

SL(5)599 – The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 2) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 6) Regulations 2020

Background and Purpose

These Regulations make further amendments to the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No.2) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (“the Principal Regulations”) and the coronavirus restrictions in Wales. In particular, these Regulations permit:

- up to four households to join together in an extended household. This might take the form of two existing extended households joining together, or for households not already in an extended household arrangement to form one (or join an existing extended household).
- people to gather indoors (in a group of up to 30 People) for a small wedding reception, funeral tea or wake associated with a marriage or civil partnership ceremony or funeral that takes place on or after 22 August 2020.
- a pilot of a limited number of outdoor events for up to 100 spectators with express agreement of the Welsh Ministers to take place.

In addition, also amend regulation 18(9B) (Enforcement Actions) of the principal Regulations to make clear that information and answers given under regulation 18(7A) are not admissible in any proceedings other than proceedings under the principal Regulations.

Procedure

Made affirmative.

The Regulations were made by the Welsh Ministers before they were laid before the Senedd. The Senedd must approve the Regulations within 28 days (excluding any days when the Senedd is: (i) dissolved, or (ii) in recess for more than four days) of the date they were made for them to continue to have effect.

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 or public policy likely to be of interest to the Assembly.

No public consultation or regulatory impact assessment has been carried out in relation to these Regulations. The explanatory memorandum states that “given the serious and imminent threat arising from coronavirus and the need for an urgent public health response, there has been no public consultation in relation to these Regulations” and that “The First Minister, together with other Ministers and the Welsh Government, has continued to update individuals and businesses throughout subsequent changes to the Regulations. The First Minister signalled in his press conference of 14 August the intention to bring about the changes achieved in the Regulations made today, if circumstances allowed for it. These proposed changes were subsequently widely reported. The First Minister confirmed these changes would be made in his press conference of 21 August.”

Implications arising from exiting the European Union

None.

Welsh Government response

A Welsh Government response is not required.

Legal Advisers

Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

26 August 2020

