

**Jeremy Miles AS/MS**  
**Gweinidog y Gymraeg ac Addysg**  
**Minister for Education and Welsh Language**



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: MA/JMEWL/0568/22

Delyth Jewell MS  
Chair  
Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport and  
International Relations Committee  
Senedd Cymru

25 May 2022

Dear Delyth,

I am writing to inform the Committee of my intention to proceed to lay the draft Welsh Language Standards (No. 8) Regulations 2022 before the Senedd. These Regulations will make Standards specifically applicable to 9 UK-wide health and social care regulatory bodies:

- General Chiropractic Council
- General Dental Council
- General Medical Council
- General Optical Council
- General Osteopathic Council
- General Pharmaceutical Council
- Health and Care Professions Council
- Nursing and Midwifery Council
- Professional Standards Authority for Health and Social care (“PSA”)

A consultation was held on draft Regulations during the term of the fifth Senedd between March-October 2020. As part of the consultation process, officials gave a technical briefing to the fifth Senedd’s Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee on 17 September 2020. During that session Helen Mary Jones MS, the then temporary Chair of the Committee made clear her view that registrants should be able to discuss a complaint made about them in Welsh with a regulatory body in a wider context than just at a fitness to practice hearing. Eluned Morgan MS wrote to the CWLC Committee in January 2021 to inform them that a change had been made to the Regulations to reflect the comment received in the technical briefing session and confirmed her decision not to proceed to make the Regulations during that Senedd term.

Today I have published a Consultation Summary Report which summarises the matters raised in the consultation in 2020, and clearly outlines the Government’s response and the changes made to the Regulations following the consultation. Following this publication, I

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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.

intend to lay the draft Regulations and Explanatory Memorandum before the Senedd on 14 June 2022.

Before I schedule a Plenary debate to discuss the draft Regulations, I would be grateful if you could consider whether the Committee wishes to undertake scrutiny of the Regulations. If the Committee is so minded, I will of course allow time for the Committee to undertake that scrutiny and a sufficient length of time to report. In order to aid planning it would be useful if you could outline how you foresee the scrutiny process being conducted, and could suggest when this work is likely to fit within the Committee's forward work programme. We will then arrange a date for a Plenary date to accommodate the Committee's consideration of the draft Regulations. If however, the Committee is content with the level of consultation already undertaken on these Regulations, then I will proceed to arrange an earlier Plenary date in order to avoid further delay in making them.

As you will be aware, the pandemic has had a huge impact on our ability as a Government to introduce legislation and subordinate legislation in a number of policy areas over the past two years. As a result of the Cooperation Agreement, we are keen to take forward the programme of introducing Welsh Language Standards regulations in a number of areas. As noted above, these specific regulations have already been amended following the comments of the previous Chair of the committee and have been the subject of a public consultation.

We will continue to work closely with the Committee as we move forward with the programme of introducing Welsh language standards regulations in the future. When laying further regulations we will again provide an opportunity for the appropriate Committee to scrutinise those Regulations.

Yours sincerely,



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