

Statutory Instruments

**2009 No. 210X (W.009)**

WELSH LANGUAGE

**Proposed Welsh Language Revitalization Order and Regulations 2009**

Made: 21 October 2009

Laid before the National Assembly for Wales: 26 October 2009

Coming into force: 01 January 2010

The Welsh Ministers, in exercise of the powers conferred on the Secretary of State by section 6(1) of the Welsh Language Act 1993<sup>(1)</sup> and now vested in them<sup>(2)</sup> hereby make the following Order:

**Title and commencement**

1. This Order and Regulations instrument is called the Welsh Language Revitalization Order and Regulations 2009 and comes into force on 01 January 2010.

**Specification of Public Bodies**

2. The persons and entities referred to in the Schedule to this Order are specified for the purposes of Part II of the Welsh Language Act 1993.

Raymond Strack, Minister for Welsh Language, one of the Welsh Ministers

21 October 2009

*Article 2*

**THE SCHEDULE *English name or description***

Public Bodies:

The following Public Bodies shall have a duty to obey the Welsh Language Regulations:

Auditor General for Wales

National Policing Improvement Agency

Security Industry Authority

Olympic Delivery Authority

Bank of England

Independent Police Complaints Commission

Competition Commission

Sustainable Development Commission

Electoral Commission

Gambling Commission

National Lottery Commission

Sector Skills Councils  
General Chiropractic Council  
UK Sports Council  
Consumer Council for Water  
Welsh Books Council  
General Optical Council  
General Osteopathic Council  
British Council  
Council for the Regulation of Health Care Professionals  
Finance Wales p.l.c.  
Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain  
FFORWM  
Big Lottery Fund  
Royal Mail Group p.l.c.  
National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts  
Pensions Regulator  
Community Development Foundation  
Office of Communications  
Special Educational Needs Tribunal for Wales  
Local Government Data Unit — Wales  
The Energy Saving Trust Limited  
The Carbon Trust

**Private Bodies:**

All enterprises having 25 full time employees, or the equivalent thereof, shall have a duty to obey the Welsh Language Regulations.

**Voluntary Sector Bodies:**

All voluntary sector bodies which receive public financing and remunerate staff with public monies shall have a duty to obey the Welsh Language Regulations.

The Welsh Language Board shall be responsible for monitoring and evaluating the performance of all bodies and entities with a duty to obey the Welsh Language Regulations. The Welsh Language Board has specific powers to sanction and enforce compliance. These powers are detailed in The Welsh Language Regulations 2003, pursuant to powers conferred on the Secretary of State for Wales, and transferred to the Welsh Assembly Government in the 2006 Act; and in Part II of the Welsh Language Act 1993.

**Explanatory Note**

(This note is not part of the Order)

Under Part II of the Welsh Language Act 1993 (“the Act”) the Welsh Language Board may give notice in writing to any public body to produce a Welsh Language Scheme. Section 6 of the Act lists various public bodies for the purposes of Part II of the Act and provides that the Secretary of State (now the Welsh Ministers) may specify further public bodies for those purposes.

This Order specifies further public bodies for the purposes of Part II of the Act.

(1) Five previous Orders have been made under section 6 of the Act:

- a. The Welsh Language Schemes (Public Bodies) Order 1996 (S.I. [1996/1898](#));
- b. The Welsh Language Schemes (Public Bodies) Order 1999 (S.I. 1999/1100);
- c. The Welsh Language Schemes (Public Bodies) Order 2001 (S.I. 2001/2550 (W.215));
- d. The Welsh Language Schemes (Public Bodies) Order 2002 (S.I. 2002/1441 (W.145)); and
- e. The Welsh Language Schemes (Public Bodies) Order 2004 (S.I. 2004/71 (W.7)).

(2) The functions of the Secretary of State were transferred, in relation to Wales, to the National Assembly for Wales by the National Assembly for Wales (Transfer of Functions) Order 1999 (S.I. 1999/672), *see* the reference to the Welsh Language Act 1993 in Schedule 1. By virtue of section 162 of, and paragraph 30 of Schedule 11 to, the Government of Wales Act 2006 (ch. 32) those functions are exercisable by the Welsh Ministers.

### (3) The Welsh Language Revitalization Effort 2009

The regulations proposed by the Welsh Language Ministry have been designed with three major points:

- 1) To reinvigorate efforts to promote Welsh in schools
- 2) To promote the use of Welsh in everyday affairs with special focus on creating a truly bilingual nation
- 3) To ensure that adults have the option to use their competency in Welsh, or to develop it further through adult education programmes

Once approved, the regulations will enter into effect on January 01 2010.

- Section One)
  - In order to reinvigorate efforts to teach our children the Welsh Language, a program of mandatory Welsh Language education will be implemented in all lower level schools, through the first year of high school.
- Section Two)
  - In an effort to create a truly bilingual society, the Welsh Assembly will mandate that all public documents as well as public signs and utility notices will be available in both English and Welsh
  - Moreover, regarding public works (i.e. traffic signs, post offices, phone books, governmental offices, etc.) there will be a bilingual listing available at all times in order to ensure that monolingual Welsh speakers are not at a disadvantage
- Section Three)
  - In order to ensure that adults who have learnt Welsh in schools use their knowledge, the points put forth in section 2 (above) will mean that knowledge

of the Welsh Language will not be viewed as a relic or as seless, thus promoting our first sections' goals.

- In addition, the Assembly will allocate funds for continuing Welsh Language Education among adults who wish to further their knowledge of the language, in an effort to promote the language among our nation.