

Agenda – Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

Meeting Venue:

Hybrid – Committee Room 3, Senedd
and videoconference via Zoom

Meeting date: 19 January 2026

Meeting time: 15.00

For further information contact:

P Gareth Williams

Committee Clerk

0300 200 6565

SeneddLJC@senedd.wales

Hybrid

Public meeting

(15.00 – 15.30)

1 Introduction, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

(15.00)

2 Instruments that raise issues to be reported to the Senedd under Standing Order 21.7

(15.00 – 15.05)

2.1 SL(6)696 – The Infrastructure (Wales) Act 2024 (Commencement No. 2) Order 2025

(Pages 1 – 2)

[Order](#)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-02-26 – Paper 1 – Draft report

Draft Negative Instruments

2.2 SL(6)698 – The Individual Candidate Election Expenses (Senedd Elections) Code of Practice 2025

(Pages 3 – 5)

[Code of Practice](#)



[Explanatory Memorandum](#)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-02-26 – Paper 2 – Draft report

**2.3 SL(6)699 – The Political Parties Campaign Expenditure (Senedd Elections)
Code of Practice 2025**

(Pages 6 – 7)

[Code of Practice](#)

[Explanatory Memorandum](#)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-02-26 – Paper 3 – Draft report

**2.4 SL(6)700 – The Non-Party Campaigner Campaign Expenditure (Senedd
Elections) Code of Practice 2025**

(Pages 8 – 10)

[Code of Practice](#)

[Explanatory Memorandum](#)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-02-26 – Paper 4 – Draft report

**3 Instruments that raise issues to be reported to the Senedd under
Standing Order 21.2 or 21.3**

(15.05 – 15.10)

Made Negative Resolution Instruments

**3.1 SL(6)694 – The Procurement Act 2023 (Threshold Amounts) (Amendment)
(Wales) Regulations 2025**

(Pages 11 – 13)

[Regulations](#)

[Explanatory Memorandum](#)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-02-26 – Paper 5 – Draft report

3.2 SL(6)697 – The Council Tax (Alteration of Lists and Appeals) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2025

(Pages 14 – 15)

[Regulations](#)

[Explanatory Memorandum](#)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-02-26 – Paper 6 – Draft report

Affirmative Resolution Instruments

3.3 SL(6)701 – The Public Health (Minimum Price for Alcohol) (Wales) Act 2018 (Continuation) Regulations 2026

(Pages 16 – 17)

[Regulations](#)

[Explanatory Memorandum](#)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-02-26 – Paper 7 – Draft report

3.4 SL(6)702 – The Public Health (Minimum Price for Alcohol) (Minimum Unit Price) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2026

(Page 18)

[Regulations](#)

[Explanatory Memorandum](#)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-02-26 – Paper 8 – Draft report

3.5 SL(6)703 – The Tax Collection and Management (Visitor Levy Costs) (Wales) Regulations 2026

(Pages 19 – 20)

[Regulations](#)

[Explanatory Memorandum](#)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-02-26 – Paper 9 – Draft report

4 Instruments that raise issues to be reported to the Senedd under Standing Order 21.2 or 21.3 – previously considered

(15.10– 15.15)

4.1 SL(6)677 – The Infrastructure (Wales) Act 2024 (Consequential, Transitional, Revocation and Saving Provisions) Regulations 2025

(Pages 21 – 27)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–02–26 – Paper 10 – Report

LJC(6)–02–26 – Paper 11 – Welsh Government response

4.2 SL(6)692 – The Non–Domestic Rating (Provision of Information About Changes of Circumstances) (Wales) Regulations 2026

(Pages 28 – 31)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–02–26 – Paper 12 – Report

LJC(6)–02–26 – Paper 13 – Welsh Government response

4.3 SL(6)693 – The Council Tax (Discounts, Disregards and Exemptions) (Wales) Regulations 2026

(Pages 32 – 37)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)–02–26 – Paper 14 – Report

LJC(6)–02–26 – Paper 15 – Welsh Government response

5 Instruments that raise issues to be reported to the Senedd under Standing Order 21.7 – previously considered

(15.15 – 15.20)

6 Inter–Institutional Relations Agreement

(15.20 – 15.25)

6.1 Correspondence from the Welsh Government: Meetings of inter-ministerial groups

(Page 38)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-02-26 – Paper 16 – Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government: Inter-Ministerial Group for Housing, Communities and Local Government, 9 January 2026

6.2 Correspondence from the First Minister of Wales: Celtic Heritage Agreement Annual Report

(Page 39)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-02-26 – Paper 17 – Letter from the First Minister of Wales, 14 January 2026

7 Papers to note

(15.25 – 15.30)

7.1 Correspondence from the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language to the Economy, Trade, and Rural Affairs Committee: The Welsh Government's response to the Economy, Trade, and Rural Affairs Committee report on the Development of Tourism and Regulation of Visitor Accommodation (Wales) Bill

(Pages 40 – 46)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-02-26 – Paper 18 – Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Welsh Language to the Economy, Trade, and Rural Affairs Committee, 12 January 2026

7.2 Correspondence from the Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing: The Food Supplements (Magnesium L-threonate monohydrate) (Wales) Regulations 2026

(Pages 47 – 48)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-02-26 – Paper 19 – Letter from the Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing, 13 January 2026

7.3 Correspondence from the Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Trefnydd and Chief Whip: The Welsh Government response to the Committee's report on the Welsh Government's Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No. 2) on the Victims and Courts Bill

(Pages 49 – 50)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-02-26 – Paper 20 – Welsh Government response, January 2026

7.4 Correspondence from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning to the Economy, Trade, and Rural Affairs Committee: European Commission adoption of renewed UK data adequacy decisions

(Page 51)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-02-26 – Paper 21 – Letter from the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning to the Economy, Trade, and Rural Affairs Committee, 14 January 2026

8 Motion under Standing Order 17.42(vi) and (ix) to resolve to exclude the public from items 9, 10, 13 and 14

(15.30)

Private meeting

(15.30 – 15.55)

9 Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Finance (No. 2) Bill

(15.30 – 15.40)

(Pages 52 – 56)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-02-26 – Paper 22 – Legal Advice Note

10 Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No. 3) on the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill

(15.40 – 15.55)

(Pages 57 – 58)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-02-26 – Paper 23 – Draft report

LJC(6)-02-26 – Paper 24 – Letter to the Business Committee, 12 January 2026

Break

(15.55 – 16:00)

Public meeting

(16.00 – 16.45)

11 Planning (Wales) Bill – Detailed Committee Consideration proceedings

(16.00 – 16.15)

Julie James MS, Counsel General and Minister for Delivery

James George, Senior Legislative Counsel, Welsh Government

Dion Thomas, Head of Legislation and Performance, Planning Directorate, Welsh Government

The Committee agreed on 15 December 2025, under Standing Order 26C.27, that the order of consideration for proceedings would be:

sections 3 to 109; Schedules 1 to 11; sections 110 to 205; Schedule 13;

sections 206 to 220; Schedules 12 and 14 to 16; sections 221 to 302;

Schedule 17; sections 303 to 322; Schedule 18; sections 323 to 359;

Schedule 19; sections 360 to 410; Schedule 20; section 2; section 1; and the long title.

Supporting documents:

[Marshalled list of Amendments](#)

[Grouping of Amendments](#)

[Planning \(Wales\) Bill](#) (as introduced)

[Explanatory Memorandum](#)

12 Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Wales) Bill – Detailed Committee Consideration proceedings

(16.15 – 16.45)

Julie James MS, Counsel General and Minister for Delivery

James George, Senior Legislative Counsel, Welsh Government

Dion Thomas, Head of Legislation and Performance, Planning Directorate,
Welsh Government

The Committee agreed on 15 December 2025, under Standing Order 26C.27, that the order of consideration for proceedings would be:

sections 1 and 2; Schedules 1 to 4; section 3; Schedule 5; sections 4 to 6; and the long title.

Supporting documents:

[Marshalled list of Amendments](#)

[Grouping of Amendments](#)

[Planning \(Consequential Provisions\) \(Wales\) Bill](#) (as introduced)

[Explanatory Memorandum](#)

Private meeting

(16.45 – 17.00)

**13 Planning (Wales) Bill and Planning (Consequential Provisions)
(Wales) Bill: Detailed Committee Consideration next steps**
(16.45 – 16.50)

**14 Supplementary Legislative Consent Memoranda (Memorandum No.
2 and Memorandum No. 3) on the Sustainable Aviation Fuel Bill**
(16.50 – 17.00) (Pages 59 – 73)

Attached Documents:

LJC(6)-02-26 – Paper 25 – Legal Advice Note

LJC(6)-02-26 – Paper 26 – Draft report

SL(6)696 – The Infrastructure (Wales) Act 2024 **(Commencement No. 2) Order 2025**

Background and Purpose

This Order is the second commencement order made under the Infrastructure (Wales) Act 2024 (“the Act”) and brings the provisions specified in the Order into force on the dates specified in the Order.

Procedure

No procedure.

Scrutiny under Standing Order 21.7

The Order brings sections 90 and 91 of the Act into force on 16 March 2026.

Section 147(1)(b) of the Act brought into force on 4 June 2024 the provisions in Parts 2 to 8 of the Act (of which sections 90 and 91 are part) that confer power to make regulations, or make provision about what is (or is not) permitted to be done in the exercise of a power to make regulations.

Section 90 contains an order making power. Section 91 contains regulation making powers.

It therefore appears that section 90 may already be partially in force, although the Welsh Government’s views on whether it considers an order making power to fall within the scope of section 147 would be appreciated, taking into account the effect of section 39(1) of the Legislation (Wales) Act 2019 (power to make subordinate legislation in different forms).

The Committee also considers that section 91 is already partially in force.

In such circumstances, it would be expected that the Order would state that sections 90 and 91 are commenced on 16 March 2026 to the extent that they are not already in force, as has been done with other provisions in the Order. Failure to include words to the effect of the underlined wording may result in confusion as to when certain aspects of sections 90 and 91 were brought into force. Confirmation is therefore requested as to whether the Government considers any aspect of sections 90 and 91 are already in force, and if so, why this is not addressed in the Order.

Government response

A Welsh Government response is required.

Legal Advisers

Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

13 January 2026



SL(6)698 – The Individual Candidate Election Expenses (Senedd Elections) Code of Practice 2025

Background and Purpose

The amount that can be spent on election expenses by or on behalf of individual candidates for Senedd elections is limited by the *Senedd Cymru (Representation of the People) Order 2025* (the '**2025 Order**').

