

SL(5)617 – The Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 11) Regulations 2020

Background and Purpose

These Regulations amend the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (“the International Travel Regulations”). The International Travel Regulations impose requirements on persons entering Wales having been abroad. They include a requirement for persons arriving in Wales to isolate for a period determined in accordance with the Regulations. The International Travel Regulations are subject to exceptions, and certain categories of persons are exempt from being required to isolate and comply with the provisions in the International Travel Regulations.

The list of exempt countries and territories is amended by Part 2 of the Regulations:

- Gibraltar and Thailand are added to the list of exempt countries and territories.
- Guadeloupe and Slovenia are removed from the list of exempt countries and territories.

Transitional provision in relation to the change of status of the countries and territories named above are made in regulations 3 and 5 of these Regulations.

Part 3 makes an amendment to paragraph 38(1) of Schedule 2 to the International Travel Regulations (exempt persons) after a technical error was identified in the Welsh language text.

Procedure

Negative.

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



These Regulations came into force before they were laid before the Senedd. This also means that there is a breach of the 21-day rule (i.e. the rule that 21 days should pass between the date a negative procedure statutory instrument is laid before the Senedd and the date the instrument comes into force). We note the explanation provided by Rebecca Evans MS, Minister for Finance and Trefnydd, in a letter to the Llywydd dated 18 September 2020 that:

“Not adhering to the 21 day convention allows these Regulations to come into force at the earliest opportunity, and in view of the changing evidence on risk in relation to this disease this is considered necessary and justifiable in this case.”

Implications arising from exiting the European Union

None.

Welsh Government response

A Welsh Government response is not required.

Committee Consideration

The Committee considered the instrument at its meeting on 28 September 2020 and reports to the Senedd in line with the reporting point above.

