

Mark Drakeford AS/MS  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyllid a'r Gymraeg  
Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language



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Welsh Government

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All Members of the Senedd  
Senedd Cymru  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

28 January 2026

Dear Member of the Senedd,

**Development of Tourism and Regulation of Visitor Accommodation (Wales) Bill -  
Government Amendments**

I am enclosing detail of the Government amendments tabled to the Development of Tourism and Regulation of Visitor Accommodation (Wales) Bill, together with an explanation of their purpose and effect.

Yours sincerely,

**Mark Drakeford AS/MS**  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Gyllid a'r Gymraeg  
Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

[Correspondence.Mark.Drakeford@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Mark.Drakeford@gov.wales)  
[Gohebiaeth.Mark.Drakeford@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Mark.Drakeford@llyw.cymru)

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.

## DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM AND REGULATION OF VISITOR ACCOMMODATION (WALES) BILL – STAGE 2 GOVERNMENT AMENDMENTS

The information below is designed to explain the purpose and effect of the amendments tabled in the name of Mark Drakeford MS on 27 January 2026 – **please see - [Notice of Amendments - 27 January 2026](#)**.

Further amendments for consideration at Stage 3 will be tabled by the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language in due course.

<b>Adt.</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
1	This amendment inserts a reference to the Visitor Accommodation (Register and Levy) Etc. (Wales) Act 2025 (the VARL Act) into subsection 5(5). The effect being to ensure the regulation-making power to prescribe additional descriptions of accommodation as regulated under 5(1)(b) also allows for amendments to be made to the VARL Act, to ensure consistency and alignment with the Registration provisions under that Act when the scope of the licensing scheme is extended to other descriptions of accommodation.
2	This amendment sets a minimum 12-week consultation period for any proposals to make regulations to expand the definition of regulated visitor accommodation for the purposes of the scheme under the Bill.
3	This amendment replaces the word 'or' with 'and' under sub-paragraph 7(1)(a)(ii). It is a minor amendment to clarify that all three of the criteria in this paragraph must be met.
4	This is a minor amendment, consequential to amendment 5.
5	This amendment replaces the provision under section 9 headed “Fitness for visitor accommodation: fire prevention” to more closely align the licence condition with the requirements of the Fire Safety Order 2005. The effect being to remove explicit reference to a minimum requirement on smoke alarms, so that the required standards may be set out in guidance, allowing for these to be tailored to the type or description of accommodation, and aligning with the higher standards set out in guidance issued under the Fire Safety Order. It also inserts a new requirement for the periodic review and update of a fire risk assessment as necessary, further aligning with the Fire Safety Order.
6	This amendment is consequential to amendment 37. It inserts (into section 15) a reference to licence conditions specified in licences granted or renewed under section 40 in respect of campsites or caravan sites. This is to clarify that a licence may be granted subject to such other bespoke licence conditions as may be applicable in those cases, which may be in addition to, or instead of, the broader

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conditions set out for other types of accommodation under section 15, or in regulations made under sections 16 and 17.

See also amendment 36.

This amendment (6) also contains two minor and technical amendments to ensure equivalence between the Welsh and English Language versions of the Bill. Similar amendments are not required to the English version of the Bill.

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7 This is a minor and technical amendment to achieve consistency in drafting throughout the Bill.

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8 This amendment disapplies Article 43 of the Fire Safety Order 2005 in relation to licensing under the Bill. This is to ensure the Bill and the Fire Safety Order interact effectively in respect of the operation of the licensing scheme in so far as it relates to fire safety requirements under the Order.

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9 This amendment clarifies the operation of the section in relation to training requirements. In addition to technical clarifications, it specifies that regulations must be made in relation to which visitor accommodation providers need to complete specified training or not, to ensure the corresponding licence condition works as intended. The amendment also clarifies that training could either be delivered by the Welsh Ministers directly or by somebody authorised to do so on their behalf and that fees may be charged for the training, and the authorisation of training providers.

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10 This is a minor and technical amendment to achieve consistency in drafting throughout the Bill and to clarify that these conditions are to apply in relation to licences generally, not on a case by case basis.

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11 This is a minor and technical amendment to achieve consistency in drafting throughout the Bill and to clarify that these conditions are to apply in relation to licences generally, not on a case by case basis.

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12 This is a minor and technical amendment to ensure equivalence between the Welsh and English Language versions of the Bill. There is no corresponding amendment to the English Language version.

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13 This amendment inserts new sub-paragraphs into subsection 17(4) to provide a requirement that regulations made under this section include provision in respect of existing licences. This is to ensure that where regulations are made to prescribe further licensing conditions in the future, how any new conditions will be applied to licences already in existence will need to be considered and provided for under those regulations.

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14 This amendment replaces section 19 in relation to approval requirements for licence applications. In addition to technical clarifications, the revised section 19 adds a new approval requirement, that the premises appears to offer adequate and appropriate amenity.

