

National Assembly for Wales

Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee

CLA616 - The Natural Mineral Water, Spring Water and Bottled Drinking Water (Wales) Regulations 2015

Procedure:

Negative

Background

These Regulations consolidate all European and domestic requirements relating to natural mineral water, spring water and bottled drinking water. For example:

Part 2 sets out the conditions for recognising water as “natural mineral water” and requirements relating to treating, bottling, labelling, advertising and selling natural mineral water.

Part 3 applies restrictions on exploiting springs, and requirements relating to treating, bottling, labelling, advertising and selling “spring water”.

Part 4 applies restrictions on bottling, labelling, advertising and selling “bottled drinking water”.

Parts 5 and 6 set out the monitoring and enforcement regimes, including requiring food authorities to enforce the Regulations.

Technical Scrutiny

No points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.2 in respect of this instrument.

Merits Scrutiny

One point is identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.3(ii) (namely that it is of political importance or legal importance or gives rise to issues of public policy likely to be of interest to the Assembly) in respect of this instrument.

Under Schedule 1, when a food authority recognises water extracted from the ground in Wales as “natural mineral water”, the food authority must publish such recognition and the grounds for granting the recognition in the London Gazette.

The London Gazette is the gazette for “England and Wales”. However, if the purpose of the publication is to inform the people of Wales of the status of water extracted from Welsh ground, the Committee considers it may be useful to publish the recognition in Welsh newspapers / periodicals.



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Government Response

No Government response was available at the time of the meeting.

Committee Consideration

The Committee considered the instrument at its meeting on 23 November 2015 and reports to the Assembly in line with the merit report point above.



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