



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

TITLE **The UK Statistics (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019**

DATE **29 January 2019**

BY **Rebecca Evans AM, Minister for Finance and Trefnydd**

SO30C –SI laid in Parliament which amends legislation in a devolved area

The UK Statistics (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019.

The Law which is being amended

- The Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007.
- A set of numerous retained EU laws, as detailed in the schedule to the S.I, that impose obligations on the UK to provide specific statistical data to Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Commission, for the purpose of producing European statistics
- A set of numerous retained EU laws, as detailed in the schedule to the S.I, that set out statistical standards and classifications that statistical data must meet for the purpose of producing European statistics
- The Data Protection Act 2018
- The Public Contract Regulations 2015
- The Concession Contracts Regulations 2016
- The Utilities Contracts Regulations 2016
- The Electricity Supplier Obligations (Amendment and Excluded Electricity) Regulations 2015.

Any impact the SI may have on the Assembly’s legislative competence and/or the Welsh Ministers’ executive competence

The SI has no impact on the National Assembly’s legislative competence or the Welsh Minister’s executive competence as it is purely technical in nature.

The purpose of the amendments

The purpose of the amendments is to correct deficiencies in legislation arising from the UK leaving the European Union in relation to the provision of statistical information.

The regulations will update references to “EU obligations” and “EU legislation” in the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 to their retained equivalents. The regulations make one equivalent change in the Data Protection Act 2018.

The regulations will also amend the Public Contract Regulations 2015, the Concession Contracts Regulations 2016, the Utilities Contracts Regulations 2016 and the Electricity Supplier Obligations (Amendment and Excluded Electricity) Regulations 2015 to enable continued reference to a classification of economic activity.

Finally, the regulations will revoke a large amount of existing EU law (Regulations and Decisions) in relation to the provision and collation of statistics at an EU level.

The SI and accompanying Explanatory Memorandum, setting out the effect of each amendment is available here: <https://www.gov.uk/eu-withdrawal-act-2018-statutory-instruments/the-uk-statistics-amendment-etc-eu-exit-regulations-2019>

A Statutory Instrument Consent Memorandum has also been laid in the National Assembly in respect of the amendments to the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007.

Why consent was given

There is no divergence between the Welsh Government and the UK Government on the policy for the correction. Therefore, making separate SIs in Wales and England would lead to duplication, and unnecessary complication of the statute book. Consenting to a UK wide SI ensures that there is a coherent approach wherever possible in preparing the statute book to function properly after the UK has left the EU. This approach will promote the clarity and accessibility of legislation across the UK. In these exceptional circumstances, the Welsh Government considers it appropriate that the UK Government legislates on our behalf in this instance.