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	See also amendments 15-17, 19, 20 and 23.
15	This amendment is consequential to amendment 16. See also amendments 14, 17, 19, 20 and 23.
16	This amendment, in combination with amendment 14, clarifies the basis on which the Welsh Ministers are able to reach a conclusion about accommodation being likely to be generally fit for visitor accommodation, if they are satisfied that the relevant approval requirements are met. See also amendments 15, 17, 19, 20 and 23.
17	This amendment is consequential to amendment 16. See also amendments 14, 15, 19, 20 and 23.
18	This is a technical amendment, to reflect that a decision to grant a licence is not made under section 22. See also amendments 25 and 35.
19	This amendment is consequential to amendment 14. See also amendments 15-17, 20 and 23.
20	This amendment is consequential to amendment 19. See also amendments 14-17 and 23.
21	This amendment clarifies that where the Welsh Ministers carry out an inspection as part of a further assessment, this must be undertaken by an authorised person. See also amendments 22 and 24.
22	This is a minor and technical amendment consequential to amendment 21. See also amendment 24.
23	This amendment, consequential to amendment 16, clarifies that the Welsh Ministers are able to make a decision about an application on the basis of the information included in or omitted from that application alone or on the basis of any other information which is available to them. See also amendments 14, 15, 17, 19 and 20.
24	This is a minor and technical amendment, consequential to amendment 21. See also amendment 22.
25	This is a technical amendment, to reflect that a decision to grant a licence is not made under section 22. See also amendments 18 and 35.

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26	This is a minor and technical amendment to ensure equivalence between the English and Welsh Language versions of the Bill. There is no corresponding amendment to the English Language version.
27	This amendment removes the reference to whether a licence condition is likely to continue to be breached or to be breached again, from section 24 in relation to remedial notices. This is to avoid uncertainty about the interaction with section 23 in relation to revocation.
28	This is a technical amendment to insert an explicit cross-reference to clarify the interaction between remedial notices under section 24 and decisions to revoke a licence under paragraph 23(1)(a).
29	This amendment removes the power of the Welsh Ministers to specify longer licence periods in a licence on a case by case basis, and replaces it with a power to prescribe alternative licence periods by regulations.
30	This is a minor and technical amendment, consequential to amendment 29.
31	This amendment removes paragraph 25(3)(a), thereby removing the ability to create new offences when discharging the requirement to make regulations under this section.
32	This amendment is a technical clarification to ensure the interaction between sections 31(1)(a) and 30(1)(b) operates as intended.
33	This amendment inserts a reference to circumstances where giving notice of an inspection in respect of a licensed premises, may defeat the purpose of that inspection. The effect being that in those circumstances, the Welsh Ministers, as licensing authority, may apply for a warrant to inspect the premises without notice being given, whilst ensuring additional oversight via the requirement to first obtain a warrant.
34	This amendment clarifies that an authorised person undertaking an inspection under a warrant must, if asked to do so, show the warrant in addition to evidence of their authorisation by the Welsh Ministers and stating the purpose of entry.
35	This is a technical amendment to reflect that decisions to grant a licence are made under sections 20(2) or 21(2).  See also amendments 18 and 25.
36	This amendment inserts a reference to “renewing” a licence alongside “granting” a licence in respect of campsites and caravan sites under subsection 40(2). The effect being to ensure that conditions may be applied when both granting or renewing a licence for these descriptions of accommodation in the event that they are prescribed as regulated visitor accommodation.

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See also amendments 6 and 37.

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37 This amendment replaces the word 'further' with the word 'licence' in subsection 40(2). This is to clarify that conditions specified on a case by case basis in respect of the licensing of campsites and caravan sites may be in addition to, or instead of, the broader conditions set out for other types of accommodation under section 15, or in regulations made under sections 16 and 17. This is to ensure the provision works as intended, allowing for local authority input and for conditions to be applied to an individual site, or sites in a particular local authority area, and thereby allowing the existing licensing regimes for such accommodation to be provided for in the future.

See also amendments 6 and 36.

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38 This amendment removes the reference to 'the day on which' in subsection 44(2), to reflect that there may be matters relating to fitness that a visitor accommodation provider would be expected to remedy within a day.

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39 This amendment is consequential to amendment 41.

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40 This amendment is consequential to amendment 41.

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41 This amendment inserts new subsections into section 45, (which provides for the Visitor Accommodation Directory), to provide that the WRA or Welsh Ministers may publish any other information relating to their respective functions under the Bill, the Visitor Accommodation (Register and Levy) Etc. (Wales) Act 2025, the Tax Collection and Management (Wales) Act 2016 or regulations made under any of those Acts. This is to ensure that other or additional related information may be published that may be of benefit to visitors, but is not already required to be published in the respective registers of visitor accommodation providers and visitor accommodation licences.

