

Planning (Wales) Bill and Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Wales) Bill

Outcome of Detailed Committee Consideration

January 2026



1. Background

1. On 15 September 2025, Julie James MS, Counsel General and Minister for Delivery (the Counsel General), introduced two Bills into the Senedd as Consolidation Bills¹:

- the Planning (Wales) Bill² (the Planning Bill), which brings together the principal legislation relating to town and country planning in Wales; and
- the Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Wales) Bill³ (the Consequential Provisions Bill), which makes amendments and repeals to existing legislation, and makes transitional and savings provisions, in connection with the Planning Bill.

2. The Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee is the responsible committee for the consideration of Consolidation Bills.⁴ Ahead of the introduction of the Bills, the Business Committee agreed that we should report to the Senedd on our scrutiny of the Bills at Initial Consideration⁵ by 28 November 2025. It also agreed that, should the Bills proceed as Consolidation Bills, Detailed Committee Consideration should be completed by 30 January 2026.⁶

3. We reported on the Bills at Initial Consideration on 28 November 2025⁷, and recommended that the Bills should proceed as Consolidation Bills⁸. The Counsel General responded to our report on 10 December 2025.⁹

¹ As set out in Standing Order 26C, a Consolidation Bill is a Bill introduced by a member of the government for the purpose of consolidating existing primary legislation, secondary legislation, and common law.

² See the webpage for the [Planning \(Wales\) Bill](#) for links to the Bill and its supporting documentation, and details about its passage through the Senedd.

³ See the webpage for the [Planning \(Consequential Provisions\) \(Wales\) Bill](#) for links to the Bill and its supporting documentation, and details about its passage through the Senedd.

⁴ On 23 June 2021, the Senedd agreed that the Committee would carry out the functions of the responsible committee set out in Standing Order 26C.

⁵ Initial Consideration is the first stage for consideration of a Consolidation Bill. The procedure for this stage is set out at Standing Orders 26C.15 to 26C.21.

⁶ See: Business Committee, [Timetable for consideration: Planning \(Wales\) Bill](#), September 2025; Business Committee, [Timetable for consideration: Planning \(Consequential Provisions\) \(Wales\) Bill](#), September 2025

⁷ Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, [Report on the Planning \(Wales\) Bill and the Planning \(Consequential Provisions\) \(Wales\) Bill](#), November 2025

⁸ Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, Report on the Planning (Wales) Bill and the Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Wales) Bill, November 2025, recommendation 5

⁹ [Letter from the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery, 10 December 2025](#)

4. Following a debate in Plenary on 16 December 2025, the Senedd agreed that the Bills should proceed as Consolidation Bills¹⁰; the Bills therefore proceeded to Detailed Committee Consideration¹¹.

2. Detailed Committee Consideration

5. Detailed Committee Consideration started on 17 December 2025.

6. We agreed on 15 December 2025 that amendments tabled to the Planning Bill would be disposed of in the following order: sections 3 to 109; Schedules 1 to 11; sections 110 to 205; Schedule 13; sections 206 to 220; Schedules 12 and 14 to 16; sections 221 to 302; Schedule 17; sections 303 to 322; Schedule 18; sections 323 to 359; Schedule 19; sections 360 to 410; Schedule 20; section 2; section 1; and the long title.¹²

7. We also agreed that amendments to the Consequential Provisions Bill would be disposed of in the following order: section 1; section 2; Schedules 1 to 4; section 3; Schedule 5; sections 4 to 6; and the long title.¹³

8. We decided that Detailed Committee Consideration proceedings would take place on 19 January 2026. Members of the Senedd were therefore able to table amendments to the Bills on the following dates:

- 17 December 2025 to 19 December 2025;
- 5 January 2026 to 12 January 2026.

9. The only amendments to the Bills were tabled by the Counsel General. On 7 January 2026, she tabled:

- two amendments to the Planning Bill¹⁴; and
- 22 amendments to the Consequential Provisions Bill¹⁵.

¹⁰ Plenary, 16 December 2025, items 6 and 7

¹¹ At Detailed Committee Consideration, amendments to a Consolidation Bill may be tabled. The procedure for this stage is set out at Standing Orders 26C.22 to 26C.38.

