

## **Government Response: The Digital Health and Care Wales (Establishment and Membership) Order 2020**

Merit Scrutiny point: *Response*

The Welsh Government is committed to increasing the number of Explanatory Memoranda and Regulatory Impact Assessments for Statutory Instruments that are laid bilingually in the Senedd, however, these documents are not automatically laid bilingually at the moment. While we are laying an increasing proportion of these documents bilingually, we are also having to prioritise our limited translation resource very strictly at the moment, with Covid and Brexit related legislation and guidance for the public our top priority. The pandemic and Brexit have significantly contributed to the unprecedented pressures on our translation resources.

Standing Order 15.4 of the Senedd requires all documents to be laid bilingually where reasonably practicable, and Standard 47 of the Welsh Language Standards require the Welsh Government to consider the subject matter and the anticipated audience of certain documents to prioritise their translation. Following guidance provided by the Commissioner's office, we considered issues such as whether the Order related to issues affecting the Welsh language directly, whether the Order were of great interest to Welsh speaking groups in particular, and whether a high proportion of the documents' audience would be Welsh speaking. As this Order is procedural in nature, establishing DHCW and making provisions about its membership and functions, and does not have a direct impact on the public, it has not been deemed a priority for our stretched Translation Service at this time.