



Mike Hedges MS
Chair, Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

SeneddLJC@senedd.wales

23 September 2024

Dear Mike

I am writing to you to follow up on the then Deputy Minister for Social Partnership's correspondence dated 22 February 2024 about the **Firefighters' Pension Schemes and Compensation Scheme (Amendment) (Wales) Order 2024** ("the 2024 Order").

Today I have laid the Firefighters' Pension Schemes (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Wales) Regulations 2024. Regulation 5 corrects the Welsh language text of new rule 5C(7) (inserted by paragraph 6(3) of Schedule 1 to the 2024 Order), so that it is consistent with the English language text of the provision.

We have also taken the opportunity to amend the Firefighters' Pensions (Remediable Service) (Wales) Regulations 2023 in light of some of the points that were raised by your Committee in its report which was issued following consideration of that instrument at the 25 September 2023 meeting.¹

Finally, I have also given further consideration to Technical Scrutiny point 6 of your Committee's report on the 2024 Order. In our response to that point, we noted the difference between the Welsh language and English language texts in the heading for paragraph 1 of Schedule 2 to the Order, and confirmed that the Welsh language text should have been drafted to reflect the English language text. We originally proposed to amend the Welsh language text accordingly at the next available opportunity.

On reflection I think it is more appropriate to allow that heading in the Welsh language text to remain. The amendment required to address Technical Scrutiny point 3 is best dealt with by amending the Firefighters' Pension Scheme (Wales) Order 2007. So, to address Technical Scrutiny point 6, we would additionally have to amend the Firefighters' Pension Schemes and Compensation Scheme (Amendment) (Wales) Order 2024. Given that the heading in issue is inoperative, and it is not carried through to the amended instrument (the

¹ <https://senedd.wales/media/23nl34lv/cr-ld16050-e.pdf>

Firefighters' Compensation Scheme (Wales) Order 2007), any benefit to be gained in making such an amendment would be negligible and I do not consider it would be proportionate.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jayne Bryant". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and 'B'.

Jayne Bryant AS/MS

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Lywodraeth Leol aTai
Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government