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W E L S H S T A T U T O R Y  
I N S T R U M E N T S

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**2025 No. 937 (W. 162) (C. 44)**

**ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION, WALES**

The Environment (Air Quality and  
Soundscapes) (Wales) Act 2024  
(Commencement No. 2) Order 2025

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

This Order is the second commencement order made by the Welsh Ministers under the Environment (Air Quality and Soundscapes) (Wales) Act 2024 (“the Act”).

Article 2 of this Order brings a number of provisions regarding local authority air quality reviews and smoke control into force on 31 July 2025, namely, sections 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21 of, and Schedule 1 to, the Act.

**NOTE AS TO EARLIER COMMENCEMENT  
ORDER**

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

The following provision of the Act has been brought into force by commencement order made by the Welsh Ministers before the date of this Order.

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<i>Provision</i>	<i>Date of Commencement</i>	<i>S.I. Number</i>
Section 11	31 January 2025	S.I. 2025/72 (W. 19) (C. 3)

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**ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION, WALES**

The Environment (Air Quality and  
Soundscapes) (Wales) Act 2024  
(Commencement No. 2) Order 2025

*Made*

*29 July 2025*

The Welsh Ministers make the following Order in exercise of the power contained in section 30(3) of the Environment (Air Quality and Soundscapes) (Wales) Act 2024<sup>(1)</sup>.

**Title and interpretation**

**1.**—(1) The title of this Order is the Environment (Air Quality and Soundscapes) (Wales) Act 2024 (Commencement No. 2) Order 2025.

(2) In this Order, “the Act” means the Environment (Air Quality and Soundscapes) (Wales) Act 2024.

**Provisions coming into force on 31 July 2025**

**2.** The following provisions of the Act come into force on 31 July 2025—

- (a) section 16 (local authority air quality reviews);
- (b) section 17 (action plans in relation to air quality management areas);
- (c) section 18 (Welsh Ministers’ powers of direction);
- (d) section 19 (regulation of smoke and fuel in smoke control areas);
- (e) section 20 (guidance for local authorities in relation to smoke control areas);
- (f) section 21 (further provision relating to smoke control);

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<sup>(1)</sup> 2024 asc 2.

(g) Schedule 1 (smoke control).

*Huw Irranca-Davies*

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for  
Climate Change and Rural Affairs, one of the Welsh  
Ministers

29 July 2025