

Jeremy Miles AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol
Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref – PO/JMHSC/0578/25

Mike Hedges MS
Chair
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
SeneddLJC@senedd.wales

12 November 2025

Dear Mike,

Thank you for your letter of 22 October in relation to the draft of the Health Impact Assessment (Wales) Regulations 2025.

I acknowledge the concerns expressed by the committee about the time between the enactment of the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 and the laying of the Regulations.

As outlined in my response to the report from the committee, following the significant resource demands of Brexit and the pandemic, officials resumed work on the regulations required under Part 6 of the 2017 Act during 2022-23. A comprehensive consultation exercise was launched at the end of 2023, which concluded in March 2024. The consultation analysis of the 63 responses is available [here](#).

Building on this consultation, officials held a number of workshops and meetings with stakeholders throughout autumn 2024 to gather further feedback and refine the policy proposals. This work culminated in my approval of the final policy instructions in spring 2025.

As you are aware, the primary aim of the regulations is to improve the health and wellbeing of the population in Wales by ensuring that health impacts are systematically considered in certain public sector decision-making. While many organisations already take health impacts into account, this is not done consistently. The regulations are therefore designed to build on existing practice and introduce a more structured approach, enabling public bodies to better understand the effects of their decisions on people's health. Meaningful and extensive engagement has been essential to ensure the regulations are not disproportionately bureaucratic or burdensome.

The committee will recognise the drafting of the regulations differs in a number of areas compared to the version consulted on, reflecting the extent to which stakeholder feedback has been carefully considered and incorporated.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

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

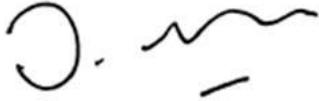
Gohebiaeth.Jeremy.Miles@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Jeremy.Miles@gov.wales

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.

This is particularly the case in relation to some public bodies which were not listed as being covered by the HIA requirements when the 2017 Act was enacted but have since fallen within scope as a result of their addition last year to the list of public bodies at section 6 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large 'J' followed by a series of wavy lines and a short horizontal stroke at the end.

Jeremy Miles AS/MS

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Iechyd a Gofal Cymdeithasol
Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care