

Response to notice in accordance with s104 of the Government of Wales Act 2006

Secretary of State for Wales (Cheryl Gillan): The National Assembly for Wales passed a resolution on 9 February 2010 calling for a referendum under the terms of the Government of Wales Act 2006. The First Minister notified my predecessor of this resolution on 17th February 2010.

I have a statutory duty to respond to that notice within 120 days of the date of the notice, either by laying a draft referendum order, or refusing to do so and giving reasons for the refusal.

I have today notified the First Minister that I am unable to lay a draft Referendum Order before Parliament within the 120 days, and have set out my reasons. I have also made clear that our aim is for a referendum to take place before the end of the first quarter of next year.

A copy of my letter to the First Minister is available in the Vote Office (attached to this WMS) and has also been placed in the House of Commons Library.

Response to notice in accordance with s104 of the Government of Wales Act 2006

Wales Office Spokesperson (Lord Wallace of Tankerness): My Rt Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Wales has made the following Written Ministerial Statement:

“The National Assembly for Wales passed a resolution on 9 February 2010 calling for a referendum under the terms of the Government of Wales Act 2006. The First Minister notified my predecessor of this resolution on 17th February 2010.

I have a statutory duty to respond to that notice within 120 days of the date of the notice, either by laying a draft referendum order, or refusing to do so and giving reasons for the refusal.

I have today notified the First Minister that I am unable to lay a draft Referendum Order before Parliament within the 120 days, and have set out my reasons. I have also made clear that our aim is for a referendum to take place before the end of the first quarter of next year.

A copy of my letter to the First Minister is available in the Vote Office (attached to this WMS) and has also been placed in the House of Commons Library”.

Copies of the letter to the First Minister from my Rt Hon Friend the Secretary of State for Wales are available in the Printed Paper Office (attached to the WMS), and has also been placed in the House of Lords Library.

