



Rheoliadau drafft a osodwyd gerbron Senedd Cymru yn unol â gweithdrefn gymeradwyo'r Senedd o dan adran 19(3) o Ddeddf Etholiadau a Chyrff Etholedig (Cymru) 2024.

OFFERYNNAU STATUDOL CYMRU DRAFFT

2026 Rhif

Rheoliadau Cynrychiolaeth y Bobl (Cofrestru Etholiadol heb Geisiadau) (Diwygio Etholiadol) (Cymru) 2026

Gwnaed

Yn dod i rym yn unol â rheoliad 1(2)

Draft Regulations laid before Senedd Cymru in accordance with the Senedd approval procedure under section 19(3) of the Elections and Elected Bodies (Wales) Act 2024.

DRAFT WELSH STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2026 No.

The Representation of the People (Electoral Registration without Applications) (Electoral Reform) (Wales) Regulations 2026

Made

Coming into force in accordance with regulation 1(2)



Rheoliadau drafft a osodwyd gerbron Senedd Cymru yn unol â gweithdrefn gymeradwyo'r Senedd o dan adran 19(3) o Ddeddf Etholiadau a Chyrff Etholedig (Cymru) 2024.

OFFERYNNAU STATUDOL CYMRU DRAFFT

2026 Rhif

CYNYRCHIOLAETH Y BOBL, CYMRU

Rheoliadau Cynrychiolaeth y Bobl (Cofrestru Etholiadol heb Geisiadau) (Diwygio Etholiadol) (Cymru) 2026

NODYN ESBONIADOL

(Nid yw'r nodyn hwn yn rhan o'r Rheoliadau)

Fel rhan o gyflwyno cofrestru etholiadol heb geisiadau, o dan y newidiadau a wnaed gan Ddeddf Etholiadau a Chyrff Etholedig (Cymru) 2024 ("Deddf 2024"), cynhaliodd Gweinidogion Cymru gynlluniau peilot yn unol â Rheoliadau Cynrychiolaeth y Bobl (Cofrestru Etholiadol heb Geisiadau) (Cynllun Peilot) (Cymru) 2025 ("y Rheoliadau Peilot"), at y diben o brofi, mewn ardaloedd penodedig ac am gyfnod penodedig, sut y bydd y newidiadau a gyflwynwyd gan Bennod 2 o Ran 1 o Ddeddf 2024 (cofrestru etholiadol heb geisiadau) yn gweithio yn ymarferol.

Yn unol ag adran 18(1) o Ddeddf 2024, ar ôl i'r cynlluniau peilot hyn gael eu cwblhau, mae Gweinidogion Cymru yn ystyried ei bod yn ddymunol gwneud y Rheoliadau hyn er mwyn cyflawni'r canlyniad diwygio.

Fel y darperir yn adran 18(2) o Ddeddf 2024, y canlyniad diwygio yw bod darpariaeth sy'n debyg i'r ddarpariaeth honno a gynhwysir yn y Rheoliadau Peilot yn cymhwyso cofrestru etholiadol heb geisiadau yn gyffredinol, ac yn barhaol, ledled Cymru.

Bydd y Rheoliadau hyn yn gweithio ochr yn ochr â'r darpariaethau a gyflwynir gan Bennod 2 o Ran 1 o Ddeddf 2024, a ddaw i rym ar 1 Hydref 2026 gan Orchymyn Deddf Etholiadau a Chyrff Etholedig (Cymru) 2024 (Cychwyn Rhif 3) 2026.

Wrth wneud y Rheoliadau hyn, mae Gweinidogion Cymru wedi ystyried canfyddiadau adroddiad a wnaed gan y Comisiwn Etholiadol o dan adran 17 o Ddeddf 2024 ar weithredu'r Rheoliadau Peilot a phan fo'n briodol mae ei argymhellion wedi eu hymgorffori yn y Rheoliadau hyn.

