

Jeremy Miles AM
Counsel General

18 October 2019

Dear Jeremy,

We considered The Cardiff and Valleys Railways (Transfer) Order 2019 (the Order) at our meeting on 16 September 2019. We subsequently reported to the National Assembly on the Order on 17 September 2019.

Under Standing Order 21.7(v), we reported to the National Assembly the following point:

"Schedule 1 to the Order makes reference to various enactments which are not easily available online. We have struggled to locate these using both publicly available resources, and resources which require subscription (LexisNexis and Westlaw). It appears that some of the enactments may be stored in the National Archives, Kew however it is difficult to confirm this as the stored documents are described in general terms. There is a concern as regards accessibility of the law, which has limited our ability to fully scrutinise the Order."

The Welsh Government response to this point stated:

"The government notes the issue of accessibility. However, the Order was drafted this way due to the nature of the authorisation of the relevant railways, and the need to refer to the individual Acts to permit the transfer of the railways authorised by such Acts. This ensures all elements of the railways in question are captured."

As you have stated, the legislation is held in the National Archives, which would be available on request for a fee. The legislation is also available in full on the JustisOne database, which is a subscription service. We understand from recent correspondence that the Assembly has access to this database."



In light of your ongoing work which aims to improve the accessibility of law that is applicable in Wales, we wish to draw this particular Order to your attention.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Mick Antoniw', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Mick Antoniw AM

Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.
We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

