislative framework the current offer is being reviewed and the offer updated.

I hope that this provides a useful overview of the work underway as part of our legislative improvement agenda.

Yours,



**Dr Andrew Goodall**  
Ysgrifennydd Parhaol/ Permanent Secretary  
Llywodraeth Cymru/ Welsh Government



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

Agenda Item 7.8  


Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref:KS/PO/135/2026

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

[SeneddLJC@senedd.wales](mailto:SeneddLJC@senedd.wales)

12 March 2026

Dear Mike

Thank you for your letter of 24 February attaching questions from the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee relating to the legislative consent memoranda for the UK Government's Railways Bill.

My answers to those questions are attached to this letter.

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.

**1. Please explain why a legislative consent memorandum was not laid until 11 weeks after the Bill's introduction.**

The breadth of the Bill is considerable, and it contains 93 clauses and 3 schedules. Policy officials have been working through the detail required. Although we had some productive discussions with the UK Government before the Bill was published, the size of the Bill and its continuing evolution until introduction posed a challenge in carrying out our analysis.

**2. Please provide an update on the Welsh Government's position in respect of the clauses set out at paragraphs 103 to 109 of the legislative consent memorandum laid on 21 January 2026 (the Memorandum).**

I am pleased to provide an update as follows.

In relation to paragraph 103 – Having considered further, I do not think that further provision is required in the Bill. If circumstances suggest that further co-operation would be beneficial, I could look into ways of achieving that.

In relation to paragraph 104 - My officials will pursue the issue with UK Government officials.

In relation to paragraph 105 – Having considered the position, my understanding is that the Bill replicates the existing designation position and there is no change to the status quo. I am content with this and so I require no further engagement on this point.

In relation to paragraph 106 - UK Government amendments (Gov 170 and 171) to Clause 31 have addressed the concern originally raised.

In relation to paragraphs 107 and 108 – I intend to use the Memorandum of Understanding referred to in clause 24 (“MoU”) to address the concerns.

Paragraph 109 - it is my understanding that it is highly unlikely the requirement within this clause to consult with Mayoral Strategic Authorities will apply directly. I am content.

**3. Please provide an update on the engagement between the Welsh Government and the UK Government referenced at paragraph 111 of the Memorandum and at paragraph 12 of the supplementary legislative consent memorandum laid on 2 February 2026 (Memorandum No. 2).**

Welsh Government and Transport for Wales have worked closely with UK Government officials since the start of the year on the MOU and to specifically consider the points raised in the LCM and to ensure the Railways Bill achieves the best deal for Wales. This

engagement has taken the form of twice weekly meetings and has resulted in constructive dialogue.

- 4. Please provide your understanding as to why there is no requirement in clause 3 of the Bill for the Secretary of State to engage with the Welsh Ministers when imposing additional functions on Great British Railways (GBR) which affect devolved areas in Wales.**

My understanding is that adding a consultation requirement is considered unnecessary by UK Government officials as the Railways Bill should provide GBR with most functions the SoS requires it to carry out, and it is therefore unlikely that they will rely on this power. It is also worth noting that under clause 16, GBR and ORR will be required to have regard to strategies, including the Wales Transport Strategy. In addition, this power cannot be used to alter the devolved settlement and I expect the MoU to provide a mechanism for the Welsh Ministers to influence the organisation and design of GBR.

- 5. Please provide an update on the exploratory work referenced at paragraph 103 of the Memorandum in relation to a proposed amendment of clause 4 of the Bill.**

Please see my response to Question 2.

- 6. Please provide your understanding as to why clause 4(2) of the Bill requires the Welsh Ministers to consult the Secretary of State in relation to the arrangements set out within clause 4(1) of the Bill, and what form such arrangements are anticipated to take**

My understanding is that clause 4(1) provides Welsh Ministers with the option of asking GBR to provide services on their behalf. This could take varying forms from delivering passenger services to providing a joined-up procurement to save costs. This consultation requirement ensures that the views of the Secretary of State, as sole shareholder of GBR, are considered before GBR is tasked with new activity on Welsh Ministers' behalf.

