



Ein cyf/Our ref:LJCC/20240219

Huw Irranca-Davies MS  
Chair  
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee  
Senedd Cymru

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19 February 2024

Dear Chair,

Thank you for your letter dated 31 January 2024, the contents of which are noted.

Referring back to the Committee's report of 15 January 2024 on the National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 ("the Amending Regulations"):

- On technical scrutiny point 1 and bearing in mind the equal status of the two languages we explored whether the SI Registrar might consider a correction in the Welsh text of regulation 4(a) of the Amending Regulations to be both minor and obvious, in the context of the overall heading for the regulation being amended.

Ultimately the SI Registrar has determined that it is not a matter suitable for correction slip; as such this will instead be dealt with via amending provision when the opportunity arises.

- On merits scrutiny point 9 the request for a correction slip related to the original regulations: the National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts) (Wales) Regulations 2023 (2023/953).

The first matter was to correct the Explanatory Note to make clear that the reference to "the Act" was to the National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006. We considered the omission of "(Wales)" to be an obvious and minor error (as there is no reference elsewhere to the National Health Service Act 2006 in the instrument and it is clear the regulations are made under the National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006, and further within the interpretation provision (regulation 2) of the regulations, "the Act" is defined as the "National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006").

The second matter related to the insertion of a footnote to regulation 3(1) to clarify the applicability of a saving provision in the European Qualifications (Health and Social Care Professions) (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019. Insertions of footnotes are not possible via an amending instrument, but nonetheless we considered it would be a minor and obvious amendment to the original regulations and therefore suitable for a correction slip.

We have received confirmation from the SI Registrar that both aspects can be dealt with this way and a correction slip will now be taken forward.

In cases where the Government agrees that an amendment should be made the Counsel General has set out in previous correspondence to the Committee the practice that is adopted in relation to the use of correction slips. The Counsel General has also made the Committee aware of his view that the purpose of this practice is to help to ensure that readers of legislation are not troubled by very minor technical errors. Ultimately the suitability of a matter for amendment by correction slip is one for the SI Registrar, and where, after checking with the Registrar, that is not an option other avenues for amendment are explored as in the case of technical scrutiny point 1.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. E. Morgan'.

**Eluned Morgan AS/MS**

Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services