Mae rheoliad 2 yn diwygio Deddf Cynrychiolaeth y Bobl 1983 ("Deddf 1983") i bennu bod "the notice period" yn adran 9ZA(4) i fod yn 28 o ddiwrnodau sy'n dechrau â'r diwrnod y rhoddir yr hysbysiad cofrestru o dan adran 9ZA(3). Bydd gan bersonau sy'n cael yr hysbysiad hwn gyfnod hysbysu o 28 o ddiwrnodau pryd y caniateir iddynt ddewis arfer yr hawl i optio allan o gofrestru heb geisiadau neu ystyried gwneud cais am gofrestriad dienw. Os nad yw person wedi dewis y naill neu'r llall o'r opsiynau hyn ar ddiwedd y cyfnod hwnnw a'i fod yn dal i fod â hawlogaeth i gael ei gofrestru, yna rhaid ei ychwanegu at y gofrestr.

Mae rheoliadau 3 i 6 yn diwygio Rheoliadau Cynrychiolaeth y Bobl (Cymru a Lloegr) 2001 i ragnodi camau ychwanegol y bydd yn ofynnol i swyddogion cofrestru etholiadol eu cymryd mewn cysylltiad â'r ddyletswydd gofrestru newydd. Mae hyn yn cynnwys ei gwneud yn ofynnol i ddatgelu gwybodaeth er mwyn penderfynu a yw person yn gymwys i gael ei gynnwys yn y gofrestr at ddiben adran 9ZA o Ddeddf 1983.

Ystyriwyd Cod Ymarfer Gweinidogion Cymru ar gynnal Aseidiadau Effaith Rheoleiddiol mewn perthynas â'r Rheoliadau hyn. O ganlyniad, lluniwyd asesiad effaith rheoleiddiol o'r costau a'r manteision sy'n debygol o ddeillio o gydymffurfio â'r Rheoliadau hyn. Gellir cael copi oddi wrth: Llywodraeth Cymru, Parc Cathays, Caerdydd, CF10 3NQ ac mae wedi ei gyhoeddi ar www.llyw.cymru.

OFFERYNNAU STATUDOL CYMRU DRAFFT

2026 Rhif

CYNYRCHIOLAETH Y BOBL, CYMRU

Rheoliadau Cynrychiolaeth y Bobl (Cofrestru Etholiadol heb Geisiadau) (Diwygio Etholiadol) (Cymru) 2026

Gwnaed

Yn dod i rym yn unol â rheoliad 1(2)

Mae Gweinidogion Cymru yn gwneud y Rheoliadau a ganlyn drwy arfer y pwerau a roddir iddynt gan adrannau 18(3) a (5), 19(1) ac 21 o Ddeddf Etholiadau a Chyrff Etholedig (Cymru) 2024 ("Deddf 2024")(1).

Yn unol ag adran 18(1) o Ddeddf 2024, mae Gweinidogion Cymru yn ystyried, yng ngoleuni adroddiad a wnaed gan y Comisiwn Etholiadol o dan adran 17 o Ddeddf 2024 ar weithredu Rheoliadau Cynrychiolaeth y Bobl (Cofrestru Etholiadol heb Geisiadau) (Cynllun Peilot) (Cymru) 2025 ("y Rheoliadau Peilot")(2), y byddai'n ddymunol cyflawni'r canlyniad diwygio a gwneud darpariaeth debyg i'r hyn a wnaed gan y Rheoliadau Peilot yn gymwys yn gyffredinol, ac ar sail barhaol, yng Nghymru.

Yn unol â gweithdrefn gymeradwyo'r Senedd a gymhwysir gan adran 19(3) o Ddeddf 2024, gosodwyd drafft o'r offeryn statudol Cymreig hwn gerbron Senedd Cymru ac fe'i cymeradwywyd ganddi drwy benderfyniad.

Enwi a dod i rym

1.—(1) Enw'r Rheoliadau hyn yw Rheoliadau Cynrychiolaeth y Bobl (Cofrestru Etholiadol heb Geisiadau) (Diwygio Etholiadol) (Cymru) 2026.

