

WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

TITLE The Recognition of Professional Qualifications (Amendment etc.)

(EU Exit) Regulations 2021

DATE 25 March 2021

BY Rebecca Evans MS, Minister for Finance and Trefnydd

The Recognition of Professional Qualifications (Amendment etc) (EU Exit) Regulations 2021

Policy Overview of the SI:

The Regulations ensure the EU Exit frameworks for the recognition of professional qualifications (RPQ) and the provision of services continue to function effectively. The Regulations make minor amendments to remove an ineffective obligation on Regulators across the UK to communicate updates to the European Commission. This is in respect of "alerts" made under the Internal Market Information (IMI) system required prior to the end of the Transition Period.

The IMI system is used for all regulated professions, however under EU law the "alert mechanism" which the SI amends was utilised in relation to restrictions on the practice for those working in specific regulated professions that have patient safety implications and those involving the education of minors; including certain health professions and teachers.

The Law which is being amended:

Recognition of Professional Qualifications (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019

The purpose of the amendments

The purpose of the amendments is to correct deficiencies in legislation arising from the UK leaving the European Union relating to obligations placed on UK regulators regarding the "alert mechanism" utilised under the IMI system for specified regulated professions under EU Law. The SI and accompanying Explanatory Memorandum, setting out the effect of each amendment is available here:

https://www.gov.uk/eu-withdrawal-act-2018-statutory-instruments/the-recognition-of-

professional-qualifications-amendment-etc-dot-eu-exit-regulations-2021

Any impact the SI may have on the Welsh Ministers' executive competence

The SI has no impact on the Welsh Ministers' executive competence.

Any impact the SI may have on the legislative competence of the Senedd

The SI has no impact on the Senedd's legislative competence.

Why consent was given

There is no divergence between the Welsh Government and the UK Government on the policy for the correction. Therefore, making separate SIs in Wales and England would lead to duplication, and unnecessary complication of the statute book. Consenting to a UK wide SI helps to ensure that there is a single legislative framework across the UK which promotes clarity and accessibility during this period of change. In these exceptional circumstances, the Welsh Government considers it appropriate that the UK Government legislates on our behalf in this instance.