



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

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## **WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT**

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<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Detergents (Safeguarding) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>15 February 2019</b>
<b>BY</b>	<b>Rebecca Evans AM, Minister for Finance and Trefnydd</b>

### **Detergents (Safeguarding) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019**

#### **The law which is being amended**

Regulation (EC) No 648/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council on detergents (the “Detergents Regulation”) establishes common rules to enable detergents and surfactants to be sold and used across the EU, while providing a high degree of protection to the environment and human health. It stipulates that surfactants used in detergents must be fully biodegradable and imposes a restriction on phosphates in domestic laundry and dishwasher detergents. In addition, it regulates how products should be labelled with ingredient and dosage information in order to protect human health (e.g. skin allergies) and avoid overuse of detergents.

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

There is no impact on the Assembly’s legislative competence.

#### **The purpose of the amendments**

The 2019 Regulations make some of the modifications necessary to continue to apply the current rules set out in law post-EU Exit.

In particular, the Regulations make amendments to ensure the operability of the safeguard provision in the Detergent Regulation. The amendments will allow the Welsh Ministers to take urgent, temporary restriction action in relation to a product, where the exercise of the function falls within devolved competence (within the meaning of sections 58A(7) and (8) of the Government of Wales Act 2006) .

The Regulations and accompanying Explanatory Memorandum, setting out the effect of amendments is available here: <https://beta.parliament.uk/work-packages/RpoJSgLV>

**Why consent was given**

Consent has been given for the UK Government to make these corrections in relation to, and on behalf of, Wales for reasons of efficiency, expediency and due to the technical nature of the amendments. The amendments have been considered fully; and there is no divergence in policy. These amendments are to ensure that the statute book remains functional following the UK's exit from the EU. This is in line with the principles for correcting agreed by the Cabinet Sub-Committee on European Transition in May.