



Ein cyf/Our ref MA/JMEWL/2818/23

Elin Jones MS  
Llywydd  
Senedd Cymru  
Cardiff Bay  
CARDIFF  
CF99 1SN

30 November 2023

Dear Llywydd

### **The Recognition of Professional Qualifications and Implementation of International Recognition Agreements (Wales) (Amendment etc.) Regulations 2023**

In accordance with section 11A(4) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1946 I am notifying you that the Recognition of Professional Qualifications and Implementation of International Recognition Agreements (Wales) (Amendment etc.) Regulations 2023 (“the Wales Regulations”) will come into force on 1 December 2023, less than 21 days after they have been laid. A copy of the Wales Regulations and the Explanatory Memorandum that accompanies it are attached for your information.

The UK Government is using the concurrent powers in the Professional Qualifications Act 2022 to make the Recognition of Professional Qualifications and the Implementation of International Recognition Agreements (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (“the UK Regulations”). The UK Regulations implement on a UK wide basis provisions relating to the recognition of professional qualifications contained in the free trade agreement between Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway and the United Kingdom (“the FTA”), and make provision in subject areas which are devolved to Wales.

The Wales Regulations amend the UK Regulations to provide that they do not apply to the Welsh regulators of specified regulated professions in respect of which the Senedd has legislative competence.

The Wales Regulations also impose the duties required under the FTA on Welsh regulators and amend sectoral legislation in Wales to reflect the implementation of the FTA and the revocation of the European Union (Recognition of Professional Qualifications) Regulations 2015.

As the Wales Regulations amend the UK Regulations, it has been necessary to delay making the Wales Regulations until the UK Regulations have been made and exist in law. The UK Government did not lay the UK Regulations until 17 October, and these were not

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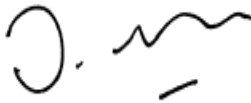
Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

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.

made until 29 November. This meant that the Wales Regulations could not be made until 30 November. As the Wales Regulations must come into force by 1 December in order to comply with the terms of the Free Trade Agreement, it is therefore necessary for them to come into force less than 21 days after they have been made. If the Wales Regulations are not in force by that date, there is a risk that Welsh regulators and Welsh Ministers will be in breach of the Free Trade Agreement and failing to meet international obligations.

I am copying this letter to the Minister for Rural Affairs, North Wales and Trefnydd, Huw Irranca-Davies MS, Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, Siwan Davies, Director of Senedd Business, Bethan Davies, Head of Chamber and Committee Services and Julian Luke, Head of Policy and Legislation Committee Service.

Yours sincerely,

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

**Jeremy Miles AS/MS**

Gweinidog y Gymraeg ac Addysg  
Minister for Education and Welsh Language