

Explanatory Memorandum to the Bluetongue (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2008

This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer and is laid before the National Assembly for Wales in accordance with Standing Order 24.1.

In this memorandum, the following abbreviations are used:

- 'The Regulations' is used to refer to the Bluetongue (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2008;
- 'The Directive' is used to refer to Council Directive 2000/75/EC laying down specific provisions for the control and eradication of bluetongue;
- 'The Commission Regulation' is used to refer to Commission Regulation EC No. 1266/2007 laying down detailed rules in relation to the control, monitoring, surveillance and restrictions on movements of certain animals of susceptible species in relation to Bluetongue.

Description

The Bluetongue (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2008 amend the Bluetongue (Wales) Regulations 2008 to permit Welsh Ministers to grant a licence for persons to obtain vaccine from authorised manufacturers or wholesalers.

Matters of special interest to the Subordinate Legislation Committee

Although this is only a technical amendment, because of the animal health issues involved, it is considered appropriate that these Regulations should come into force as early as possible. The Presiding Officer has been informed by letter.

Legislative Background

This legislation is made to comply with the Welsh Assembly Government's obligations under the Directive insofar as it lays down specific provisions for the control and eradication of Bluetongue.

The Bluetongue (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2008 amend the Bluetongue (Wales) Regulations 2008. The amendment to article 17 allows Welsh Ministers to grant a licence for persons to obtain vaccine from authorised manufacturers and wholesalers.

The powers enabling this Instrument to be made are conferred on Welsh Ministers by section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972 and the Government of Wales Act 2006. This SI is to be made through the use of the negative procedure.

Purpose and intended effect of the legislation

The Regulations provide the necessary powers to enable Welsh Ministers to grant a licence for persons to obtain a supply of vaccine from wholesalers and manufacturers authorised under the Veterinary Medicines Regulations 2007.

Implementation

This Instrument applies to Wales.

Consultation

As the amendment is technical in nature no consultation has been carried out.