(2) Daw'r Rheoliadau hyn i rym drannoeth y diwrnod y gwneir y Rheoliadau hyn.

Diwygio Deddf Cynrychiolaeth y Bobl 1983

2. Yn adran 9ZA(4) o Ddeddf Cynrychiolaeth y Bobl 1983,(3) yn lle "60" rhodder "28".

(1) 2024 dsc 5.

(2) O.S. 2025/38 (Cy. 12).

(3) 1983 p. 2. Mewnosodwyd adran 9ZA(4) gan adran 3(2) o Ran 1 o Ddeddf Etholiadau a Chyrff Etholedig (Cymru) 2024 (dsc 5).

Diwygio Rheoliadau Cynrychiolaeth y Bobl (Cymru a Lloegr) 2001

3. Mae Rheoliadau Cynrychiolaeth y Bobl (Cymru a Lloegr) 2001(4) wedi eu diwygio yn unol â rheoliadau 4 i 6.

4. Yn rheoliad 32 (apelau cofrestru), ym mharagraff (1), ar ôl “(aa)” mewnosoder “, (azaa)”.

5. Ar ôl rheoliad 37 mewnosoder—

“Registration without applications

Identification of unregistered electors

37A.—(1) In connection with the duty under section 9ZA of the 1983 Act (duty to register eligible local government electors in Wales), a registration officer must, in relation to the area for which the officer is responsible, take the steps the officer considers necessary to identify the names and addresses of persons not registered in the register of local government electors maintained by the registration officer.

(2) However, the registration officer must, at least once in a calendar year, inspect any records held by any person which the registration officer is permitted to inspect under, or by virtue of, any enactment, including the use of the data sources available to them by virtue of regulations 35 and 35A.

(3) Other steps that may be taken to identify unregistered persons include—

- (a) sending paper communications to the addresses of unregistered persons;
- (b) visiting the addresses of unregistered persons;
- (c) where the registration officer holds a telephone number for a person aged 18 or over, who the registration officer believes is unregistered but entitled to be registered, the making of a telephone call to that person, or
- (d) sending electronic communications to unregistered persons.

(4) For the purposes of this regulation a registration officer may rely on as many sources of data as the officer considers sufficient for the purposes of identifying an unregistered elector.

(5) Before giving notice to a person under section 9ZA(3) of the 1983 Act, a registration officer must be able to locate matching data from at least two sources which identify the unregistered elector (but see paragraph (7)).

(6) In this regulation “matching data” includes in relation to the person—

- (a) the person’s full name;
- (b) where held by the registration officer, the person’s date of birth;
- (c) the address, including postcode of the property at which the person is residing;
- (d) where held by the registration officer, the unique property reference number of the property at which the person is residing;
- (e) any other information held by the registration officer which relates to the person’s potential entry in the register.

(4) O.S. 2001/341. Y diwygiadau perthnasol yw: rheoliad 15 o Reoliadau Cynrychiolaeth y Bobl (Cymru a Lloegr) (Diwygio) 2002 (O.S. 2002/1871); rheoliadau 2 a 3 o Reoliadau Cynrychiolaeth y Bobl (Cymru a Lloegr) (Diwygio) 2014 (O.S. 2014/1234); rheoliad 6 o Reoliadau Cynrychiolaeth y Bobl (Cymru a Lloegr) (Diwygio Rhif 2) 2014 (O.S. 2014/3161).

(7) Paragraph 5 does not apply and the registration officer may give the notice of registration in accordance with section 9ZA(3) of the 1983 Act without the need for matching data if—

- (a) there is information available to the registration officer from any education record relating to the person, and
- (b) that information is sufficient to satisfy the registration officer as to the person's identity and entitlement to be registered.

Processing of information provided or accessed in connection with registration under section 9ZA of the 1983 Act

37B.—(1) If a person is required to provide an original document under regulation 37A the registration officer must make a copy of that document and return the original document to the person who provided it.