- 7. In light of clause 33(1), which enables a direction under clause 7 of the Bill to be issued to GBR on the general level and structure of fares, please provide your understanding as to why clause 7 does not enable the Welsh Ministers to give directions to GBR, and the Welsh Government's position on this matter.**

My understanding is that powers of direction over GBR have been provided where the Secretary of State is a direct funder of GBR railway services and infrastructure. I am content with this.

- 8. Please clarify how amendment Gov 167, referenced in Memorandum No. 2, broadens the circumstances in which the Secretary of State must obtain the consent of the Welsh Ministers when giving directions to GBR under clause 7 of the Bill.**

My understanding is that the original drafting may have inadvertently created a scenario in which consent was not required on a matter that Welsh Ministers had delegated to GBR outside of passenger service. This amendment ensures that Welsh Ministers' consent is required in relation to all things which they might arrange for GBR to do on their behalf, whether under clause 4 of the Bill or under a contract awarded under clause 31(4)(b).

- 9. In light of clause 33(2), which enables guidance under clause 9 of the Bill to be issued on the general level and structure of fares, please provide your understanding as to why clause 9 does not enable the Welsh Ministers to give guidance to GBR, and the Welsh Government's position on this matter.**

My understanding is that the reasoning in relation to this power to provide guidance is the same as in relation to the power to provide directions (see question 7). I am content with this.

- 10. Please set out the Welsh Government's position in respect of clause 12 of, and Part 1 of Schedule 2 to, the Bill, with regard to there being no requirement for GBR to consult the Welsh Ministers about its business plan, nor a requirement for the Welsh Ministers to approve GBR's business plan, nor a requirement for the Secretary of State to notify the Welsh Ministers when providing financial assistance to GBR.**

My understanding is that GBR is empowered to deliver an improved and integrated railway, balancing delivery and trade-offs, whilst being accountable to Secretary of State as the funder. The business plan will be developed in-line with GBR's statutory duties which will include requirements to have due regard to Welsh Ministers' strategies, and the statement of objectives and long-term strategy, for which the Welsh Ministers are statutory consultees. I am content with this.

- 11. Please provide your understanding as to why clause 15 of the Bill only requires the Secretary of State to consult, rather than obtain the consent of, the Welsh Ministers when preparing, revising or replacing the rail strategy under its subsection (1), and the Welsh Government's position on this matter.**

My understanding is that the Secretary of State will be responsible for the long term strategy as it relates to Great Britain and so it is considered that a requirement to secure Welsh Ministers' consent would be inappropriate. I am content with this.

- 12. Please set out the Welsh Government’s position in respect of clause 16 of the Bill, with regard to its requirement for the Office for Rail and Road (ORR) and GBR to only “have regard to” the Wales Transport Strategy, with no requirement for those bodies to comply with the strategy.**

My understanding is that GBR and the ORR will be required to balance the strategies of many stakeholders, including the interests of freight, Mayoral Strategic Authorities and the Secretary of State's Long Term Railway Strategy. These strategies may not always align and so a duty to comply with them could be unmanageable. I am content with this.

- 13. Please provide your understanding as to why clause 21 of the Bill only requires the Secretary of State to consult, rather than obtain the consent of, the Welsh Ministers before giving, varying or revoking guidance to the ORR under clause 21(1), and the Welsh Government’s position on this matter.**

My understanding is that the guidance power relates to functions that are exercised on a Great Britain-wide basis by a single independent regulator; requiring consent could create a unilateral veto over GB-wide regulatory direction. The ORR will also provide advice to funders of GBR railway services and infrastructure and so Scottish Ministers, as funders, have also been given the power to issue guidance to the ORR. I am content with this.

- 14. Please provide your understanding as to why the Bill provides for a Memorandum of Understanding to be prepared which sets out how the Secretary of State and the Welsh Ministers will work together in the exercise of their respective functions in relation to railways and railway services; and why it was not possible for this information to be set out on the face of the Bill. Please also set out the Welsh Government’s position on this matter.**

My understanding is that these commitments reflect how the Secretary of State and Welsh Ministers will work together in practice, and recording practical arrangements in legislation would not only provide little flexibility in how services are delivered, and also limit how these commitments can be amended, as the railway and its delivery evolves and develops. I am content with this.

