17 March 2020

Dear both

**Breaches of the 21 day rule**

At our meeting on 9 March 2020 we considered the Education (Student Support) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2020; the Education (Student Finance) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) (No. 2) Regulations 2020; the Education (Student Finance) (Amounts) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2020; and the Education (Student Finance) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) (No. 2) (Revocation) Regulations 2020. At our meeting on 16 March 2020 we considered the Health Protection (Notification) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2020. All of these instruments were laid in breach of the 21 day rule.

Breaches of the 21 day rule appear to be occurring with increasing regularity, with 12 such instances since late October 2019. We acknowledge that there can be valid reasons for such breaches and note for example, that two have occurred as regulations have been made in relation to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. However, we do not wish to see the practice of breaching the 21 day rule becoming normalised in any way.

We will continue to monitor the frequency and circumstances of future breaches of the 21 day rule and, if necessary, I will write to you again should the need arise.

Yours sincerely

Mick Antoniw AM
Chair

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