(2) Information disclosed under regulation 37A may not be disclosed to any other person, except—

- (a) for the purpose of determining the person's entitlement to be registered under section 9ZA of the 1983 Act;
- (b) for the purpose of any civil or criminal proceedings.

(3) A person who discloses information in breach of paragraph 2 is guilty of an offence and liable—

- (a) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year, or a fine, or to both;
- (b) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding the general limit in a magistrates court, or to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum, or to both.

(4) In this regulation "copy" includes an electronic copy.

Notice of Registration

37C.—(1) A notice given under section 9ZA(3) of the 1983 Act must include—

- (a) a statement that any information collected or provided for the purpose of the duty under section 9ZA of the 1983 Act will be processed in accordance with the data protection legislation;
- (b) where the person is under the age of 16, an explanation of how the person's information will be held and used;
- (c) a statement that, if the person is not entitled to be registered, that person must, before the end of the notice period, inform the registration officer of that fact;
- (d) a request that any other person who receives the notice who is resident at the address to which the notice is addressed inform the registration officer if the person to whom the notice is addressed is not resident at that address;
- (e) the date of the last day of the notice period;
- (f) details of how to apply for inclusion in the Parliamentary register of electors for a constituency in Wales, and

(g) the registration officer's contact details.

(2) Where the person to be registered resides at a property to which regulation 32ZBF(2) applies, the registration officer may give a copy of the notice of registration to the responsible person in respect of the property.

(3) A registration officer may, during the notice period, send a reminder to the person to whom the notice period applies, or the responsible person to whom a copy of the notice was given, reminding them of any or all of the matters mentioned in section 9ZA(3) of the 1983 Act and paragraph (1) of this regulation, as the registration officer considers appropriate.

(4) For the purposes of this regulation "responsible person" has the same meaning as in regulation 32ZBF(8).

(5) A notice of registration and any reminders must be made in writing, which must be given by sending the notice to the person's address."

6. Yn rheoliad 42 (marcio enwau)—

(a) ym mharagraff (1), ar ôl "Paragraphs" mewnosoder "(2A),";

(b) ar ôl paragraff (2) mewnosoder—

"(2A) To indicate that a person has been registered only in the register of local government electors in Wales, in accordance with section 9ZA of the 1983 Act, the letter "J" shall be placed against the person's entry."

Enw
Y Gweinidog Cabinet dros Lywodraeth Leol, Tai a Chynllunio, un o Weinidogion Cymru
Dyddiad



Draft Regulations laid before Senedd Cymru in accordance with the Senedd approval procedure under section 19(3) of the Elections and Elected Bodies (Wales) Act 2024.

DRAFT WELSH STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2026 No.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE, WALES

The Representation of the People (Electoral Registration without Applications) (Electoral Reform) (Wales) Regulations 2026

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

As part of the introduction of electoral registration without applications, under the changes made by the Elections and Elected Bodies (Wales) Act 2024 (“the 2024 Act”), the Welsh Ministers conducted pilot schemes in accordance with the Representation of the People (Electoral Registration without Applications) (Pilot Scheme) (Wales) Regulations 2025 (“the Pilot Regulations”), for the purpose of testing, in specified areas and for a specified period, how the changes brought in by Chapter 2 of Part 1 of the 2024 Act (electoral registration without applications) will work in practice.

In accordance with section 18(1) of the 2024 Act, following the conclusion of these pilot schemes, the Welsh Ministers consider it desirable to make these Regulations to achieve the reform outcome.

As provided in section 18(2) of the 2024 Act, the reform outcome is for provision similar to that contained in the Pilot Regulations to apply electoral registration without applications generally, and permanently, across Wales.

These Regulations will work alongside the provisions brought in by Chapter 2 of Part 1 of the 2024 Act, which will be brought into force on 1 October 2026 by the Elections and Elected Bodies (Wales) Act 2024 (Commencement No. 3) Order 2026.