- 15. Please clarify the content and effect of amendment Gov 169, referenced in Memorandum No. 2, and whether the amendment addresses the concerns regarding clause 24 noted in paragraph 104 of the Memorandum.**

Amendment Gov 169 sets out additional provisions in the non-exhaustive list of provisions which the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the SoS and Welsh Ministers may include, in particular being the use to be made of the power to give directions under section 7. See my answer to question 2 in respect of paragraph 104.

**16. Please provide your understanding as to why the Secretary of State is not required to consult the Welsh Ministers before designating a Welsh service, while it is required under clause 25 of the Bill to consult the Scottish Ministers before designating a cross-border service. Please also set out the Welsh Government's position on this matter.**

I expect the MoU to reiterate that (a) the current devolution settlement for Wales will be preserved and (b) that Ministers agree that the existing devolution settlement represents a baseline of service for which Welsh Ministers are responsible to deliver. It is intended that any future designation will be done in collaboration with the Welsh Ministers. I am content with this.

**17. Please provide your understanding as to why clause 28 of the Bill only requires the Secretary of State to consult, rather than obtain the consent of, the Welsh Ministers before exercising the power to exempt a Welsh service from designation under this clause. Please also set out the Welsh Government's position on this matter.**

My understanding is that the power to exempt a service from designation is usually used to facilitate local devolution of services (e.g. to Transport for London). Because of the commitments I expect in the MoU relating to baseline services, it is not considered necessary to add a requirement for the Secretary of State to seek the consent of Welsh Ministers for exemptions from designation. I am content with this.

**18. Please set out the Welsh Government's position on the application of the Senedd annulment procedure to regulations made under clause 29 of the Bill, and whether the Senedd approval procedure would be more appropriate.**

I believe that the Senedd annulment procedure for regulations made under Clause 29 of the Bill is appropriate. It is consistent with the principles for annulment procedure in paragraph 10.12 the WG Legislation Handbook on Senedd Bills [Legislation handbook on Senedd bills](#). I am content with this.

**19. Please clarify the scrutiny procedure applicable to regulations made under clause 72 of the Bill that make consequential amendments to primary legislation regarding non-GBR infrastructure. Please also clarify whether the power in clause 72 may be used to amend primary legislation within the legislative competence of the Senedd, and, if so, whether the Secretary of State will be required to consent to the exercise of the power in this way.**

The scrutiny procedure applicable to regulations made under clause 72 of the Bill is in clause 89(3)(b) of the Bill, ie the affirmative procedure in Parliament. In principle the power may be used to amend primary legislation within the legislative competence of the Senedd. I expect the MoU to deal with operational concerns. I assume that the last reference to "Secretary of State" in the question is intended to refer instead to the Welsh Ministers. There is no requirement for the Welsh Ministers to consent to the exercise of the power in this way.

**20. Please explain why you do not consider that clause 73 of the Bill requires the consent of the Senedd.**

The omission of clause 73 (interpretation of Chapter 1 of Part 3) is an oversight which I intend to rectify. It does not prevent consideration by the Senedd of the substance of the clauses to which it relates.

**21. Please set out the Welsh Government's position on the absence of a power for the Welsh Ministers to make provision that is consequential to the Bill, congruent to the power of the Secretary of State under clause 88 of the Bill.**

Clause 88 enables the Secretary of State to ensure that the statute book is tidy and appropriately reflects the changes made by this Bill. I am content with this.

**22. Please provide further detail about amendment Gov NC23, in respect of the charging for removal etc of road vehicles and referenced in Memorandum No. 2, with particular reference to who will be responsible for such removal etc, how such charges will be made and what will happen in the event that they are not paid.**

My understanding is as follows. The relevant operator of a station or network would have the power to remove a vehicle in breach of byelaws. There would likely be a sign making clear that parking was prohibited and the charge for breaching the byelaw. Costs would be recovered as a debt if not paid.

Ken Skates MS  
Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales

24 February 2026

Dear Ken

### Legislative Consent Memoranda on the Railways Bill

At the Committee's meeting on 23 February 2026, we considered the legislative consent memoranda you laid in respect of the UK Government's Railways Bill on 21 January 2026 and 2 February 2026.

