Dear Elin,

The Equine Identification (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2019

I am notifying you that in accordance with section 11A(4) of the Statutory instruments Act 1946, as inserted by paragraph 3 of Schedule 10 to the Government of Wales Act 2006, which affords the rule that statutory instruments come into force at least 21 days from the date of laying, will be breached for the introduction of the Equine Identification (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2019. The Explanatory Memorandum is attached for your information.

The Regulations supplement and make provision for the enforcement of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/262 as regards the methods for the identification of equidae in Wales. The Regulations correct the Equine Identification (Wales) Regulations 2019 to amend one reference to ‘responsible person’ to ‘owner’.

Background

The Equine Identification (Wales) Regulations 2019 (“the 2019 Regulations”) were made on 15 January 2019 and laid before the National Assembly on 17 January 2019. On 30 January 2019 CLAC identified one point for reporting under Standing Order 21.2(v) (that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation) in respect of the 2019 Regulations. The Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs agreed a short amending Statutory Instrument would be drafted which substituted ‘responsible person’ in regulation 8 of the 2019 Regulations with ‘owner’. The drafting, translation and equivalence
check of the Equine Identification (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2019 were not able to take place until after 8 March 2019, later than the 7 March deadline for making and laying the Regulations 21 days before the UK leaves the EU.

Breaching the 21 day rule will allow the Regulations to come into force before 29 March when the UK withdraws from the EU, and on which date the Equine Identification (Wales) Regulations 2019 will also be subject to amendment by the Equine Identification (Wales) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 in order to ensure the effective operation of the Regulations following withdrawal of the UK from the EU. A breach of the 21 day rule is therefore thought necessary and justifiable in this case.

An Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared and this has been laid, together with the Regulations, in Table Office.

A copy of this letter goes to Mick Antoniw AM, Chair of the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee and Sian Wilkins, Head of Chamber and Committee Services.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Evans AC/AM
Y Gweinidog Cyllid a'r Trefnydd
Minister for Finance and Trefnydd