

STANDING ORDER 15 - Subordinate Legislation Committee

- 15.1 There is to be a Subordinate Legislation Committee.
- 15.2 Subject to Standing Order 15.7, the Committee must consider all statutory instruments or draft statutory instruments required by any enactment to be laid before the Assembly and report on whether the Assembly should pay special attention to the instrument or draft on any of the following grounds:
- (i) that there appears to be doubt as to whether it is intra vires;
 - (ii) that it appears to make unusual or unexpected use of the powers conferred by the enactment under which it is made or to be made;
 - (iii) that the enactment which gives the power to make it contains specific provisions excluding it from challenge in the courts;
 - (iv) that it appears to have retrospective effect where the authorising enactment does not give express authority for this;
 - (v) that for any particular reason its form or meaning needs further explanation;
 - (vi) that its drafting appears to be defective or it fails to fulfil statutory requirements;
 - (vii) that there appear to be inconsistencies between the meaning of its English and Welsh texts;
 - (viii) that it uses gender specific language;
 - (ix) that it is not made or to be made in both English and Welsh.
 - (x) that there appears to have been unjustifiable delay in publishing it or laying it before the Assembly; or
 - (xi) that there appears to have been unjustifiable delay in sending notification under section 4(1) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1946 (as modified).
- 15.3 Subject to Standing Order 15.7, the Committee may consider and report on whether the Assembly should pay special attention to any statutory instrument or draft statutory instrument required by any

enactment to be laid before the Assembly on any of the following grounds:

- (i) that it imposes a charge on the Welsh Consolidated Fund or contains provisions requiring payments to be made to that Fund or any part of the government or to any local or public authority in consideration of any licence or consent or of any services to be rendered, or prescribes the amount of any such charge or payment;
- (ii) that it is of political or legal importance or gives rise to issues of public policy likely to be of interest to the Assembly;
- (iii) that it is inappropriate in view of the changed circumstances since the enactment under which it is made or is to be made was itself passed or made;
- (iv) that it inappropriately implements European Union legislation; or
- (v) that it imperfectly achieves its policy objectives.

15.4 The Committee must make any report under Standing Order 15.2 or 15.3 in respect of any statutory instrument or draft statutory instrument no later than 20 days after the instrument or draft has been laid.

15.5 In calculating for the purposes of Standing Order 15.4 any period of days, no account is to be taken of any time during which the Assembly is dissolved or is in recess for more than 4 days.

15.6 Subject to 15.7, the Committee may also consider and report on:

- (i) any other subordinate legislation laid before the Assembly;
- (ii) the appropriateness of provisions in proposed Assembly Measures and in Bills for Acts of the United Kingdom Parliament that grant powers to make subordinate legislation to the Welsh Ministers, the First Minister or the Counsel General;
- (iii) consequences for legislation subject to the consideration of the Assembly of draft orders under Part 1 of the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006;
- (iv) the exercise of commencement powers by the Welsh Ministers; or

- (v) any legislative matter of a general nature within or relating to the competence of the Assembly or Welsh Ministers.

15.7 The Subordinate Legislation Committee may not consider:

- (i) any draft Order in Council under section 95 of the Act; or
- (ii) any statutory instrument or draft statutory instrument that is required to be laid before Parliament.