To inform the Committee's consideration of the memoranda, I would be grateful if you could address the questions set out in the annex to this letter.

The Business Committee has set a deadline of Friday 20 March 2026 for reporting on the memoranda. Please could you therefore respond to the questions by Monday 9 March 2026.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee.

Yours sincerely,



Mike Hedges  
Chair

## Annex

1. Please explain why a legislative consent memorandum was not laid until 11 weeks after the Bill's introduction.
2. Please provide an update on the Welsh Government's position in respect of the clauses set out at paragraphs 103 to 109 of the legislative consent memorandum laid on 21 January 2026 (the Memorandum).
3. Please provide an update on the engagement between the Welsh Government and the UK Government referenced at paragraph 111 of the Memorandum and at paragraph 12 of the supplementary legislative consent memorandum laid on 2 February 2026 (Memorandum No. 2).
4. Please provide your understanding as to why there is no requirement in clause 3 of the Bill for the Secretary of State to engage with the Welsh Ministers when imposing additional functions on Great British Railways (GBR) which affect devolved areas in Wales.
5. Please provide an update on the exploratory work referenced at paragraph 103 of the Memorandum in relation to a proposed amendment of clause 4 of the Bill.
6. Please provide your understanding as to why clause 4(2) of the Bill requires the Welsh Ministers to consult the Secretary of State in relation to the arrangements set out within clause 4(1) of the Bill, and what form such arrangements are anticipated to take.
7. In light of clause 33(1), which enables a direction under clause 7 of the Bill to be issued to GBR on the general level and structure of fares, please provide your understanding as to why clause 7 does not enable the Welsh Ministers to give directions to GBR, and the Welsh Government's position on this matter.
8. Please clarify how amendment Gov 167, referenced in Memorandum No. 2, broadens the circumstances in which the Secretary of State must obtain the consent of the Welsh Ministers when giving directions to GBR under clause 7 of the Bill.
9. In light of clause 33(2), which enables guidance under clause 9 of the Bill to be issued on the general level and structure of fares, please provide your understanding as to why clause 9 does not enable the Welsh Ministers to give guidance to GBR, and the Welsh Government's position on this matter.
10. Please set out the Welsh Government's position in respect of clause 12 of, and Part 1 of Schedule 2 to, the Bill, with regard to there being no requirement for GBR to consult the Welsh Ministers about its business plan, nor a requirement for the Welsh Ministers to

approve GBR's business plan, nor a requirement for the Secretary of State to notify the Welsh Ministers when providing financial assistance to GBR.

11. Please provide your understanding as to why clause 15 of the Bill only requires the Secretary of State to consult, rather than obtain the consent of, the Welsh Ministers when preparing, revising or replacing the rail strategy under its subsection (1), and the Welsh Government's position on this matter.
12. Please set out the Welsh Government's position in respect of clause 16 of the Bill, with regard to its requirement for the Office for Rail and Road (ORR) and GBR to only "have regard to" the Wales Transport Strategy, with no requirement for those bodies to comply with the strategy.
13. Please provide your understanding as to why clause 21 of the Bill only requires the Secretary of State to consult, rather than obtain the consent of, the Welsh Ministers before giving, varying or revoking guidance to the ORR under clause 21(1), and the Welsh Government's position on this matter.
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17. Please provide your understanding as to why clause 28 of the Bill only requires the Secretary of State to consult, rather than obtain the consent of, the Welsh Ministers before exercising the power to exempt a Welsh service from designation under this clause. Please also set out the Welsh Government's position on this matter.
18. Please set out the Welsh Government's position on the application of the Senedd annulment procedure to regulations made under clause 29 of the Bill, and whether the Senedd approval procedure would be more appropriate.



