



CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA
DINAS A SIR ABERTAWE

Legislation Committee No. 5
Legislation Office
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
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Date: 6th March 2009
Dyddiad

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: CONSULTATION LC5 (WELSH LANGUAGE LCO)

Please find below our response to the above Legislation Committee paper on the Proposed Welsh Language Order 2009.

Question 1: Yes

Question 2: Yes

Question 3: Yes

Question 4: No contrary view expressed support the principle.

Question 5: Yes.

Question 6: Not explained why broadcasting radio and television are excluded from public provision of telecommunications services – 20.1(h) (iv). Otherwise scope is fine.

Question 7: Yes.

Question 8: Yes, subject to comment in response to Question 6.

cont/d.....

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Consultation Response
IG17(o) - City and County of Swansea
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Question 9:

- (i) The definition obviously constrains the applicability of legislation; however, it also removes doubt. As long as the definition encompasses the relevant sources of money then it is necessary.
- (ii) This clearly depends on the threshold criteria? Presumably there is a tipping point involved where the obligation to provide bi-lingual services does not impose too great a financial burden on an organisation and also there is cost of enforcement which if the limit were set at less than 200K may become significant. This probably also would apply to a sliding cost scale. To reiterate, without knowing the criteria on which the 200K threshold was arrived at it is difficult to comment.

Question 10: Yes.

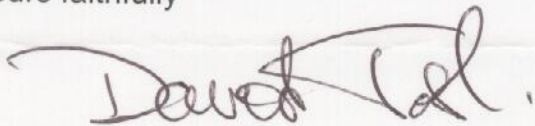
Question 11: No views.

Question 12: Does the LCO imply an obligation on UK Government Departments which deliver services into Wales to do so bi-lingually?

General comments:

We fully support the commitment to promoting and facilitating the Welsh Language which is demonstrated in this LCO. As an organisation that is itself striving to promote the Welsh language on the basis of equality, we would counsel that the final legislation needs to be mindful of the financial impact on the whole range of such organisations but particularly those with fewer resources to commit. In this respect, the Committee needs to ensure that the proposed legislation is fair and that it does not fundamentally impair the ability of all public organisations to continue to deliver essential services.

Yours faithfully



DAVID TOSH
HEAD OF INFORMATION & CUSTOMER SERVICES

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