

WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

TITLE The Quick-frozen Foodstuffs (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations

2019

DATE 4 February 2019

BY Rebecca Evans AM, Minister for Finance and Trefnydd

The Quick-frozen Foodstuffs (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019

The retained EU law which is being amended

 Commission Regulation (EC) No. 37/2005 on the monitoring of temperatures in the means of transport, warehousing and storage of quick-frozen foodstuffs intended for human consumption.

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

The SI only makes one minor technical amendment to the retained direct EU law and involves no transfer of European Commission functions. Consequently, there is no impact on the Welsh Ministers' executive competence or the National Assembly's legislative competence.

The purpose of the amendments

The purpose of the amendments is to correct deficiencies in legislation arising from the UK leaving the European which concerns the monitoring of the temperature in the means of transport, warehousing and storage used for quick-frozen foodstuffs.

The Regulations will make minimal, technical amendments only in order to make clear that the retained direct EU law only applies in the UK (and not in EU member States). It will not make any material change in the level of protection given to human (or animal) health or to the high standard of food and feed that consumers expect from both domestically produced and imported products.

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-quick-frozen-foodstuffs-amendment-eu-exit-regulations-2019

Why consent was given

There is no divergence between the Welsh Government/FSA Wales and the UK Government (FSA UK) 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 single legislative framework across the UK which promotes clarity and accessibility during this period of change. In these exceptional circumstances, the FSA Wales/Welsh Government considers it appropriate that the UK Government legislates on our behalf in this instance.