19. Please clarify the scrutiny procedure applicable to regulations made under clause 72 of the Bill that make consequential amendments to primary legislation regarding non-GBR infrastructure. Please also clarify whether the power in clause 72 may be used to amend primary legislation within the legislative competence of the Senedd, and, if so, whether the Secretary of State will be required to consent to the exercise of the power in this way.
20. Please explain why you do not consider that clause 73 of the Bill requires the consent of the Senedd.
21. Please set out the Welsh Government's position on the absence of a power for the Welsh Ministers to make provision that is consequential to the Bill, congruent to the power of the Secretary of State under clause 88 of the Bill.
22. Please provide further detail about amendment Gov NC23, in respect of the charging for removal etc of road vehicles and referenced in Memorandum No. 2, with particular reference to who will be responsible for such removal etc, how such charges will be made and what will happen in the event that they are not paid.



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## WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

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<b>TITLE</b>	<b>The Welsh Government response to the President of Welsh Tribunals Sixth Annual Report 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>12 March 2026</b>
<b>BY</b>	<b>Julie James MS, Counsel General and Minister for Delivery</b>

The [President of Welsh Tribunals published his Sixth Annual Report](#) in August 2025, detailing the operations, workload and priorities of the Welsh Tribunals for the financial year 2024-25. As with previous years, through the annual report the President represents the views of members of the Welsh Tribunals to the Welsh Ministers and the Senedd. I therefore laid the report before the Senedd in October last year.

Unfortunately, given exceptional pressures on Senedd business this term - including the passage of the Mental Health Review Tribunal for Wales (Membership) Act 2026 under emergency procedures - it has not been possible to schedule a Government led plenary debate on the report before dissolution, as has been done in previous years. A Written Statement therefore ensures that the Government's response is placed on the public record before the end of this current Senedd. I also welcome the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee's scrutiny of the report in December 2025.

Before responding to matters highlighted in the report, I would firstly, like to reiterate the Welsh Government's appreciation of the leadership of Sir Gary Hickinbottom as President of Welsh Tribunals. Sir Gary's commitment to the effective operation of the devolved justice system and to optimising the performance of all our tribunals is clear from his report. His pragmatic approach is central to the effective delivery of justice for the people of Wales and to maintaining constructive and collaborative relationships with the Welsh Government.

The President has highlighted a number of key matters in the report, to which I respond as follows:

### **Budget**

I and my predecessors have had constructive discussions with the President about the budget for the tribunal service. The recalibration of tribunal service budget allocations in 2024/25 to reflect pressures on running costs has strengthened financial management for

the current and future financial years. We remain committed to supporting an effective, efficient and independent user-focused tribunal service.

### **Tribunal reform programme**

The President's continued support for the tribunal reform agenda is welcomed. However, I acknowledge his disappointment regarding the absence of a Tribunals Bill in the current Senedd term. There was much competition for space in the legislative programme for the final year of the Senedd, and we have had to make some difficult choices. We are committed to taking forward tribunal reform and work on drafting a Bill continues and is well advanced.

I am confident the support for tribunal reform across the current Senedd will continue in the next, and that the new Welsh Government will consider a Bill for introduction.

### **Judicial training**

The President has outlined the challenges to maintaining arrangements for judicial training for members of the Welsh Tribunals. Those challenges arise primarily from the relatively small cohort of tribunal members and the defined remit of the Judicial College which limits the availability of training for members of the Welsh Tribunals. I welcome the actions taken by the President to appoint a Training Lead Judge and to strengthen the mechanisms for identifying training needs. Engagement with the Judicial College to explore support for Welsh Tribunals members is also a positive development, and I note the President's comments that the College is willing to assist as much as it can.

### **Diversity**

I note and support the ongoing work to collect and analyse diversity data on Welsh Tribunals' case panels. This is an important step towards improving understanding of tribunal composition and informing any future action.

### **Welsh Language**

I support the continued efforts to increase the use of the Welsh language in tribunal proceedings, including encouraging bilingual hearings to facilitate and support tribunal users who wish to use Welsh.

Finally, although not addressed in the report, I would also like to acknowledge the collaboration, advice and support of the President of Welsh Tribunals and the President of the Mental Health Review Tribunal for Wales during the passage of the Mental Health Tribunal (Membership) Act 2026. Their leadership and commitment ensured the continuing operation of that tribunal in challenging circumstances. I am grateful for the dedication shown by all members across the Welsh Tribunals to public service and to the maintenance of access to justice for the people of Wales.

# Agenda Item 9

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

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# Agenda Item 10

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

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