

## UK MINISTERS ACTING IN DEVOLVED AREAS

### 176 - European Union Withdrawal (Consequential Modifications) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020

*Laid in the UK Parliament: 08 October 2020*

#### Sifting

Subject to sifting in UK Parliament?	No
Procedure:	Draft affirmative
Date of consideration by the House of Commons European Statutory Instruments Committee	NA
Date of consideration by the House of Lords Secondary Legislation Scrutiny Committee	NA
Date sifting period ends in UK Parliament	NA
Written statement under SO 30C:	Paper 46
SICM under SO 30A (because amends primary legislation)	SICM(5)31

#### Scrutiny procedure

Outcome of sifting	NA
Procedure	Draft affirmative
Date of consideration by the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments	Not known
Date of consideration by the House of Commons Statutory Instruments Committee	Not known
Date of consideration by the House of Lords Secondary Legislation Scrutiny Committee	20 October 2020

#### Background

These Regulations are proposed to be made by the UK Government under section 23 of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 and section 41 of the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Act 2020.

#### Summary

The objective of the SI is to ensure that the UK statute book works coherently and effectively following the end of the transition period. It clarifies how certain terms, including EU-related definitions, should be interpreted in domestic legislation after the end of the transition period.

The SI amends the Interpretation Act 1978 and the equivalent Interpretation Acts passed by the devolved legislatures (including the Legislation (Wales) Act 2019) in relation to the interpretation of references to "relevant separation agreement law". The SI also amends the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 (EUWA) to provide for how existing

references to EU instruments that form part of relevant separation agreement law and how existing non-ambulatory references to direct EU legislation should be read following the end of the transition period.

The SI makes new interpretation provisions in light of the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Act 2020 (WAA), to remove uncertainty about which version of an EU instrument applies and provides a general gloss to ensure that the correct interpretation of the EU instrument applies.

The SI also makes consequential amendments to the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 (Consequential Modifications and Repeals and Revocations) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (the 2019 Regulations) and technical repeals to redundant provisions within primary legislation arising from EUWA.

### **Statement by Welsh Government**

Legal Advisers agree with the statement laid by the Welsh Government dated 14 October 2020 regarding the effect of these Regulations.

### **Intergovernmental Agreement on the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill**

The above summary and the content of the Explanatory Memorandum to these Regulations confirm their effect.

Legal Advisers do not consider that any significant issues arise under paragraph 8 of the Memorandum on the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill and the Establishment of Common Frameworks in relation to these Regulations.

### **Consent motion under Standing Order 30A.10**

The Welsh Government laid a Statutory Instrument Consent Memorandum (SICM) in respect of these Regulations on 14 October 2020.

A motion to debate the SICM is scheduled for debate in Plenary on Tuesday 3 November 2020.