



Comisiynydd y
Gymraeg
Welsh Language
Commissioner

Timetable for introducing standards to organisations in round 1-4

The process of introducing standards takes place in a series of rounds. Welsh Ministers will draw up and specify standards in regulations gradually for the organisations within these rounds. Once the Welsh Ministers have approved the standards specified in regulations, it authorises the Commissioner to give those persons included within those regulations a compliance notice.

Further information about as well as copies of all the compliance notices can be found by clicking [here](#).

- There are 26 organisations in Round 1, namely Welsh Ministers, county councils and county borough councils in Wales and National Park Authorities.
- There are 119 organisations in Round 2, including health boards, colleges and universities and public bodies in Wales.
- The 64 organisations in Round 3 include social housing providers, UK Government departments, water companies, the Royal Mail Group and the Post Office.
- The 318 organisations in Round 4 include gas and electricity providers, rail services and bus companies.

Click on this [link](#) to see a full list of the organisations in the first four rounds.

Timetable for introducing standards to organisations in Round 1

[The Welsh Language Standards \(No. 1\) Regulations 2015](#) were approved by the Welsh Ministers in March 2015 therefore authorising the Commissioner to impose compliance notices on the 26 organisations within round 1. Following a consultation process on draft compliance notices (under section 47 of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011), the final compliance notices (under section 44 of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011) were issued to the 26 organisation on 30 September 2015 and came to force on 30 March 2016.

Timetable for introducing standards to organisations in Round 2

The process for drawing up and specifying standards in regulations for organisations within round 2 is gradually taking place, based to a degree on sectors.

[The Welsh Language Standards \(No. 2\) Regulations 2016](#) were approved by the Welsh Ministers in February 2016 therefore authorising the Commissioner to impose

compliance notices on 32 organisations. A full list of these organisations can be found within Schedule 6 of the regulations.

Following a consultation process on draft compliance notices (under section 47 of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011), the final compliance notices (under section 44 of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011) were issued to 30 organisations within the regulations on 25 July 2016 and came to force on 25 January 2017.

[The Welsh Language \(No. 4\) Regulations 2016](#) were approved by the Welsh Ministers in March 2016 therefore authorising the Commissioner to impose compliance notices on the following:

- Education Workforce Council
- The Mental Health Review Tribunal for Wales
- The Special Educational Needs Tribunal for Wales
- The Residential Property Tribunal Wales
- Agricultural Land Tribunal (Wales)
- Valuation Tribunal for Wales

[The Welsh Language \(No. 5\) Regulations 2016](#) were approved by the Welsh Ministers in March 2016 therefore authorising the Commissioner to impose compliance notices on the following:

- The Fire and Rescue Authorities
- The Police Authorities
- The Police and Crime Commissioners in Wales
- Chief Constables of the Police in Wales

A full list of the organisations can be found in Schedule 6 of the Regulations.

Following a consultation process on draft compliance notices (under section 47 of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011), the final compliance notices (under section 44 of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011) were issued to 20 organisations within the Welsh Language (No.4) and (No. 5) Regulations together with 2 organisations within the Welsh Language (No. 2) Standards on 30 September 2016. These came into force on 30 March 2017.

[The Welsh Language \(No.6\) Standards 2017](#) were approved by the Welsh Ministers in February 2017 therefore authorising the Commissioner to impose compliance notices on the following:

- Career Choices Dewis Gyrfu Limited
- Further Education Institutions and Corporations
- Higher Education Institutions and Corporations
- The Higher Education Funding Council for Wales

A full list of these organisations can be found in Schedule 6 of the Regulations.

Following a consultation process on draft compliance notices (under section 47 of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011) with the organisations, the final compliance notices (under section 44 of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011) were issued to 25 organisations on 29 September 2017. They will come into force on 1 April 2018.

Amongst the organisations which remain within Round 2 are organisations within the health sector and organisations which receive £400,000 or more of public money in a financial year. In a written statement when publishing a White Paper on proposals for a new Welsh language Bill on 19 July 2017, Alun Davies Minister for Lifelong Learning and Welsh Language said:

“...I will be laying Standards regulations for health bodies before the end of the year. It is important that the rolling programme of making standards continues and that Assembly Members make a decision on the regulations in the light of our proposals for the future.”

No further timetable has been announced for introducing regulations in relation to organisations beyond that which remain within Round 2, 3 and 4.

Timetable for introducing standards to organisations in Round 3

The Commissioner carried out a standards investigation into organisations within Round 3 which include social housing providers, UK Government departments, water companies, the Royal Mail Group and the Post Office between 26 May and 18 August 2015. Standards reports were presented to Welsh Ministers in October and November 2015.

Timetable for introducing standards to organisations in Round 4

The Commissioner carried out standards investigations into the following organisations within Round 4:

- Qualifying persons who provide services related to railways in Wales [Network Rail] (between 31 March and 30 June 2016)
- Qualifying persons who provide the public with passenger railway services (between 31 March and 30 June 2016)
- Qualifying persons who provide the public with bus services (between 31 March and 30 June 2016)
- Qualifying persons who provide services related to gas and electricity in Wales (between 16 July and 1 November, 2016)
- Qualifying persons who are licensed gas suppliers (between 14 July and 6 October 2016)
- Qualifying persons who are licensed electricity suppliers (between 16 July and 6 October 2016)

The above investigations were held into sectors instead of individual organisations except for the investigation into Network Rail. 125 companies were included in the investigation into bus service providers. 4 companies were included in the investigation into railway providers. The reports into the transport sector were presented to Welsh Government on 31 October, 2016.

189 companies were included in the investigations into the energy sector. The reports were presented to Welsh Government on 24 February 2017.