See also amendments 39 and 40.

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42 This amendment limits the offences that may be created when exercising the power to make regulations under this section to summary offences punishable by a fine only.

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43 This amendment limits the offences that may be created when exercising the power to make regulations under this section to summary offences punishable by a fine only.

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44 This amendment inserts a new section to provide for a requirement to undertake a review of the operation and effect of the Act resulting from the Bill.

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45 This is a minor and technical amendment to clarify that the procedures for regulations under section 57 apply equally to duties to make regulations as they do to powers.

See also amendment 46.

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46	This is a minor and technical amendment, consequential to amendment 45.
47	This amendment inserts references to the regulation-making powers at section 27 (provisional licences), 38(1) (fees in relation to visitor accommodation licences), and 40(4) (specific provision applicable in respect of campsite and caravan site licences), into the list of provisions at subsection 57(4). The effect being that regulations made in exercise of those powers will be subject to the Senedd Approval procedure.
48	This is a minor and technical amendment, consequential to amendment 14, to include an interpretation of the term 'approval requirements' by reference to subsection 19(1).
49	This is a minor and technical amendment to reflect that in a small number of sections, "register" etc. will clearly relate to the register of licences under section 36.
50	This amendment removes section 55 (duty to issue guidance in respect of licensing) from the provisions coming into force automatically on the day after Royal Assent.
51	This amendment brings sections 16, 24, 25(2) and (3), 27, 37 and 38 into force on 5 March 2029, and the remaining provisions of the Bill on 4 March 2030, if they have not already been brought into force before those respective dates. This amendment creates a power for the Welsh Ministers, by order, to delay the commencement of the provisions mentioned in paragraph (b) to a date no later than 4 March 2032.
52	This amends paragraph 3 of Schedule 2 to the Bill, which in turn amends section 4 of the Visitor Accommodation (Register and Levy) Etc. (Wales) Act 2025, to reflect that registration numbers are allocated under later sections of that Act (as amended by Schedule 2 to the Bill) and that sections 16A and 16D involve the addition of information to the register, and to reflect the distinction between information contained in the register and the registration numbers specified in respect of VAPs and their registered premises.
53	This is a minor and technical amendment to paragraph 5 of Schedule 2 to the Bill, which in turn amends section 8 of the Visitor Accommodation (Register and Levy) Etc. (Wales) Act 2025, to achieve consistency of terminology within that Act as amended by the Bill.
54	This is a minor and technical amendment to paragraph 8 of Schedule 2 to the Bill, which in turn amends section 11 of the Visitor Accommodation (Register and Levy) Etc. (Wales) Act 2025, to achieve consistency of terminology within that Act as amended by the Bill.
55	This is an amendment to paragraph 8 of Schedule 2 to the Bill, which in turn amends section 11 of the Visitor Accommodation (Register and Levy) Etc.

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(Wales) Act 2025 (WRA's power to change the register), to ensure that a person that has ceased to be a VAP has an appropriate course of action to stop fines accruing under section 10 of that Act (failure to notify WRA of changes and inaccuracies).

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56 This amendment is consequential to amendment 57.

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57 This amendment amends paragraph 11 of Schedule 2 to the Bill, which inserts a new section (14A) into the Visitor Accommodation (Register and Levy) Etc. (Wales) Act 2025, and provides, in part, for removal from the register under that Act where a person has ceased to hold a licence under this Bill, and has ceased providing any form of visitor accommodation. This amendment amends the new section 14A to provide that the 31-day deadline for submitting an application for removal from the register in the relevant circumstances does not include any period in which the person is either awaiting determination of a licence application or the conclusion of a relevant appeal under this Bill. It also provides that the requirement to deregister ceases to apply if a person obtains a new licence during the 31-day period.

See also amendments 56, 58 and 59.

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58 This amendment is consequential to amendment 57, to ensure section 15(2) of the Visitor Accommodation (Register and Levy) Etc. (Wales) Act 2025 reflects the fact that licenced VAPs are not subject to the obligation under section 14A (as amended). It also provides that fines do not accrue under section 15(2) in respect of any day on which the person is either awaiting determination of a licence application or the conclusion of a relevant appeal under this Bill.

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59 This is a minor and technical amendment, consequential to amendment 57.

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60 This amendment inserts a new paragraph into Schedule 2 to the Bill, which in turn provides for amendments to section 21 of the Visitor Accommodation (Register and Levy) Etc. (Wales) Act 2025, in relation to double jeopardy. The effect being that a person is not liable to a penalty under that Act if it is in relation to a matter for which they have paid the sum required in a fixed penalty notice given under the Bill (as well as if they have been convicted of an offence in relation to it). This is to ensure a person cannot be penalised twice for the same issue.

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