

The Association of Electoral Administrators



Response to the Welsh Government consultation on the Draft Welsh Statutory Instrument – Representation of the People, Wales: The Representation of the People (Election Expenses Exclusion) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2020

Consultation response

Your name: Angela Holden, policy manager on behalf of the national AEA
Rhys George, Chair of Wales AEA branch

Organisation (if applicable): Association of Electoral Administrators (AEA) – joint response from the national AEA and AEA Wales Branch.

Summary of Organisation: Founded in 1987, the AEA is the professional and qualifications body of electoral administrators in the United Kingdom. It is non-governmental and non-partisan with just under 2,000 members, the majority of whom are employed by local authorities to provide electoral registration and election services. There are eleven regional branches of the Association covering the United Kingdom, including the Wales Branch.

Contact details

Email / telephone number / address:

Angela Holden - Email: angela.holden@aea-elections.co.uk Tel: 01344 625169
Mobile: 07752 630497

Rhys George - Email: rhys.george@cardiff.gov.uk Tel: 02920 872032

Address: Association of Electoral Administrators, c/o PO Box 201, South Eastern, Liverpool, L16 5HH

Comments on the Draft Statutory Instrument

We are fully supportive of this positive reform for disabled candidates and strongly support the changes being made in the draft Statutory Instrument.

Sufficient lead-in time will be required from when legislation is passed. As a priority, the Order will need to be passed quickly for the 2021 Senedd elections. The [Gould](#) principle suggests at least six months before polling day as a minimum to reduce risks to the electoral process.

While we have taken the opportunity to review the draft Statutory instrument, please note that we have not been able to make a comparison with previous legislation to ensure amendments, additions or removals are technically correct.

Angela Holden
Policy Manager on behalf of the AEA

Rhys George
Chair of Wales AEA branch

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