In the making of these Regulations, the Welsh Ministers have considered the findings of a report made by the Electoral Commission under section 17 of the 2024 Act on the operation of the Pilot Regulations and where appropriate its recommendations are incorporated within these Regulations.

Regulation 2 amends the Representation of the People Act 1983 (“the 1983 Act”) to specify that “the notice period” in section 9ZA(4) is to be 28 days beginning with the day on which the notice of registration under section 9ZA(3) is given. Persons who receive this notice will have a 28-day notice period during which they may choose to exercise the right to opt out of registration without applications or to consider applying for anonymous registration. If at the end of that period a person has not taken either of these options and remains entitled to be registered then they must be added to the register.

Regulations 3 to 6 make amendments to the Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001 to prescribe additional steps which electoral registration officers will be required to undertake in connection with the new registration duty. This includes requiring the disclosure of information to decide whether a person is eligible to be included in the register for the purpose of section 9ZA of the 1983 Act.

The Welsh Ministers’ Code of Practice on the carrying out of Regulatory Impact Assessments was considered in relation to these Regulations. As a result, a regulatory impact assessment has been prepared as to the likely costs and benefits of complying with these Regulations. A copy can be obtained from Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ and is published on www.gov.wales.

DRAFT WELSH STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2026 No.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE, WALES

The Representation of the People (Electoral Registration without Applications) (Electoral Reform) (Wales) Regulations 2026

Made ***

Coming into force in accordance with regulation 1(2) ***

The Welsh Ministers make the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred on them by sections 18(3) and (5), 19(1) and 21 of the Elections and Elected Bodies (Wales) Act 2024 (“the 2024 Act”)(1).

In accordance with section 18(1) of the 2024 Act, the Welsh Ministers consider, in the light of a report made by the Electoral Commission under section 17 of the 2024 Act on the operation of the Representation of the People (Electoral Registration without Applications) (Pilot Scheme) (Wales) Regulations 2025 (“the Pilot Regulations”)(2), that it would be desirable to achieve the reform outcome and make provision similar to that made by the Pilot Regulations to apply generally, and on a permanent basis, in Wales.

In accordance with the Senedd approval procedure applied by section 19(3) of the 2024 Act, a draft of this Welsh statutory instrument was laid before, and approved by resolution of, Senedd Cymru.

Title and coming into force

1.—(1) The title of these Regulations is the Representation of the People (Electoral Registration without Applications) (Electoral Reform) (Wales) Regulations 2026.

(2) These Regulations come into force on the day after the day on which these Regulations are made.

(1) 2024 asc 5.

(2) S.I. 2025/38 (W. 12).

Amendment to the Representation of the People Act 1983

2. In section 9ZA(4) of the Representation of the People Act 1983,(3) for “60” substitute “28”.

Amendments to the Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001

3. The Representation of the People (England and Wales) Regulations 2001(4) are amended in accordance with regulations 4 to 6.

4. In regulation 32 (registration appeals), in paragraph (1), after “(aa)” insert “, (azaa)”.

5. After regulation 37 insert—

“Registration without applications

Identification of unregistered electors

37A.—(1) In connection with the duty under section 9ZA of the 1983 Act (duty to register eligible local government electors in Wales), a registration officer must, in relation to the area for which the officer is responsible, take the steps the officer considers necessary to identify the names and addresses of persons not registered in the register of local government electors maintained by the registration officer.

(2) However, the registration officer must, at least once in a calendar year, inspect any records held by any person which the registration officer is permitted to inspect under, or by virtue of, any enactment, including the use of the data sources available to them by virtue of regulations 35 and 35A.

(3) Other steps that may be taken to identify unregistered persons include—

- (a) sending paper communications to the addresses of unregistered persons;
- (b) visiting the addresses of unregistered persons;
- (c) where the registration officer holds a telephone number for a person aged 18 or over, who the registration officer believes is unregistered but entitled to be registered, the making of a telephone call to that person, or
- (d) sending electronic communications to unregistered persons.