Parts 1 and 2 of Schedule 7 to the 2025 Order are relevant to the definition of 'election expenses'.

The *Individual Candidate Election Expenses (Senedd Elections) Code of Practice 2025* (the '**Code**') gives guidance as to what does or does not fall within Parts 1 or 2 of Schedule 7 to the 2025 Order.

The Code does not give guidance to those candidates standing for election to the Senedd on behalf of a political party (i.e. party list candidates).

The draft Code was prepared by the Electoral Commission and submitted to the Welsh Ministers for approval. The draft was approved by the Welsh Ministers and laid before the Senedd under paragraph 20(4) of Schedule 7 to the 2025 Order.

Procedure

Draft Negative.

The Welsh Ministers have laid a draft of the Code before the Senedd. If, within 40 days (excluding any days when the Senedd is: (i) dissolved, or (ii) in recess for more than four days) of the draft being laid, the Senedd resolves not to approve the draft Code then the Welsh Ministers must not issue the Code.

If no such resolution is made, the Welsh Ministers must issue the Code in the form of the draft laid before the Senedd, the Code comes into force on the date appointed by the Welsh Ministers by order made by statutory instrument, and the Electoral Commission must arrange for the Code to be published in the manner it thinks appropriate.



Scrutiny under Standing Order 21.7

1. We note paragraph 5 of the Explanatory Memorandum which states that this version of the Code includes revisions made by the Electoral Commission to address issues identified in the withdrawn version of the Code laid on 13 October 2025 ([SL\(6\)655](#)).
2. In paragraph 1.1, there is a difference between the English and Welsh text. In the English text, it notes that *"This Code of Practice on individual candidate election expenses for Senedd elections is issued by Welsh Ministers..."*. The meaning given by the Welsh text is *"This Code of Practice is published on individual candidate election expenses for Senedd elections is issued by Welsh Ministers [...]"* which does not make sense.
3. In paragraph 1.3, the definition of "election expenses" in the English and Welsh text is different. In the English text, it notes that "'election expenses' has the meaning set out in article 65 of the 2025 Order". But in the Welsh text, it essentially duplicates the text of a separate definition for "personal expenses".
4. In paragraph 1.3, in the Welsh text, the term "election expenses" has been defined as *"treuliau etholiad"*. However, throughout the Code, there is a varying between the use of *"treuliau etholiad"* and *"treuliau etholiadol"* to express the term *"election expenses"*. This includes paragraphs 1.4 and 1.13. We note that the Welsh text of article 65 of the *Senedd Cymru (Representation of the People) Order 2025* uses the term *"treuliad etholiad"*.
5. In paragraph 1.19, in the Welsh text, *"incurring"* has been expressed by using a mutated form of the phrase *"mynd i"* which is the standardised term in the Glossary of the Welsh Government's Legislative Translation Unit. However, a different term *"ysgwyddo"* has been used elsewhere to express the meaning of "incur" in the Welsh text of the Code. Therefore, there is an inconsistency in the Welsh text of the Code. In addition, in paragraphs 1.12, 3.3, and 9.5 and the heading of section 7 of the Code, the Welsh text of the provisions of the 2025 Order which are quoted has been changed to use *"ysgwyddo"* to express "incur" rather than the forms of *"mynd i"* which are actually found in the Welsh text of those provisions of the 2025 Order.
6. In paragraph 3.1, in the Welsh text, the meaning of *"relevant"* has been expressed by using the word *"berthnasol"*. However, in the Welsh text of paragraph 3.2, the same word *"berthnasol"* is used on two occasion to express the meaning of *"applies"*. Therefore, the reader of the Welsh text will not be able to distinguish between the meaning of *"relevant"* and *"applies"* when reading the Code. In addition, there is an inconsistency throughout the Welsh text of the Code because forms of both *"perthnasol"* and *"[bod] yn gymwys"* have been used to express the meaning of *"apply"* in places. In this regard, the term *"apply"* has been fully standardised as *"bod yn gymwys"* in the Glossary of the Welsh Government's Legislative Translation Unit.



7. In paragraph 4.8, there is a difference between the English and Welsh text. In the English text, it notes "*a social media channel*" but the meaning given by the Welsh text is "*a social media channel or platform*". This also occurs later at the end of paragraph 5.9 of the Code. There is also a similar instance in paragraph 4.10 where the English text states "*a social media platform*" but the meaning given by the Welsh text is "*a social media channel or platform*". Further, in paragraph 7.3, the English text states "*a channel or platform*" but the meaning given by the Welsh text is "*a social media channel or platform*".
8. In paragraph 4.14, in the Welsh text, at the beginning of the third bullet point, the word "*pan*" is missing to express the meaning of "where" so that it should note "*pan gafodd*" (as found later in paragraph 5.13).
9. In paragraph 9.5, in the words after the first two bullet points, there is a difference between the English and Welsh text. In the English text, it notes "*where that*" but in the Welsh text it notes "*pan fo mae'r*" which does not make grammatical sense.
10. In paragraph 9.5, the term "*election period*" is used in the English text. In the Welsh text, the term is expressed by using a mutated form of "*cyfnod etholiadol*" but we note that the 2025 Order uses a form of "*cyfnod yr etholiad*". Separately, we note that the term '*election period*' is not defined in the Code, but is used in both the third and fourth bullet points of paragraph 9.5. As such, we question whether it would be useful for the reader to have this term defined by reference to article 69(6) of the 2025 Order.

Government response

A Welsh Government response is required in respect of points 2-10.

Legal Advisers

Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

12 January 2026



Agenda Item 2.3

SL(6)699 – The Political Parties Campaign Expenditure (Senedd Elections) Code of Practice 2025

Background and Purpose

The Political Parties Campaign Expenditure (Senedd Elections) Code of Practice 2025 ('the Code') gives guidance as to what does or does not fall within the scope of paragraphs 1 and 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 8 to the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 ('PPERA 2000').

Those paragraphs are relevant to the definition of 'campaign expenditure' and therefore, in particular, to what expenses a political party is required to report to the Electoral Commission. Paragraph 1 lists the expenses which qualify when incurred for election purposes. Paragraph 2 lists the exclusions.

The draft Code was prepared by the Electoral Commission and submitted to the Welsh Ministers for approval. The Welsh Ministers approved the draft Code with modifications.

Procedure

Draft Negative.

The Welsh Ministers have laid a draft of the Code before the Senedd. If, within 40 days (excluding any days when the Senedd is: (i) dissolved, or (ii) in recess for more than four days) of the draft being laid, the Senedd resolves not to approve the draft Code then the Welsh Ministers must not issue the Code.

If no such resolution is made, the Welsh Ministers must issue the Code (in the form of the draft) and the Code comes into force on a day specified in an order made by the Welsh Ministers, and is published by the Electoral Commission.

Scrutiny under Standing Order 21.7

The following point is identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.7 in respect of this Code of Practice.

1. There is an inconsistency between paragraphs 11.3 of the English and Welsh texts. The English text refers to "users of a channel or platform" whereas the Welsh text translates as "users of a channel or **social media** platform". The reference to social media ("*cyfryngau cymdeithasol*") does not appear in the English text.



Government response

A Welsh Government response is required.

Legal Advisers

Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

7 January 2026



Senedd Cymru

Pwyllgor Deddfwriaeth, Cyfiawnder a'r Cyfansoddiad

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Welsh Parliament

Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

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Agenda Item 2.4

SL(6)700 – Non-Party Campaigner Campaign Expenditure (Senedd Elections) Code of Practice 2025

Background and Purpose

The Non-Party Campaigner Campaign Expenditure (Senedd Elections) Code of Practice 2025 ('the Code') gives guidance as to the operation of Part 6 of Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 ('PPERA 2000') for third parties during the regulated period for Senedd elections including during a combined regulated period where applicable.

The Code sets out:

- what a non-party campaigner is;
- what non-party campaigning is;
- the kinds of expenses which are qualifying expenses;
- the circumstances in which expenses are or are not to be regarded as incurred for the purpose of promoting or procuring electoral success;
- the kinds of expenditure which is treated as notional controlled expenditure or donations;
- the circumstances which will be regarded as joint campaigning;
- what targeted controlled expenditure is and when it is relevant; and
- the recording and reporting requirements (including for combined regulated periods).

Procedure

Draft Negative.

The Welsh Ministers have laid a draft of the Code before the Senedd. If, within 40 days (excluding any days when the Senedd is: (i) dissolved, or (ii) in recess for more than four days) of the draft being laid, the Senedd resolves not to approve the draft Code then the Welsh Ministers must not issue the Code.

If no such resolution is made, the Welsh Ministers must issue the Code (in the form of the draft) and the Code comes into force on a day specified in an order made by the Welsh Ministers, and published by the Electoral Commission.



Scrutiny under Standing Order 21.7

The following points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.7 in respect of this code.

(i) Inconsistencies between the meaning of the English and Welsh texts.

1. In paragraph 1.10, in the definition of “party list candidate”, there is a difference between the English and Welsh text. In the English text, it notes that it “has the same meaning as **article 2** of the Senedd Cymru (Representation of the People) Order 2025”. But the meaning given by the Welsh text is “has the same meaning as **section 2** of the Senedd Cymru (Representation of the People) Order 2025”. In addition, it should note in both language texts that it has the same meaning as “**in** article 2” and it would be more precise to refer to article **2(1)** of the 2025 Order.
2. In paragraph 6.18, in the first sentence, there are differences between the English and Welsh text. At the beginning of that sentence in the English text, it notes “If the political party use the...” but the meaning given by the Welsh text is “If the registered political party use the...”. In addition, at the end of that sentence in the English text, it notes “on behalf of the registered political party” but the meaning given by the Welsh text is “on behalf of the political party”.

(ii) Inconsistent use of terms in the Welsh text

3. In paragraph 1.10, in the Welsh text, the term “notional controlled expenditure” has been defined as “gwariant **tybiannol** a reolir”. However, a different term “gwariant a reolir **tybiannol**” is used in the Welsh text in paragraph 1.8 and the heading of section 6 of the Code. Therefore, the definition is not consistent with the term that is used in the Welsh text of the Code.

