

# National Assembly for Wales

## Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee

### CLA625 - The Non-Domestic Rating Contributions (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2015

#### Procedure

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Negative

#### Background

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These Regulations amend the Non-Domestic Rating Contributions (Wales) Regulations 1992 (S.I. 1992/3238) (“the 1992 Regulations”).

Under Part II of Schedule 8 to the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (c. 41) (“the 1988 Act”), billing authorities (in Wales, county and county borough councils) are required to pay amounts (called non-domestic rating contributions) to the Welsh Ministers. The 1992 Regulations contain rules for the calculation of those contributions for Welsh billing authorities.

These Regulations amend those rules for the financial years beginning on or after 1 April 2016 by substituting a new a Schedule 4 (Adult Population Figures).

#### Technical Scrutiny

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The Assembly is invited to pay special attention to this instrument under Standing Order 21.1.(x) (unjustifiable delay in laying before the Assembly).

This instrument was made on 11 November 2015; it was not laid until 30 November 2015.

#### Merits Scrutiny

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No points are identified for reporting under Standing Order 21.3 in respect of this instrument.

#### Government Response

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The delay in the laying of the Order was an unfortunate administrative error which was swiftly rectified once identified. The result of the delay in laying the Regulations did not have any practical impact on Local Authorities’ calculation of their Non-Domestic Rates pool contributions as the Regulations were still laid in time to come into force prior to the statutory deadline of the 31 December. However, steps have been taken to strengthen controls over management of the laying process and increase monitoring with a view to mitigating the risk of laying of instruments being delayed.



## Committee Consideration

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The Committee considered the instrument and Government response at its meeting on 11 January 2016 and reports to the Assembly in line with the technical point above.

