C(5)042 – The Senedd and Elections (Wales) Act 2020 (Commencement) Order 2020

Background and Purpose

This Order brings section 28 of, and Schedule 2 to, the Senedd and Elections (Wales) Act 2020 (the Act), which makes provision about financial and oversight arrangements of the Electoral Commission, fully into force on 1 October 2020.

Procedure

No procedure – the Order is not required to be laid before the Senedd.

Scrutiny under Standing Order 21.7

We note the provisions of the Act commenced by this Order, and the update provided by the First Minister in a <u>letter</u> to the Llywydd dated 28 September 2020, in particular:

I am writing further to my letter of 4 June 2020, in which I asked Business Committee to initiate work to implement the provisions in section 28 of and Schedule 2 to the Senedd and Elections (Wales) Act 2020 which relate to the financing and accountability of the Electoral Commission.

I indicated that the Welsh Government would bring forward an Order to bring into force those provisions, subject to the completion of the necessary Standing Order changes, the establishment of a Llywydd's Committee, and the negotiation of an interinstitutional funding agreement.

As sufficient progress has been made in respect of that work, I consider the conditions I set out are met. I am therefore pleased to confirm that I will bring into force the relevant provisions on 1 October.

Implications arising from exiting the European Union

None.

Government response

A Welsh Government response is not required.

Committee Consideration

The Committee considered the Order at its meeting on 12 October 2020 and reports to the Senedd in line with the reporting point above.