(iii) Other drafting issues

4. In paragraph 1.10, the term “Incur” is defined for the Code. However, this term has not been defined in the other related Codes. Therefore, is there a reason for the different approach and why the term has been defined for this Code but not for the other related Codes?
5. In paragraph 1.10, there is no definition of the term “party list” although it is used on a single occasion in paragraph 3.12 of the Code and is a defined term in article 2(1) of the 2025 Order. Therefore, this term should also be defined in the Code if it is intended to bear the same meaning as given by article 2(1) of the 2025 Order.
6. In paragraph 1.10, in the definition of “regulated period”, the reference is incomplete where it notes “Section 89B(6) refers to this period” as it does not identify the Act in which that section is found. Other references in paragraph 1.10 have usually included “of PPERA” when referring the reader to sections of that Act.



7. In the heading above paragraph 6.17, and in paragraph 6.18, the term “registered political party” has been used (although in different places in both language texts of paragraph 6.18). However, in paragraph 1.10, the term “political party” is defined as a party which is registered under Part 2 of PPERA. If the definition of “political party” is noted as a party which is registered under Part 2 of PPERA then the word “registered” in those descriptions appears to be superfluous. It is also potentially misleading to the reader if both the terms “political party” and “registered political party” bear the same meaning in the Code.

Government response

A Welsh Government response is required.

Legal Advisers

Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

14 January 2026



Senedd Cymru

Pwyllgor Deddfwriaeth, Cyfiawnder a'r Cyfansoddiad

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Welsh Parliament **Pack Page 10**

Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

SL(6)694 – The Procurement Act 2023 (Threshold Amounts) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2025

Background and Purpose

The Procurement Act 2023 (the “**2023 Act**”) established regulation-making powers for Welsh Ministers in relation to public procurement for Wales.

The *Procurement Act 2023 (Threshold Amounts) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2025* (the “**Regulations**”) update certain threshold amounts in Schedule 1 to the 2023 Act (“**Schedule 1**”) which govern the procedures for the award of public contracts for goods, works and services.

Those thresholds determine the value above which contracts of different types fall to be regulated by the substantive public procurement regime.

The Explanatory Memorandum states that “these amendments follow a review of the relevant thresholds to ensure they continue to correspond with the relevant thresholds laid down in the World Trade Organisation’s Agreement on Government Procurement”. It further states that this will ensure “the UK remains compliant with its international obligations” and that it “will provide legal certainty for Welsh Contracting Authorities, maintain consistency across UK jurisdictions, and reduce the risk of trade disputes”.

Procedure

Negative

These Regulations were made by the Welsh Ministers before they were laid before the Senedd. The Senedd can annul the Regulations within 40 days (excluding any days when the Senedd is: (i) dissolved, or (ii) in recess for more than four days) of the date they were laid before the Senedd.

Technical Scrutiny

No points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.2 in respect of this instrument.

Merits Scrutiny

The following two points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.3 in respect of this instrument.

1. Standing Order 21.3(ii) - that it is of political or legal importance or gives rise to issues of public policy likely to be of interest to the Senedd

We note that these Regulations came into force on 01 January 2026.



2. Standing Order 21.3(ii) - that it is of political or legal importance or gives rise to issues of public policy likely to be of interest to the Senedd

We note that the amendments made to Schedule 1 by these Regulations came into force five minutes later than separate amendments made to the same provision by UK Parliament regulations.

Whilst we are content that Schedule 1 as amended is legally sound, we are concerned about the resulting inaccessibility and readability of the law as published.

Below are screenshots of Schedule 1 as accessed on 13 January 2026 (12 days after the provisions came into force) from Legislation.gov and two separate subscription-based legislation websites. We note that the text preceding the table varies between the three versions, as well as the contents of the table itself.

The Explanatory Memorandum states that these Regulations will “provide legal certainty for Welsh Contracting Authorities”. As such, we consider these variances to be extremely undesirable, confusing and uncertain for users of the legislation (including professional users).

1

Procurement Act 2023

[◀ Previous: Provision](#) [Next: Paragraph ▶](#)

1 (1) **[F1** The threshold amount for a contract of a type referred to in the second column of the table below is **[F2** the threshold set out in the corresponding row of the third column.]

F3(c)
F4(d)]

	Type of contract	F5...	F6...	[F7 Threshold amount F8...
1	Defence and security contract that is a works contract	F5...	F6...	£5,193,000
2	Defence and security contract that is a concession contract	F5...	F6...	£5,193,000
3	Defence and security contract not within row 1, 2 or 8	F5...	F6...	£415,440

2

1

(1) [The threshold amount for a contract of a type referred to in the second column of the table below is—

(c) if the contract is regulated by the Welsh Ministers, the threshold set out in the corresponding row of the third column, and

(d) in any other case, the threshold set out in the corresponding row of the fourth column].

	Type of contract	Threshold amount[: contract regulated by Welsh Ministers]	[Threshold amount: any other contract [: contract regulated by Welsh Ministers]	[Threshold amount: any other contract
1	Defence and security contract that is a works contract	£5,336,937	£5,372,609	[£5,193,000
2	Defence and security contract that is a concession contract	£5,336,937	£5,372,609	£5,193,000
3	Defence and security contract not within row 1, 2 or 8	£426,955	£429,809	£415,440



1	3	
<p>(1) [The threshold amount for a contract of a type referred to in the second column of the table below is [...] ²] ¹ [...] ³ [</p>		
	Type of contract	Threshold amount [...] ⁵
1	Defence and security contract that is a works contract	£5,193,000
2	Defence and security contract that is a concession contract	£5,193,000
3	Defence and security contract not within row 1, 2 or 8	£415,440

We note that the Counsel General is under a continuous duty to review the accessibility of Welsh law under section 1 of the Legislation (Wales) Act 2019. This expressly encompasses ensuring it is published in an up-to date form (including showing whether enactments are in force and incorporating any amendments to them), ensuring it is easy to understand and that it is certain in its effect.

The Welsh Government is asked to confirm which of the three extracts above accurately reflects the law in force at the date it responds.

We also request a response in respect of our broader concerns about the accessibility of amended legislation.

Welsh Government response

A Welsh Government response is required in respect of the second merits point only.

Legal Advisers

Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

13 January 2026



Agenda Item 3.2

SL(6)697 – The Council Tax (Alteration of Lists and Appeals) (Amendment) (Wales) Regulations 2025

Background and Purpose

The Council Tax (Alteration of Lists and Appeals) Regulations 1993 (“the 1993 Regulations”) provide for the alteration of council tax valuation lists, and the making of appeals to the Valuation Tribunal for Wales where there is a disagreement between a listing officer and a person making a proposal for the alteration of a list.

These Regulations make a number of amendments to the 1993 Regulations. The principal amendments are the imposition of a requirement upon listing officers to provide property information to taxpayers who have made an eligible proposal (“a proposer”), and the permitting of proposers to appeal directly to the Valuation Tribunal for Wales against decisions of the listing officer, or following a failure by a listing officer to make a decision within four months of receiving a proposal. These Regulations also confer additional case management powers on the Valuation Tribunal for Wales which are already available to it when hearing appeals in relation to the alteration of local and central non-domestic rating lists. These Regulations apply in relation to proposals made on or after 1 February 2026.

These Regulations also make consequential amendments to the Non-Domestic Rating (Alteration of Lists and Appeals) (Wales) Regulations 2023.

Procedure

Negative.

The Regulations were made by the Welsh Ministers before they were laid before the Senedd. The Senedd can annul the Regulations within 40 days (excluding any days when the Senedd is: (i) dissolved, or (ii) in recess for more than four days) of the date they were laid before the Senedd.

Technical Scrutiny

The following three points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.2 in respect of this instrument.

1. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation

In regulation 9, the words in parentheses after referring to “regulation 11” are incorrectly noted as “(withdrawal of **appeals**)”. However, it should note “(withdrawal of **proposals**)” because this is the subject matter as noted in the heading of regulation 11 of the Council Tax (Alteration of Lists and Appeals) Regulations 1993.



2. Standing Order 21.2(vii) that there appear to be inconsistencies between the meaning of its English and Welsh texts

In regulation 11(b), there is a difference between the English and Welsh text. In the English text, it notes that an existing reference in regulation 15(3)(b) of the 1993 Regulations will be replaced by a new reference in English, "10 or 10C". But in the Welsh text, it notes that the existing reference will be replaced by a new reference in Welsh, "10 neu 10C". However, the new reference should also be inserted in English by the Welsh text of regulation 11(b) because the 1993 Regulations were only made in English rather than bilingually.

3. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation

In regulation 14, in the new regulation 19(2), the reference is incorrectly described as "sub-paragraphs (1)(a) or (c)". However, it should be correctly described as "paragraph (1)(a) or (c)". It is also inconsistent with other correctly described references found in the textual amendments such as the reference to "paragraph (2)(b) or (c)" in the new regulation 25D(3) that is inserted by regulation 17 of these Regulations.

Merits Scrutiny

No points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.3 in respect of this instrument.

Welsh Government response

A Welsh Government response is required.

Legal Advisers

Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

13 January 2026



Agenda Item 3.3

SL(6)701 – The Public Health (Minimum Price for Alcohol) (Wales) Act 2018 (Continuation) Regulations 2026

Background and Purpose

The Public Health (Minimum Price for Alcohol) (Wales) Act 2018 (“the Act”) makes provision about the minimum price for which alcohol is to be supplied in Wales to a person in Wales to address concerns around the health and social harms of excessive alcohol consumption.

Section 22(1) of the Act provides that the minimum pricing provisions set out in the Act cease to have effect after 6 years from the date on which section 2 of the Act comes into force, unless the Welsh Ministers make regulations providing otherwise. Section 2 of the Act came into force on 2 March 2020.

In reliance on powers in section 22(2) of the Act, these regulations dis-apply that repeal in section 22(1). The effect of these regulations is that the minimum pricing provisions set out in the Act will continue in force.

Procedure

Draft Affirmative.

The Welsh Ministers have laid a draft of the Regulations before the Senedd. The Welsh Ministers cannot make the Regulations unless the Senedd approves the draft Regulations.

Technical Scrutiny

No points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.2 in respect of this instrument.

Merits Scrutiny

The following point is identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.3 in respect of this instrument.

1. Standing Order 21.3(ii) – that it is of political or legal importance or gives rise to issues of public policy likely to be of interest to the Senedd

Paragraph 2.1 of the Explanatory Memorandum explains as follows:

“This instrument has been prepared outside the new software for Welsh statutory instruments; it may be the case that minor formatting improvements need to be made during the registration process if this legislation is approved by the Senedd and made by the Welsh Ministers.”



Welsh Government response

A Welsh Government response is not required.

