

Mark Drakeford MS
First Minister of Wales

11 February 2021

Dear Mark

The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2021

We considered The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2021 (the No.5 Amendment Regulations) at our meeting on 25 January 2021, and our **report** was laid before the Senedd the same day.

The third merits point in our report said:

We note that, although a regulatory impact assessment has not been carried out in relation to these Regulations, a Children's Rights Impact Assessment and Equality Impact Assessments have been completed. The Explanatory Memorandum provides:

"While it is inevitable there will be impacts on children's rights and, in particular, on groups with protected characteristics, there will be some scope to mitigate the most significant impacts especially for the most vulnerable learners by allowing them access to school or college premises, but it will not be possible to address all of the disproportionate and negative impacts. These negative impacts continue to be tolerated on the basis of the risk to public health."

Our report also noted that the Explanatory Memorandum stated that copies of these assessments will be published on the GOV.wales **website**.

Since our consideration of the Regulations, it has come to our attention that the assessments referred to in the Explanatory Memorandum do not appear to have been made publicly available as yet.

At our meeting this week, we considered a letter from the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) in Wales notifying us that, although equality impact



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assessments and a Children's Rights Impact Assessment dated 21 December 2020 have been **published**, none have yet been published in relation to the No.5 Amendment Regulations, or the regulations that they amend. The letter from the Rev. Ruth Coombs, Head of EHRC Wales, is enclosed for your information.

I would be grateful if you would confirm when the relevant Children's Rights Impact Assessment and Equality Impact Assessment are going to be published.

I am copying this letter to the Rev. Ruth Coombs.

Yours sincerely

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

Mick Antoniw MS

Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

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

