

Julie James MS  
Minister for Housing and Local Government

1 July 2020

Dear Julie

**Draft regulations in relation to the 2020 Electoral Register**

Thank you for your letter of 16 June 2020, which followed on from your written statement, *Publication of the 2020 Electoral Register*, issued on the same date.

In your letter you explain your intention to lay the relevant draft regulations before the Senedd's summer recess, and that the regulations would allow Electoral Registration Officers more time to publish the 2020 electoral register, up to the 1 February 2021, if necessary.

During our meeting on 22 June 2020, Members noted that the flexibility is being provided because of the impact of Covid-19 pandemic, which is understandable. However, Members expressed concern that the flexibility being provided could impact on other preparations and arrangements for elections for membership of the Senedd and for Police and Crime Commissioners, which are being held next May.

In order to help our forthcoming scrutiny of the regulations, once laid, it would be helpful to receive a response to the following questions:

- (i) What is your assessment of the potential risks to the electoral arrangements for next year's May elections if electoral registration officers do not publish registers until 1 February 2021?
- (ii) What consultations have you undertaken in relation to the proposed regulations?
- (iii) What other publication deadlines did you consider setting and why was a date of 1 February 2021 considered to be the best option?



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I would be grateful to receive a timely response from you that assists our scrutiny of the regulations.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mick Antoniw". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

**Mick Antoniw AM**  
**Chair**

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