Legal Advisers

Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

13 January 2026



Senedd Cymru

Pwyllgor Deddfwriaeth, Cyfiawnder a'r Cyfansoddiad

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Welsh Parliament

Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

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Agenda Item 3.4

SL(6)702 – The Public Health (Minimum Price for Alcohol) (Minimum Unit Price) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2026

Background and Purpose

These Regulations increase the minimum unit price for alcohol in Wales from 50p to 65p per unit.

Procedure

Draft Affirmative.

The Welsh Ministers have laid a draft of the Regulations before the Senedd. The Welsh Ministers cannot make the Regulations unless the Senedd approves the draft Regulations.

Technical Scrutiny

No points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.2 in respect of this instrument.

Merits Scrutiny

The following point is identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.3 in respect of this instrument.

- 1. Standing Order 21.3(ii) – that it is of political or legal importance or gives rise to issues of public policy likely to be of interest to the Senedd.**

Paragraph 2.3 of the Explanatory Memorandum to these Regulations draws the attention of the Committee to the following statement:

“This instrument has been prepared outside the new software for Welsh statutory instruments; it may be the case that minor formatting improvements need to be made during the registration process if this legislation is approved by the Senedd and made by the Welsh Ministers.”

Welsh Government response

A Welsh Government response is not required.

Legal Advisers

Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

13 January 2026



SL(6)703 – The Tax Collection and Management (Visitor Levy Costs) (Wales) Regulations 2026

Background and Purpose

Section 24A of the Tax Collection and Management (Wales) Act 2016 (the “2016 Act”) requires the Welsh Revenue Authority (“WRA”) to keep an account of visitor levy proceeds collected for each principal council that has introduced the visitor levy in its area. The WRA must then pay the proceeds to the relevant council after the WRA has deducted the costs of exercising its visitor levy functions for that area.

These Regulations limit the permitted deduction to 10% of the proceeds of the visitor levy. The Regulations also include a mechanism whereby the deduction is further limited if it would result in the WRA deducting sums exceeding its total visitor levy operating costs.

Procedure

Draft Affirmative.

The Welsh Ministers have laid a draft of the Regulations before the Senedd. The Welsh Ministers cannot make the Regulations unless the Senedd approves the draft Regulations.

Technical Scrutiny

The following point is identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.2 in respect of this instrument.

1. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation.

In these Regulations, the term “visitor levy” has been used on several occasions but has not been defined. It is a defined term in section 192(2) of the 2016 Act, where it has been given the same meaning as in Part 3 of the Visitor Accommodation (Register and Levy) Etc. (Wales) Act 2025.

The Legislation (Wales) Act 2019 does not contain a provision corresponding to section 11 of the Interpretation Act 1978, which provides that expressions used in subordinate legislation have the meaning which they bear in the Act under which the subordinate legislation is made.

The Welsh Government is therefore asked to clarify why no definition of ‘visitor levy’ appears in these Regulations.



Merits Scrutiny

The following 2 points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.3 in respect of this instrument.

- 2. Standing Order 21.3(i) – that it imposes a charge on the Welsh Consolidated Fund or contains provisions requiring payments to be made to that Fund or any part of the government or to any local or public authority in consideration of any licence or consent or of any services to be rendered, or prescribes the amount of any such charge or payment.**

Under section 25(3) of the 2016 Act, the WRA must pay into the Welsh Consolidated Fund amounts deducted, in respect of its costs, from proceeds of the visitor levy. These Regulations prescribe limits on the amount of those deductions.

- 3. Standing Order 21.3(ii) – that it is of political or legal importance or gives rise to issues of public policy likely to be of interest to the Senedd.**

Paragraph 3.1 of the Explanatory Memorandum to these Regulations draws the attention of the Committee to the following statement:

“This instrument has been prepared outside the new software for Welsh statutory instruments; it may be the case that minor formatting improvements need to be made during the registration process if this legislation is approved by the Senedd and made by the Welsh Ministers.”

Welsh Government response

A Welsh Government response to the technical reporting point is required.

Legal Advisers

Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

12 January 2026



Senedd Cymru

Pwyllgor Deddfwriaeth, Cyfiawnder a'r Cyfansoddiad

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Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

SL(6)677 – The Infrastructure (Wales) Act 2024 (Consequential, Transitional, Revocation and Saving Provisions) Regulations 2025

Background and Purpose

The Infrastructure (Wales) Act 2024 (“the 2024 Act”) establishes a unified application and consenting process to enable the making and consideration of applications for infrastructure consent. The process applies to types of major infrastructure projects that are specified in Part 1 of the 2024 Act. Broadly, they are energy, transport, waste and water projects.

The new process under the 2024 Act replaces, fully or partially, a number of existing statutory regimes for the consenting of significant infrastructure projects, including in particular, planning permission for developments of national significance under Part 3 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (“the 1990 Act”). To the extent that consent under section 19 of the 2024 Act is required for development, the consents referred to in section 20 of the 2024 Act are either not required for, or may not authorise, development.

Regulations 2 to 19 make amendments to secondary legislation which are consequential on the 2024 Act. In particular they ensure the 2024 Act is referenced where appropriate. References to developments of national significance are omitted except to the extent that they are required for the purposes of operation of the transitional provision in section 146 of the 2024 Act.

Regulation 20 makes transitional provision which is supplementary to section 146 of the 2024 Act.

Regulation 21 revokes regulations relating to developments of national significance.

Regulation 22 reflects the saving provision in section 146(10) of the 2024 Act.

Procedure

Negative

The Regulations were made by the Welsh Ministers before they were laid before the Senedd. The Senedd can annul the Regulations within 40 days (excluding any days when the Senedd is: (i) dissolved, or (ii) in recess for more than four days) of the date they were laid before the Senedd.

Technical Scrutiny

The following 21 points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.2 in respect of this instrument.



1. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation

Regulation 1(2) and regulations 21 and 22 come into force on 14 December 2025, whereas all other regulations come into force one-day later on 15 December 2025. It is unclear why there is a one-day difference with commencement of these provisions.

2. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation

In regulation 3(2), the location for the insertion of the new text in the definition of “relevant consent” is incorrectly described as “after **sub-paragraph** (e)”. However, it should be described as “after **paragraph** (e)” because it is a first division of a definition rather than a division of paragraph (1A) in regulation 2 of the Nuclear Industries Security Regulations 2003. In this regard, there is an existing inconsistency in the cross-references in regulation 2 of the 2003 Regulations where paragraph (aa) within the definition of “nuclear premises” is incorrectly described as a sub-paragraph in a few places unlike the other paragraphs of the same definition.

3. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation

In regulation 5(2)(b), the location for the insertion of the new text in the definition of “appropriate authority” is incorrectly described as “in **sub-paragraph** (a)”. However, it should be correctly described as “in **paragraph** (a)” because it is a first division of the definition rather than a division of paragraph (1) in regulation 2 of the Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007.

4. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation

In regulation 5(2)(e)(ii), the location for the insertion of the new text in the definition of “regulatory approval” is incorrectly described as “after **sub-paragraph** (d)”. It is also inconsistent with the previous description in regulation 5(2)(e)(i) where it correctly refers to the same provision as “**paragraph** (d)”.

5. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation

In regulation 5(4)(a), the location for the insertion of the new text is incorrectly described as “in **sub-paragraph** (4)”. However, it should be correctly described as “in **paragraph** (4)” because it is a first division of regulation 10A of the Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007.

6. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation



In regulation 8(2)(c), in the English text, the new definition of “relevant infrastructure consent order” is incorrectly inserted after the definition of “relevant consent order” in regulation 2(1) of the Carbon Capture Readiness (Electricity Generating Stations) Regulations 2013. However, the new definition should have been inserted after the definition of “relevant extension” because the existing definitions are all listed according to English alphabetical order in the English text of that regulation (other than the chronologically ordered definitions of legislation at the beginning).

7. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation

In regulation 8(3)(b), the existing text of regulation 4(1A) in the Carbon Capture Readiness (Electricity Generating Stations) Regulations 2013 is amended so that “or an infrastructure consent order” is inserted after “consent order” in each place it occurs. However, the later amendment made by regulation 8(3)(c)(i) of these Regulations inserts the term “or a **relevant** infrastructure consent order” in regulation 4(3A)(b)(i) and (ii) of the 2013 Regulations which as amended will refer the reader to regulation 4(1A)(a) and (b) of those Regulations. Therefore, should the amendment made by regulation 8(3)(b) insert the term “or a **relevant** infrastructure consent order” rather than “or an infrastructure consent order” in any of those places in regulation 4(1A) of the 2013 Regulations? (both “infrastructure consent order” and “relevant infrastructure consent order” are defined terms)

8. Standing Order 21.2(vii) – that there appear to be inconsistencies between the meaning of its English and Welsh texts

In regulation 12(3)(b), there is a difference between the English and Welsh text. In the English text, it notes “omit the definition of “the 2016 Order” and insert-” without specifying where the new definitions should be inserted. But the meaning given by the Welsh text is “omit the definition of “Gorchymyn 2016” and after the definition of “prif gyngor” insert-” which specifies where the new definition should be inserted in the existing list of definitions. If the intention of the amendment made by the English text is to insert the new definitions in the same place as the omitted definition it should use the description “for the definition of “the 2016 Order” substitute-” to identify that location.

9. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation

In regulation 12(3)(c)(i), the location of the text for amendment is correctly described as found “in paragraph (a)” of the definition of “the consultees” in regulation 2(1) of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Wales) Regulations 2017. However, the amendment is described as omitting the words to “the end of **the sub-paragraph**” when still referring to paragraph (a) of that definition. In addition, the existing text of that definition also incorrectly refers to the divisions of that definition as “sub-paragraphs”, but they should be described as “paragraphs”.



10. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation

In regulation 12(3)(d), the location of the text for amendment is incorrectly described as being found “in **sub-paragraph** (a)” of the definition of “EIA application” in regulation 2(1) of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Wales) Regulations 2017. However, it should be correctly described as “in **paragraph** (a)” of that definition in the 2017 Regulations. This also occurs in regulation 12(3)(j) where it notes “omit **sub-paragraph** (a)” in the definition of “relevant planning authority” but it should be described as “**paragraph** (a)”.

11. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation

In regulation 12(7)(a) and (b), the description of the location of the text is incorrectly described as “in **paragraph** (a)” and “in **paragraph** (b)” of regulation 4(1) of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Wales) Regulations 2017. However, they should be described as “in **sub-paragraph** (a)” and “in **sub-paragraph** (b)” respectively because they are divisions of paragraph (1) in regulation 4 of the 2017 Regulations.

12. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation

In regulation 12(7)(b), the amendment is described as “omit “or the 2016 Order” and insert “the 2025 Application Regulations or the 2025 Examination Regulations”. However, the amendment should be described as “for “the 2016 Order” substitute “, the 2025 Application Regulations or the 2025 Examination Regulations” if it is inserting the new text in the same location as the existing text in regulation 4(1) of Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Wales) Regulations 2017.

13. Standing Order 21.2(vii) – that there appear to be inconsistencies between the meaning of its English and Welsh texts

In regulation 12(17)(d), in the new paragraph (5A)(a) and (b), in the Welsh text, the modifications are made to references to “cais” and “Gweinidogion Cymru” respectively found in regulations 25 and 26 of the 2025 Application Regulations. However, the mutated forms of those phrases are also used in regulations 25 and 26 of the 2025 Application Regulations. Therefore, shouldn't the Welsh text of the new paragraph (5A)(a) and (b) also note the mutated forms that are modified?

14. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation

In regulation 12(25)(a), the location of the text for the amendments is incorrectly described because it notes that the phrases are found “in paragraph (2)(b)” of regulation 27 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Wales) Regulations 2017. However, the identified text for the amendment made by regulation 12(25)(a)(ii) is found in the full-out



words after sub-paragraph (b) at the end of paragraph (2) in regulation 27 of the 2017 Regulations.

15. Standing Order 21.2(vii) – that there appear to be inconsistencies between the meaning of its English and Welsh texts

In regulation 12(26)(c), there is a difference between the English and Welsh text. In the English text, the amendment notes that the new text should be inserted “after “planning authority”” in paragraph (2)(b)(i) and (iv) of regulation 28 in the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Wales) Regulations 2017. However, the term “planning authority” does not occur in paragraph (2)(b)(iv) of regulation 28 in the 2017 Regulations, where it only refers to “the authority”. In the Welsh text, the corresponding amendment has been described differently so that the new text is inserted after “planning authority” and “the authority” in paragraphs (i) and (iv) respectively of regulation 28(2)(b). Therefore, the amendment does not succeed in the English text although it does in the Welsh text due to the different descriptions in both language texts.

16. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation

In regulation 12(42)(l)(i), the location of the text for amendment is incorrectly described as “in the restatement of **paragraph** 56(1)(a)”. However, it should be correctly described as “in the restatement of **regulation** 56(1)(a)” which is modified by paragraph 20 of Schedule 6 to the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Wales) Regulations 2017.

17. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation

In regulation 13(2)(a), the location of the text for amendment is incorrectly described as “at the end of **paragraph** (b)”. However, it should be correctly described as “at the end of **sub-paragraph** (b)” because it is a division of paragraph (1) in regulation 7 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. Another provision in regulation 7(1) of the 2017 Regulations is correctly described as “sub-paragraph (c)” in the amendment made by the following regulation 13(2)(b) of these Regulations.

18. Standing Order 21.2(vii) – that there appear to be inconsistencies between the meaning of its English and Welsh texts

In regulation 15(1), in the English text, the title of the SI is incorrectly noted as “the Electricity (Offshore Generating Stations) (Variation of **Consent**) (Wales) Regulations 2019”. However, it should be a plural noun “**Consents**” in the phrase “(Variation of **Consents**)” in the title of that SI as already correctly noted in the heading of that regulation and in the corresponding Welsh text.

19. Standing Order 21.2(vii) – that there appear to be inconsistencies between the meaning of its English and Welsh texts



In regulation 19(2), there is a difference between the English and Welsh text. In the English text, it notes "Omit regulation **4**" but the meaning given by the Welsh text is "Omit regulation **14**".

20. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation

In regulation 20(4), the reference is incomplete as it notes "For the purposes of section 146(3)(b)" but it does not identify the Act where that section is located. In the previous paragraphs in regulation 20, the opening references have all included "of the 2024 Act" after citing the relevant section from that Act.

21. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation

In regulation 20(5), the terms "development" and "planning authority" are defined with a meaning for regulation 20. However, these definitions appear to be superfluous as neither of the terms appear to be used in regulation 20 of these Regulations.

Merits Scrutiny

No points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.3 in respect of this instrument.

Welsh Government response

A Welsh Government response is required.

Committee Consideration

The Committee considered the instrument at its meeting on 1 December 2025 and reports to the Senedd in line with the reporting points above.



Government Response: The Infrastructure (Wales) Act 2024 (Consequential, Transitional, Revocation and Saving Provisions) Regulations 2025

Technical Scrutiny point 1: The timings of both the revocation and saving provision was to ensure there was no doubt that certain functions of reserved bodies are not removed by provisions in the 2024 Act which came into force on the 15 December 2025.

Technical Scrutiny points 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 17 and 18: The Welsh Government is satisfied that the provisions are sufficiently clear to identify where the amendments take effect.

Technical Scrutiny point 6: The Welsh Government notes the reporting point, however, is of the view that no amendment is required.

Technical Scrutiny point 7, 15, 16, 19 and 21: The Welsh Government agrees that amendments are required to clarify what is captured by these amendments and will bring forward an amending WSI this Senedd term to clarify the amendments.

Technical Scrutiny point 13: The Welsh Government is content that the drafting is correct and is therefore of the view that no amendment is required.

Technical Scrutiny point 20: The Welsh Government notes this reporting point but is of the view that it is clear from reading the provision as a whole that the 2024 Act is being referred to.

Agenda Item 4.2

SL(6)692 – The Non-Domestic Rating (Provision of Information About Changes of Circumstances) (Wales) Regulations 2026

Background and Purpose

These Regulations impose a duty on a person (“P”) to provide information to billing authorities when P becomes the ratepayer of a hereditament or when certain changes occur in relation to the occupation of a hereditament for which P is the ratepayer (the “notifiable information duty”). The Regulations also provide for a system of penalties for failure to comply with that duty and procedures for reviewing and appealing penalties.

Regulation 3 provides that P must notify the relevant billing authority of the following changes, together with the date on which they occurred—

- When there is a change in the identity of P. This means that P must notify the billing authority that P is the new ratepayer for the hereditament;
- When P becomes the occupier and the hereditament was unoccupied immediately prior to the change. This means that P must notify the billing authority if P occupies the previously unoccupied hereditament (whether or not P was already the ratepayer as the owner of the unoccupied hereditament);
- When a person ceases to be the occupier and the hereditament is unoccupied immediately following the change. This means that where P is the owner of the unoccupied hereditament (whether or not P was already the ratepayer as the previous occupier), P must notify the billing authority that it is no longer occupied. P must comply with the notifiable information duty within 60 days of the relevant change taking place.

Regulation 4 makes provision about the imposition of financial penalties. Where P or a previous ratepayer fails to comply with the notifiable information duty within the time specified, a civil penalty of £500 may be imposed on that person. Where that person knowingly or recklessly makes a false statement while purporting to comply with the notifiable information duty, they will be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale. This regulation also deals with matters in relation to the recovery of the civil penalty.

Regulation 5 makes provision about the information which must be contained in a notice imposing such penalties (a “penalty notice”).

Regulations 6 to 8 set out the procedures for the review and service of penalty notices, including the requirement that billing authorities must serve a further penalty notice where the penalty amount has been reduced or remitted in full.



Regulation 9 makes provision about appealing against a penalty notice or further penalty notice.

Regulation 10 amends the Non-Domestic Rating (Demand Notices) (Wales) Regulations 2017 in relation to the prescribed information which must be contained in a demand notice issued to a ratepayer. The amendments will require demand notices to include information reminding ratepayers of the notifiable information duty.

Regulation 11 amends the Non-Domestic Rating (Alteration of Lists and Appeals) (Wales) Regulations 2023 to ensure that relevant provisions of those Regulations apply in relation to appeals brought against penalty notices under these Regulations, apart from the amendment in regulation 11(3)(b), which ensures that a billing authority may be included as a party to an appeal brought under certain provisions in Schedule 9 to the Local Government Finance Act 1988.

Procedure

Draft affirmative.

The Welsh Ministers have laid a draft of the Regulations before the Senedd. The Welsh Ministers cannot make the Regulations unless the Senedd approves the draft Regulations.

Technical Scrutiny

The following 2 points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.2 in respect of this instrument.

1. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation.

Regulation 4(6)(b) states that a claim to recover a penalty must not be made “if a review is made under regulation 6(2)”. Should it refer to a review being required or requested, as opposed to “made”?

2. Standing Order 21.2(vii) - that there appear to be inconsistencies between the meaning of its English and Welsh texts.

In regulation 7(a), there is a difference between the English and Welsh text. In the English text, it notes “the amount of the revised penalty amount” but the meaning given by the Welsh text is “the revised penalty amount”.

Merits Scrutiny

The following 2 points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.3 in respect of this instrument.



- 3. Standing Order 21.3(i) – that it imposes a charge on the Welsh Consolidated Fund or contains provisions requiring payments to be made to that Fund or any part of the government or to any local or public authority in consideration of any licence or consent or of any services to be rendered, or prescribes the amount of any such charge or payment.**

Regulation 4(4) requires that any sum received by a billing authority by way of a penalty under regulation 4(1) must be paid into the Welsh Consolidated fund.

- 4. Standing Order 21.3(ii) – that it is of political or legal importance or gives rise to issues of public policy likely to be of interest to the Senedd.**

Paragraph 2 of the Explanatory Memorandum explains as follows:

“This instrument has been prepared outside the new software for Welsh statutory instruments; it may be the case that minor formatting improvements need to be made during the registration process if this legislation is approved by the Senedd and made by the Welsh Ministers.”

Welsh Government response

A Welsh Government response is required for reporting points 1 and 2.

Committee Consideration

The Committee considered the instrument at its meeting on 12 January 2026 and reports to the Senedd in line with the reporting points above.



Government Response: – The Non-Domestic Rating (Provision of Information About Changes of Circumstances) (Wales) Regulations 2026

Technical Scrutiny point 1: The Welsh Government considers that the text is unlikely to cause confusion to the reader but will amend regulation 4(6)(b) prior to making to more closely follow the wording of regulation 6(2).

Technical Scrutiny point 2: The Welsh Government does not consider there to be any difference in meaning between the Welsh and English language text. It would not make sense for the Welsh language text to read “*swm swm diwygiedig y gosb*”, which would be the literal and direct translation of the English language text.