¹² Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, 15 December 2025, item 10

¹³ Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, 15 December 2025, item 10

¹⁴ Planning (Wales) Bill, Notice of Amendments, 7 January 2026

¹⁵ Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Wales) Bill, Notice of Amendments, 7 January 2026

10. The Counsel General wrote to all Members of the Senedd providing details of the amendments tabled to the Planning Bill¹⁶ and to the Consequential Provisions Bill¹⁷, together with an explanation of their purpose and intended effect.

11. Detailed Committee Consideration proceedings took place on 19 January 2026.¹⁸ Marshalled lists of amendments and grouping of amendments documents were produced for each Bill to facilitate proceedings.¹⁹

12. We disposed of amendments tabled to the Planning Bill first, before disposing of amendments tabled to the Consequential Provisions Bill. All amendments were agreed.²⁰

13. After all the amendments were disposed of, we asked the Counsel General if she considered there was a need to bring forward further amendments to either Bill; the Counsel General said that there was not. The Counsel General also confirmed that she would be preparing a revised Explanatory Memorandum to reflect the amendments made to the Bills during Detailed Committee Consideration.²¹

14. The Bills as amended at Detailed Committee Consideration were published on 27 January 2026.²² A document setting out the printing changes made to the Consequential Provisions Bill was also published.²³

3. Outcome of consideration

15. We note that some of the amendments agreed to the Bills either relate to or address recommendations made in our report on our initial consideration of the Bills.

16. Recommendation 2 of our report sought the latest information from the Counsel General on amendments that would be required to either Bill as a consequence of the (then) Planning and Infrastructure Bill's passage through the

¹⁶ Planning (Wales) Bill, Welsh Government: Purpose and intended effect of amendments, 8 January 2026

¹⁷ Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Wales) Bill, Welsh Government: Purpose and intended effect of amendments, 8 January 2026

¹⁸ Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, 19 January 2026, items 11 and 12

¹⁹ These documents are available on the webpages for the Bills.

²⁰ Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, 19 January 2026, Minutes

²¹ Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, 19 January 2026, Record of Proceedings [127]

²² See the webpages for the Planning (Wales) Bill and the Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Wales) Bill.

²³ See the webpage for the Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Wales) Bill.

UK Parliament. We note that amendments 1 to 7, 9 to 11, and 15 to 18 to the Consequential Provisions Bill update cross-references to provisions in the (now) *Planning and Infrastructure Act 2025*, to reflect the final numbering in that Act as passed by the UK Parliament.

17. Recommendation 4 of our report called on the Counsel General to give further consideration to whether the provisions in section 19 of the Planning Bill about the expiry of local development plans may benefit from additional clarity, following concerns²⁴ raised with us by stakeholders. We note that amendment 21 to the Consequential Provisions Bill, together with amendment 22, a consequential amendment, clarify that these provisions do not apply to plans that were adopted before 4 January 2016 (the day on which the existing provisions about expiry of plans came into force).

18. We note that the other amendments agreed to the Bills are for the purpose of either ensuring consistency or clarity, or to make other consequential amendments to enactments.

19. A majority of the Committee considers that the Bills should proceed to Final Stage.

Recommendation 1. A majority of the Committee recommends that the Planning (Wales) Bill and the Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Wales) Bill should proceed to Final Stage.

20. Adam Price MS considers that the Bills should proceed to Detailed Senedd Consideration so that the Senedd may consider whether the provisions in the Consequential Provisions Bill which remove the power for the Welsh Ministers to provide that an urban development corporation for an area in Wales is to be the local planning authority for its area²⁵ are appropriate for consolidation on the grounds that the power is obsolete, spent or no longer of practical utility or effect²⁶.

21. On 27 January 2026, the Counsel General wrote to Adam Price MS to set out the Welsh Government's position in respect of this power, after he raised this issue with her by e-mail.²⁷

²⁴ Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, Report on the Planning (Wales) Bill and the Planning (Consequential Provisions) (Wales) Bill, November 2025, paragraphs 205 to 211

²⁵ See the entry for paragraph 126 of Schedule 2 to the Consequential Provisions Bill in the *Drafters' Notes* for that Bill.

²⁶ In accordance with Standing Order 26C.2(iii).

²⁷ Letter from the Counsel General and Minister for Delivery to Adam Price MS, 27 January 2026