

The Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2005

These Regulations make provisions with respect to the accounts and audit of local government bodies whose accounts are required to be audited in accordance with the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004. The Regulations require local government bodies to be responsible for their financial management and system of internal control and to follow proper internal audit practices. [They also amend the thresholds above which community councils are required to provide a statement of accounts.]

Standing Order 11.7

The Legal Advisers to the committee had the opportunity of considering an earlier draft of these Regulations. Consequently any potential reporting have been addressed in the current draft and no points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 11.7.

Observations

Regulation 2(1) sets out various defined terms. One such term is “fire and rescue authority” but this authority is one of the bodies included in section 12 of the 2004 Act; it’s inclusion here is therefor considered to be superfluous but does not affect the validity of the Regulations. The definition of “working day” excludes a day which “is a bank holiday in Wales”; the usual way of referring to such days is by reference to the Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971 but it not considered that this has potential to mislead. Formatting points appropriate for correction on publication have been notified to the drafting lawyer.

Glyn Davies AM

Chair, Legislation Committee

08 February 2005