Technical drafting corrections to be made prior to the making of the Regulations

CORRECTIONS MADE TO THE WELSH TEXT PRIOR TO MAKING	CORRECTIONS MADE TO THE ENGLISH TEXT PRIOR TO MAKING
Rheoliadau Ardrethu Annomestig (Darparu Gwybodaeth am Newidiadau mewn Amgylchiadau) (Cymru) 2026	The Non-Domestic Rating (Provision of Information About Changes of Circumstances) (Wales) Regulations 2026
In regulation 4(6)(b), the word “gwneir” will be corrected to read “gofynnir am”.	In regulation 4(6)(b), the word “made” will be corrected to read “requested”.
Minor issues such as minor changes to the explanatory note and footnotes and correcting typographical errors will also be corrected prior to making.	

Agenda Item 4.3

SL(6)693 – The Council Tax (Discounts, Disregards and Exemptions) (Wales) Regulations 2026

Background and Purpose

The current system of council tax discounts, disregards and exemptions is set out in the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and subordinate legislation made under that Act.

These Regulations are intended to be a consolidating instrument which restates and amends existing provisions as well as making further provisions.

These Regulations will revoke and replace the following statutory instruments in their application to Wales.

- The Council Tax (Discount Disregards) Order 1992;
- The Council Tax (Additional Provisions for Discount Disregards) Regulations 1992;
- The Council Tax (Exempt Dwellings) Order 1992; and
- The Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (Wales) Regulations 1998.

Part 1 contains general and interpretation provisions.

Part 2 prescribes the amount of a council tax discount in relation to occupancy and particular classes of unoccupied dwellings. In particular they prescribe the amount of a discount where there is a single occupant of a dwelling, the amount of a discount where all occupants of a dwelling are disregarded (for which see Part 3), and particular dwelling related discounts.

Part 3 prescribes classes of persons who are disregarded for the purposes of a council tax discount under Part 2.

Part 4 prescribes exceptions (for some classes of persons who are disregarded for the purposes of a council tax discount) from being jointly and severally liable for council tax.

Part 5 prescribes exemptions from the liability to pay council tax in relation to particular classes of dwellings.

Part 6 introduces Schedule 4 which makes provision for consequential amendments and revocations.

Schedule 1 makes further provision for job-related dwellings.

Schedules 2 and 3 make further provision in relation to students and prescribed educational establishments.

Schedule 4 contains amendments and revocations which are consequential on these



Regulations.

Procedure

Draft affirmative.

The Welsh Ministers have laid a draft of the Regulations before the Senedd. The Welsh Ministers cannot make the Regulations unless the Senedd approves the draft Regulations.

Technical Scrutiny

The following six points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.2 in respect of this instrument.

1. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation.

Regulation 1(3) defines “billing authority” for the purposes of “paragraph (2)” of these Regulations. This term is not used in paragraph (2). However, it is used in the definition of “council tax reduction scheme” in regulation 1(3) and in regulation 29, Class A, paragraph (6) and Class C, paragraph (4). As such, it is unclear where the definition of “billing authority” in regulation 1(3) is intended to apply.

2. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation.

In regulation 1(3), in the definition of “billing authority”, the title of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 is noted in full, but is defined in regulation 2 as “the 1992 Act” for these Regulations. This should have been used in the definition of “billing authority” as has been done in the definition of “council tax reduction scheme” in regulation 1(3).

3. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation.

In regulation 2, “leave to enter or remain” has been defined for these Regulations. However, it is unclear if the term that should be defined is “leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom” as this is the phrase that has been used throughout the Regulations. The definition in the English text is also different from that found in the Welsh text, which has been given the meaning “leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom”.

4. Standing Order 21.2(vii) - that there appear to be inconsistencies between the meaning of its English and Welsh texts.

In regulation 2, in the definition of “leave to enter or remain” in paragraph (a)(ii), there is a difference between the English and Welsh text. The English text notes “thought right to allow P”, whilst the meaning of the Welsh text is “thought right to allow that person”. The Welsh text does not use the term “P” which was defined in the opening words of the definition of “leave



to enter or remain". This is also inconsistent with the other provisions in that definition where "P" has been used in the Welsh text.

5. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation.

In Schedule 4, in paragraph 2(2)(b) to (d), the amendments to the definitions in regulation 1(2) of the Council Tax (Administration and Enforcement) Regulations 1992 are described as being made "as it applies in relation to Wales". It is unclear if repeating this statement is necessary because there is an existing application provision in regulation 1(4) of these Regulations. It may also be argued that the enabling powers already limit the Welsh Ministers so that any amendments will only apply in relation to Wales. It could potentially be confusing to a reader because this will also be true of the other amendments made by Schedule 4, although not expressly noted. For example, in paragraph 1(4) of Schedule 4, an amendment is made to omit paragraph 1(1)(b)(iii) from Schedule 1 to the Council Tax (Discount Disregards) Order 1992. However, this provision only exists in Schedule 1 "as it applies in relation to Wales" but this is not expressly stated in that amendment. As such, there does appear to be an inconsistent approach.

6. Standing Order 21.2(v) – that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation.

In Schedule 11, paragraph 4, the amendments do not identify where the paragraphs are found in the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Default Scheme) (Wales) Regulations 2013. This should note that the paragraphs are found in the Schedule to the 2013 Regulations. Previous amending instruments have included a phrase such as "in the scheme set out in the Schedule to..." to identify the location for amendment.

Merits Scrutiny

The following point is identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.3 in respect of this instrument.

7. Standing Order 21.3(ii) – that it is of political or legal importance or gives rise to issues of public policy likely to be of interest to the Senedd.

Paragraph 2.1 of the Explanatory Memorandum (Matters of special interest to the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee) states as follows:

"2.1 This instrument has been prepared outside the new software for Welsh statutory instruments; it may be the case that minor formatting improvements need to be made during the registration process if this legislation is approved by the Senedd and made by the Welsh Ministers."



Welsh Government response

A Welsh Government response is required in respect of reporting points 1-6.

Committee Consideration

The Committee considered the instrument at its meeting on 12 January 2026 and reports to the Senedd in line with the reporting points above.



Senedd Cymru

Pwyllgor Deddfwriaeth, Cyfiawnder a'r Cyfansoddiad

—
Welsh Parliament

Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

Pack Page 35

Government Response: The Council Tax (Discounts, Disregards and Exemptions) (Wales) Regulations 2026

Technical Scrutiny point 1, 2,3, 4 and 6:

The Welsh Government agree with these reporting points and will ensure that the Regulations are corrected as set out below prior to making. In relation to point 6 we note that the error is in relation to Schedule 4 paragraph 11 and not Schedule 11 paragraph 4.

Technical Scrutiny point 5

The instrument being amended (the Council Tax (Administration and Enforcement) Regulations 1992) contains parallel text applying separately to England and Wales. The Welsh Government considers it prudent to clarify the application of the text being inserted into the instrument. This approach is confirmed by paragraph 7.28(3) of Writing Laws for Wales.

Technical drafting corrections to be made prior to the making of the 2026 Regulations:

CORRECTIONS MADE TO THE WELSH TEXT PRIOR TO MAKING	CORRECTIONS MADE TO THE ENGLISH TEXT PRIOR TO MAKING
Rheoliadau'r Dreth Gyngor (Disgowntiau, Diystyriadau ac Esemptiadau) (Cymru) 2026	The Council Tax (Discounts, Disregards and Exemptions) (Wales) Regulations 2026
In regulation 1(3) the words "Ym mharagraff (2)" will be amended to read "Yn y rheoliad hwn". The same definition of billing authority will also be added to regulation 28.	In regulation 1(3) the words "In paragraph (2)" will be amended to read "In this regulation". The same definition of billing authority will also be added to regulation 28.
In the definition of "awdurdod bilio" in regulation 1(3) the words "Ddeddf Cyllid Llywodraeth Leol 1992" will be amended to read "Ddeddf 1992".	In the definition of "billing authority" in regulation 1(3) the words "Local Government Finance Act 1992" will be amended to read "1992 Act".
In the definition of "caniatâd i ddod i mewn i'r Deyrnas Unedig neu i aros ynddi", the words "in the United Kingdom" will be added to the corresponding English definition in brackets to read "leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom" and in paragraph (a)(ii) the words "caniatáu i'r	In the definition of "leave to enter or remain" in regulation 2 the words "in the United Kingdom" will be added to the definition to read "leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom".

<p>person hwnnw” will be amended to read “caniatáu i P”.</p>	
<p>Paragraph 11(1) of Schedule 4 will be amended to read “Mae’r cynllun a nodir yn yr Atodlen i Reoliadau Cynlluniau Gostyngiadau’r Dreth Gyngor (Cynllun Diofyn) (Cymru) 2013 wedi ei ddiwygio fel a ganlyn”.</p>	<p>Paragraph 11(1) of Schedule 4 will be amended to read “The scheme set out in the Schedule to the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Default Scheme) (Wales) Regulations 2013 is amended as follows.”</p>
<p>Minor typographical issues and footnotes will also be corrected.</p>	

Agenda Item 6.1

Jayne Bryant AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Lywodraeth Leol a Thai
Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref JB/PO/6/26

Mike Hedges MS
Chair
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
Senedd Cymru

SeneddLJC@senedd.wales

9 January 2026

Dear Mike

Inter-Institutional Relations Agreement: Inter-ministerial Group (IMG) for Housing, Communities and Local Government.

In accordance with the inter-institutional relations agreement, I would like to inform you that a meeting of the IMG for Housing, Communities and Local Government will take place on 4 February 2026.

The in-person meeting will be hosted in Northern Ireland by the Northern Ireland Executive. The meeting agenda will focus on topics relating to the development and delivery of housing strategies.

An update will be provided after the meeting.

I hope this information helps.

Yours sincerely,

Jayne Bryant AS/MS

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Lywodraeth Leol a Thai
Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government

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

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Gohebiaeth.Jayne.Bryant@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Jayne.Bryant@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.

Mike Hedges MS
Chair
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
Senedd Cymru

SeneddLJC@senedd.wales

14 January 2026

Dear Mike,

Inter-Institutional Relations Agreement: Celtic Heritage Agreement Annual Report

In accordance with the inter-institutional relations agreement, I am writing to notify you that the Celtic Heritage – Cornwall-Wales Collaboration Agreement: Annual Report 2025 has been published on Cornwall Council's website and is available [here](#).

