



Ein cyf/Our ref: MA.JJ.0260.21

Elin Jones MS  
Llywydd  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

28 January 2021

Dear Llywydd,

In accordance with section 11A(4) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1946, as inserted by Sch.10 para 3 of the Government of Wales Act 2006, I am notifying you that *The Local Government (Coronavirus) (Postponement of Elections) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2021* will come into force less than 21 days from the date of laying. The Explanatory Memorandum for these Regulations is attached for your information.

The Coronavirus Act 2020 was introduced to Parliament on 19 March 2020 and contained a number of miscellaneous provisions relating to elections. The Local Government (Coronavirus) (Postponement of Elections) (Wales) Regulations 2020 which came in to force on 5 May 2020 postponed any by-elections due in the immediate future, setting a new date for these by-elections to be held no later than 16 April 2021 and not before 1 February 2021. However, recently, as you will be aware the Coronavirus pandemic has seen another surge and level 4 restrictions put in place. In order to protect public health at this time, it is considered necessary to further postpone these by-elections from a period between 1 March 2021 and 6 May 2021.

As the postponed elections were originally due to take place from 1 February, it is necessary to bring forward this set of regulations urgently and therefore bring them in to force as soon as possible. The Local Government (Coronavirus) (Postponement of Elections) (Wales) Regulations 2020 provide that the postponement period expires on 31 January 2021. Not adhering to the 21 day convention allows these Regulations to come into force on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021. In view of the circumstances the reduced period is thought necessary and justifiable in this case.

An Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared and this has been laid, together with the Regulations, in Table Office.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

[Correspondence.Rebecca.Evans@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Rebecca.Evans@gov.wales)  
[Gohebiaeth.Rebecca.Evans@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Rebecca.Evans@llyw.cymru)

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.

A copy of this letter goes to Mick Antoniw AM, Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, Siwan Davies, Director of Senedd Business, Sian Wilkins, Head of Chamber and Committee Services and Julian Luke, Head of Policy and Legislation Committee Service.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca Evans." The signature is written in a cursive style with a period at the end.

**Rebecca Evans AS/MS**  
Y Gweinidog Cyllid a'r Trefnydd  
Minister for Finance and Trefnydd