(4) For the purposes of this regulation a registration officer may rely on as many sources of data as the officer considers sufficient for the purposes of identifying an unregistered elector.

(5) Before giving notice to a person under section 9ZA(3) of the 1983 Act, a registration officer must be able to locate matching data from at least two sources which identify the unregistered elector (but see paragraph (7)).

(6) In this regulation “matching data” includes in relation to the person—

- (a) the person’s full name;
- (b) where held by the registration officer, the person’s date of birth;

(3) 1983 c. 2. Section 9ZA(4) was inserted by the Elections and Elected Bodies (Wales) Act 2024 (asc 5), Part 1, section 3(2).

(4) S.I. 2001/341. Relevant amendments are: the Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2002 (S.I. 2002/1871), regulation 15; the Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 (S.I. 2014/1234), regulations 2 and 3; the Representation of the People (England and Wales) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 2014 (S.I. 2014/3161), regulation 6.

- (c) the address, including postcode of the property at which the person is residing;
- (d) where held by the registration officer, the unique property reference number of the property at which the person is residing;
- (e) any other information held by the registration officer which relates to the person's potential entry in the register.

(7) Paragraph 5 does not apply and the registration officer may give the notice of registration in accordance with section 9ZA(3) of the 1983 Act without the need for matching data if—

- (a) there is information available to the registration officer from any education record relating to the person, and
- (b) that information is sufficient to satisfy the registration officer as to the person's identity and entitlement to be registered.

Processing of information provided or accessed in connection with registration under section 9ZA of the 1983 Act

37B.—(1) If a person is required to provide an original document under regulation 37A the registration officer must make a copy of that document and return the original document to the person who provided it.

(2) Information disclosed under regulation 37A may not be disclosed to any other person, except—

- (a) for the purpose of determining the person's entitlement to be registered under section 9ZA of the 1983 Act;
- (b) for the purpose of any civil or criminal proceedings.

(3) A person who discloses information in breach of paragraph 2 is guilty of an offence and liable—

- (a) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year, or a fine, or to both;
- (b) on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding the general limit in a magistrates court, or to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum, or to both.

(4) In this regulation "copy" includes an electronic copy.

Notice of Registration

37C.—(1) A notice given under section 9ZA(3) of the 1983 Act must include—

- (a) a statement that any information collected or provided for the purpose of the duty under section 9ZA of the 1983 Act will be processed in accordance with the data protection legislation;
- (b) where the person is under the age of 16, an explanation of how the person's information will be held and used;
- (c) a statement that, if the person is not entitled to be registered, that person must, before the end of the notice period, inform the registration officer of that fact;
- (d) a request that any other person who receives the notice who is resident at the address to which the notice is addressed inform the registration

officer if the person to whom the notice is addressed is not resident at that address;

- (e) the date of the last day of the notice period;
- (f) details of how to apply for inclusion in the Parliamentary register of electors for a constituency in Wales, and
- (g) the registration officer's contact details.

(2) Where the person to be registered resides at a property to which regulation 32ZBF(2) applies, the registration officer may give a copy of the notice of registration to the responsible person in respect of the property.

(3) A registration officer may, during the notice period, send a reminder to the person to whom the notice period applies, or the responsible person to whom a copy of the notice was given, reminding them of any or all of the matters mentioned in section 9ZA(3) of the 1983 Act and paragraph (1) of this regulation, as the registration officer considers appropriate.

(4) For the purposes of this regulation "responsible person" has the same meaning as in regulation 32ZBF(8).

(5) A notice of registration and any reminders must be made in writing, which must be given by sending the notice to the person's address."

6. In regulation 42 (marking of names)—

- (a) in paragraph (1), after "Paragraphs" insert "(2A),";
- (b) after paragraph (2) insert—

"(2A) To indicate that a person has been registered only in the register of local government electors in Wales, in accordance with section 9ZA of the 1983 Act, the letter "J" shall be placed against the person's entry."

Name
Cabinet Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning, one of the Welsh Ministers
Date