Cornwall Council and the Welsh Government signed the Celtic Heritage – Cornwall-Wales Collaboration Agreement on 17 July 2023. The Agreement, which runs for an initial five-year period, builds on existing partnership working between Cornwall Council and the Welsh Government by encouraging further cooperation and understanding in areas of mutual interest and for mutual benefit. Four areas were identified as providing significant opportunity to grow the relationship between Cornwall and Wales. These were:

- a) Sustainable housing provision.
- b) Achieving Net Zero.
- c) Thriving rural economies.
- d) Celebrating culture and language.

I have also copied this letter to the chairs of the following Committees: Climate Change, Environment, and Infrastructure Committee; Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport, and International Relations Committee; Local Government and Housing Committee; and Economy, Trade, and Rural Affairs Committee.



Eluned Morgan

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400
Gohebiaeth.Eluned.Morgan@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Eluned.Morgan@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.

Pack Page 39

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.



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: MA-MDFWL-3074-25

Andrew RT Davies MS
Chair
Economy, Trade, and Rural Affairs Committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

12 January 2026

Dear Andrew,

Development of Tourism and Regulation of Visitor Accommodation (Wales) Bill

Thank you to you and the Committee for your detailed scrutiny of the Development of Tourism and Regulation of Visitor Accommodation (Wales) Bill, for your report, published on 19 December 2025, and the accompanying recommendations.

I am pleased that the Committee supports the general principles of the Bill.

I intend to respond to the key points raised in the recommendations during the debate itself, and I will write again following the debate, should there be any further information it would be helpful to share ahead of Stage 2. However, as requested, please find preliminary responses to recommendations 6, 13, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21, and 23 in the Annex attached, each of which proposes that the Government should provide information 'in advance' of the Senedd debate on the general principles of the Bill.

I am copying this letter to the Chairs of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, and the Finance Committee for information.

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
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.

Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee – Stage 1 Report Recommendations Preliminary responses

Stage 2 Amendments

Recommendation 6

In advance of the Stage 1 debate, the Cabinet Secretary should set out what amendments he plans to bring forward at Stage 2.

In responding to this recommendation, I have set out below various amendments the Government intends to bring forward at Stage 2, including those in response to matters raised by Committee members and other stakeholders during Stage 1 scrutiny, and recommendations in both this and the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committees' reports.

Officials are also continuing to review the Bill in the light of evidence given during Stage 1 scrutiny, including the supplementary written evidence referenced in recommendation 23, to consider where there may be other opportunities to clarify the Bill's intended effect and I will bring forward various amendments throughout the Bill for this purpose.

Returning to **recommendation 6**, the amendments set out below also encompass my response to a number of other recommendations from this Committee, as well as recommendations 3, 5, 7 and 8 from the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee. (In each of these cases, I intend to accept the corresponding recommendations, either in full or in principle). The proposed amendments are as follows:

- Commencement and coming into force (Section 59) – To include a sunrise provision as a backstop to commence the Act, if it has not been commenced by the date specified.
(ETRA Committee Recommendation 4 refers.)
- Post-implementation review – To include a requirement to undertake a post-implementation review.
(ETRA Committee Recommendation 7 and LJC Committee Recommendation 3 refer.)
- Procedure for extending the definition of regulated visitor accommodation (Section 5)– To include a requirement to consult for a minimum period prior to the use of the power under paragraph 5(1)(b).
(ETRA Committee Recommendation 9 and LJC Committee Recommendation 5 refer.)
- Fire prevention standard (Section 9) – To clarify the requirement and ensure parity with the Fire Safety Order 2005.
(ETRA Committee Recommendation 13 refers.)

- Licence periods (Section 25) – To include a power to make regulations to provide for different licence periods.
(ETRA Committee Recommendation 16 refers.)
- Procedures for Regulations (Section 57) – To include reference to sections 27 (provisional licences), 38 (fees) (for the first time such regulations are made), and 40 (provision relating to campsites and caravan sites) within the list of powers subject to Senedd Approval.
(ETRA Committee Recommendation 19 and LJC Committee Recommendations 7 and 8 refer.)
- Criminal offences – To include a limitation on provisions under the Bill that include the power to create offences, so that convictions may not result in custodial sentences.
(LJC Committee Recommendations 6 and 10 refer.)

Further information on the detail of these amendments, and any others required, will be available in the purpose and effect document shared upon tabling at Stage 2.

Additional matters

The remainder of this Annex sets out the further information requested in the respective recommendations in advance of the debate on the General Principles of the Bill.

Recommendation 15

In advance of the Stage 1 debate, the Cabinet Secretary should review the additional evidence provided by the Short Term Accommodation Association and confirm the average number of total licences that Rent Smart Wales deals with each year and the time taken to process applications at present. The Cabinet Secretary should also set out any estimate he has made of the length of time it will take to process and issue the estimated 30,000 visitor accommodation licences that will need to be issued in the first year of operating the licensing scheme.

Officials are reviewing the additional evidence shared by the Short Term Accommodation Association and I will follow up in writing with the Committee, alongside any other information required, as set out in my response to recommendation 23 below.

Recommendation 17

In advance of the Stage 1 debate, the Cabinet Secretary should provide further information to the Senedd about how the provision for complaints in section 22 is expected to work in practice, including how complaints will be assessed and what the practical effect will be of a complaint being upheld.

The provision in relation to complaints in section 22 provides a mechanism for all visitors to be informed of how to raise issues about the licence status of accommodation in which

they are staying, as complaints will be one of the primary sources of intelligence on potential breaches of licence conditions.

Formal action can only be taken under the Bill if a complaint gives the licensing authority reason to believe that a licence condition has been breached or that the accommodation provider has committed an offence by providing false or misleading information to the licensing authority. In this case, the licensing authority may need to obtain more information from the provider, either informally or under an information notice; undertake an inspection; or, where it is satisfied a breach has occurred, issue a remedial notice informing the provider of the action they need to take to keep their licence.

Issues should generally be raised with the provider or the booking agent in the first instance, but we would highlight the types of issues that should be brought to the attention of the licensing authority. Guidance will provide additional detail on how complaints will be dealt with, to ensure visitors and providers understand the process.

Recommendation 18 – Roles of Local Authorities and Visit Wales

In advance of the Stage 1 debate, the Welsh Government should update the Committee on discussions with local authorities as to their potential role in the enforcement process, and clarify the potential role Visit Wales might play.

Officials have had – and continue to have - discussions with the WLGA about the potential role local authorities may play in the enforcement process on the basis I described when giving evidence in Committee. Those discussions focus on the operational details of implementing the Bill.

The Welsh Government delivers its existing tourism functions through its internal tourism team (Visit Wales), and will ensure that the delivery of tourism functions under the Bill is coordinated with this work.

If other types of accommodation were brought within the scope of the licensing regime in future, or new types of conditions added, it would be necessary to review those arrangements in that new context.

Recommendation 20

In advance of the Stage 1 debate, the Welsh Government should set out in further detail how the provision in section 42 is intended to work in practice, including its justification for the inclusion of 42(4).

The intention behind the contractual provisions is to complement the licensing scheme, so that in addition to the enforcement of licensing conditions by the authority, visitors have a clear route to redress if accommodation is not fit for them to stay in. Together, these provisions incentivise compliance, reinforce visitor confidence, and promote standards in visitor accommodation in Wales.

A visitor already expects providers to fix issues quickly and, where that is not possible, to agree a fair and suitable resolution. This could include, for example, a full or partial refund, or suitable alternative accommodation where the issue is significant. In practice, the same applies under these provisions, in that we would expect a provider and visitor to resolve these issues between themselves, without the need for legal action. If the issue cannot otherwise be resolved, depending on the circumstances, the Bill codifies the visitor's entitlement to seek a remedy via the courts. We would not, however, anticipate the involvement of the licensing authority in these matters, except in so far as they interact with the authority's functions to deal with potential breaches of licensing conditions.

The Bill does provide limitations to ensure the obligation is reasonable and proportionate in practice. Sections 43 and 44 limit the provider's liability where the visitor's own actions are the cause of the problem, where the provider was not (or could not reasonably have been expected to be) aware of problems, or, where upon becoming aware, the issues were resolved within a reasonable time.

Finally, subsection 42(4) clarifies the scope of the obligation where other parties are involved, to ensure, for example, that in cases where a booking is made on behalf of the visitor by another person, or where one person has made a booking for a group of people, the obligation applies to each of the visitors staying at the accommodation. Guidance will include further information on these provisions ahead of implementation.

Recommendation 21

In advance of the Stage 1 debate, the Cabinet Secretary should:

- *provide an update on discussions with booking platforms / agents regarding the provisions in sections 46 and 47,*
- *provide further information on the rationale for extending the proposed offence to bodies other than visitor accommodation providers, and*
- *provide further information on the specific steps that may need to be taken to establish a defence to the proposed offence.*

Engagement

WRA have already been in discussions with some of the larger visitor accommodation booking platforms about requirements for registration numbers. The intention is to work towards a solution that works at scale, to help them meet the requirements as easily as possible. My officials also continue to engage with stakeholders across the sector, including with platforms and representative bodies, on the Bill as a whole, and will continue to work with them throughout its implementation. Our aim is to develop similar solutions for smaller booking platforms and other providers, as well as developing operational guidance to set out clear expectations and help ensure that those who advertise visitor accommodation in Wales are able to comply easily with the requirements.

Rationale

During the development of the Bill, we have considered the best way to ensure visitors are able to see whether particular visitor accommodation is licensed. The best way to ensure clarity, transparency and reassurance to everyone - visitors, the sector and communities alike – is to have a single public source of information.

For this reason, the Bill provides:

- for the creation of a Visitor Accommodation Directory (via section 45);
- for all visitor accommodation premises to be issued with a unique number upon registration (via an amendment to the Visitor Accommodation (Register and Levy) Etc. (Wales) Act 2025 (“the VARL Act”) at Schedule 2 to the Bill) which is included on the Directory; and
- a requirement for that number to be shown in any advertising and marketing, whoever is advertising the accommodation.

Together, these provisions create a simple and transparent system whereby anyone can use a premises registration number in an advertisement to check the directory to see whether particular visitor accommodation is registered or licensed – and if it is not licensed, why not.

The purpose of the Bill is to promote tourism in Wales, and the advertising requirements under sections 46 and 47 are key to reassuring visitors booking regulated visitor accommodation that it meets the required standards. They are a fundamental part of ensuring the integrity of the scheme, providing a tool for the licensing authority, WRA, visitors and others to more easily determine compliance by providers. And, where they aren't compliant, helping to prevent them from advertising, undercutting other providers, and undermining visitor confidence in accommodation in Wales. This will help reduce any risk of rogue operators, or underground or illegal markets being created for non-compliant accommodation.

This can only achieve its intended effect if the publicly available information is reliable. Hence the requirements need to be robust, and to apply to all visitor accommodation in Wales, across all advertising.

If we were to limit the offence to providers alone, either it would not apply when a third party advertises their accommodation, or it could make providers liable for any advert for their accommodation, irrespective of whether they control it. The former would create loopholes in the system whenever accommodation is advertised indirectly and would give platforms and other agencies little incentive or responsibility to ensure registration numbers are included on advertising at all. The latter could result in visitor accommodation providers being prosecuted for inaccurate or missing information on advertising for which they may have little or no control.

It is not unreasonable for booking platforms to be held accountable for ensuring the adverts they list for visitor accommodation are compliant. We have, however, tried to keep the system, and these requirements, as simple and straightforward as possible to help

them comply, with a single unique number assigned to each and every visitor accommodation premises across Wales. We will also continue to work through the operational practicalities with them, and develop detailed guidance to set out what we will expect of providers, booking platforms and other types of agents in respect of these requirements.

This is a scheme that focuses first and foremost on supporting the tourism sector in Wales through improving standards, but we must also have legal safeguards available where necessary. The offence at section 47, including adverts posted by platforms and agencies, therefore, is necessary to supporting the integrity and efficacy of the scheme.

Defence

We will work with providers and platforms on the operational detail, including the format and how best to display registration numbers, and what other information may be required, so that we can develop a process which works for the industry and ensures visitors can easily verify the accommodation's registration and/or licence information.

I have made clear throughout, that prosecution would not be the first step in dealing with compliance matters, whether that be with a provider, a travel or booking agent, or a large booking platform. Provided booking platforms, or anyone captured by this requirement, follow the guidance and work with the licensing authority to deal with instances of non-compliant accommodation as efficiently as is reasonably practicable, I would expect there to be few occasions where the licensing authority would pursue prosecution of an offence under section 47. In the event that prosecution is required, however, it would be for the courts to determine whether the actions taken in a particular case are sufficient to amount to a reasonable excuse for not showing the correct registration number.

Recommendation 23

In advance of the Stage 1 debate, the Cabinet Secretary should respond to the specific additional evidence received by the Committee.

Analysis of the additional evidence provided to the Committee is underway, and I will follow up in writing with any additional clarifications or responses required.

Our ref: MA/SM/2942/25

Mike Hedges MS,
Chair,
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
Welsh Parliament

SeneddLJC@senedd.wales

13 January 2026

Dear Mike,

The Food Supplements (Magnesium L-threonate monohydrate) (Wales) Regulations 2026

I am writing to notify you that I have today laid the above draft Regulations before the Senedd and a plenary debate has been scheduled for 24 February 2026. Subject to Senedd approval of the Regulations, they will come into force on 5 March 2026.

The purpose of these regulations is to add magnesium L-threonate monohydrate to Schedule 2 of the Nutrition (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (“2019 regulations”) and, in doing so, to authorise its usage in a food supplement on the Welsh market. The regulations also set purity criteria for the substance in Wales in accordance with Regulation 5(1)(b) of the Food Supplement (Wales) Regulations 2003.

I am taking forward this regulatory change following a food business’s application to the Food Standards Authority (FSA), which requested that magnesium L-threonate monohydrate be approved as a novel food under regulation (EU) 2015/2283 on novel foods within the food supplements category and that Schedule 2 of the 2019 regulations be updated. The FSA’s safety assessment and public consultation in relation to this substance can be found here:

- [Safety assessment](#)
- [Risk Management Recommendation](#)
- FSA [consultation](#) (19 December 2024 – 19 February 2025)
- FSA consultation [response](#)

The safety assessment concluded that the substance poses no risks to human health and the majority of the responses to the consultation question on this substance were supportive of its approval as a novel food within the food supplements category and the update to Schedule 2.

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

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Gohebiaeth.Sarah.Murphy@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Sarah.Murphy@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.

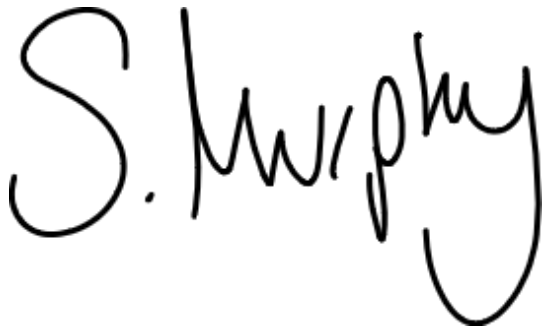
We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

I will, in parallel, be authorising the substance for use as a novel food in Wales and the effective date for that authorisation will align with the coming into force date for these regulations, if approved by the Senedd.

I am happy to engage with you and the Committee around these Regulations and would welcome your views on what engagement would be of use to you and other members to support your scrutiny work.

I have also sent a letter to the Chair of the Health and Social Care Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "S" and a long, sweeping underline.

Sarah Murphy AS/MS
Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing

The Welsh Government's Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No. 2) on the Victims and Courts Bill

Welsh Government response to the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee's report

January 2026

In January 2026, the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee ("the Committee") submitted its report on the Welsh Government's Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum ("Memorandum No. 2") on the Victims and Courts Bill ("the Bill").

The report agreed with our assessment and made no recommendations.

This is the Welsh Government's response.

Introduction

The Bill was introduced in the UK Parliament, the House of Commons, on 7 May 2025.

The UK Government's stated policy objectives for the Bill are to:

- a) Provide new powers for judges to punish offenders who refuse to attend sentencing, including a range of prison sanctions on top of additional years on their sentence.
- b) Automatically restrict parental responsibility for offenders sentenced for a serious sexual abuse offence against their own child.
- c) Strengthens the powers of the Victims' Commissioner to increase scrutiny of the systems which support victims.
- d) Provide victims with certainty about the routes available to receive information about their offender's release.

The Welsh Government is committed to delivering these important objectives.

I laid a Legislative Consent Memorandum on 20 May 2025 and a Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No. 2) on 5 November 2025, to this effect.

Response to the report

It is good to see that the Committee agrees with the Welsh Government's assessment, as set out in Memorandum No. 2, regarding the provision within the Bill which requires the consent of the Senedd, in accordance with Standing Order 29.

I thank the members of the Committee for their assessment of the Welsh Government's Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum for this Bill.

Rebecca Evans AS/MS
Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi, Ynni a Chynllunio

Agenda Item 7.4


Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Andrew RT Davies MS
Chair
Economy, Trade, and Rural Affairs Committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1SN

14 January 2026

Dear Andrew,

I wrote in August last year to update the Committee that, on 22 July 2025, the European Commission announced it had launched the process to adopt two new adequacy decisions for the UK to allow the free flow of personal data between the European Economic Area and the UK.

I am pleased to update the Committee that, on 19 December 2025, the European Commission confirmed the two adequacy decisions for the UK had been renewed. The new decisions are subject to a sunset clause of six years, running until 27 December 2031. The European Commission, together with representatives of the European Data Protection Board, will also review the functioning of the adequacy decisions after a period of four years.

I trust the Committee will find this update useful.

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Evans AS/MS
Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi, Ynni a Chynllunio

cc.
Chair, Culture, Communication, Welsh Language, Sport and International Relations
Committee
Chair, Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee

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

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Correspondence.Rebecca.Evans@gov.wales
Gohebiaeth.Rebecca.Evans@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.

Agenda Item 9

By virtue of paragraph(s) vi of Standing Order 17.42

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The Rt Hon Elin Jones MS
Chair, Business Committee

12 January 2026

Annwyl Lywydd

Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum: Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill

Earlier today we considered the above memorandum (Memorandum No. 3), which was laid before the Senedd on 23 December 2025.

Paragraph 4 of Memorandum No. 3 highlights that:

- between 14 November and 18 December 2025, 1,159 amendments were tabled to the Bill at Committee Stage in the House of Lords;
- more amendments are expected as the Bill continues its progress;
- the Bill sponsor in the House of Lords, Lord Falconer, has tabled 36 amendments of which five have been identified as having regard to devolved matters (and are the subject of Memorandum No. 3).

As matters currently stand, the legislative consent motion is scheduled for debate on 20 January 2026. This leaves very little time for us to conduct effective scrutiny of Memorandum No. 3 and that is of considerable concern to us given the significance of this legislation.

This concern is heightened because of the content of Memorandum No. 3 and some apparent gaps and contradictions it contains, which would benefit from further clarity. These include the following:

- Memorandum No. 3 does not confirm what assessments the Welsh Government has made in relation to any of the other 1,154 amendments to the Bill currently tabled or whether the Welsh Government considers that any of these amendments may make provision with regard to devolved matters. It is also notable that the Welsh Government

has not referred to any of the other amendments tabled that also propose to amend the clauses that are the subject of Memorandum No. 3;

- related to this point, paragraph 5 of Memorandum No. 3 describes the five relevant amendments as those “most likely to engage devolved matters” [emphasis ours], which may suggest that the Welsh Government acknowledges that additional amendments, not included in the memorandum, will have regard to devolved matters. But paragraph 6 confuses the picture further by stating that: “The amendments that make provisions which have regard to devolved matters, are detailed in paragraphs 13 to 16 below”, which is a more definitive statement.

We recognise that the debate on the legislative consent motion will cover the principles of whether legislation on assisted dying should extend to Wales. However, it is also important that Members are clear about the specific provisions in the Bill which they are being asked to consent to (there may be merit in including that information in the motion in the absence of clarity in the memoranda). Equally, given the amendments that are the subject of Memorandum No. 3 have not yet been formally considered by the Lords (see paragraph 5 of Memorandum No. 3), it is unclear whether they will have been disposed of by 20 January 2026, when the debate on the relevant legislative consent motion is currently due to take place.

For these reasons, we would request that a reporting deadline is set that provides sufficient time for us to scrutinise the implications of Memorandum No. 3, with a corresponding delay to the date of the debate on the legislative consent motion. In making this request, we note that time has been set aside for scrutiny of the Bill in the House of Lords beyond the date of dissolution, although we recognise it may be subject to change.

I am copying this letter to Peter Fox MS, the Chair of the Health and Social Care Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Hedges". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

Mike Hedges

Chair

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