

# Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011

#### 2011 nawm 1

# PART 7 E+W

#### WELSH LANGUAGE TRIBUNAL

The Tribunal

# 120 The Welsh Language Tribunal E+W

- (1) There is to be a Welsh Language Tribunal (referred to in this Measure as the "Tribunal").
- (2) The Tribunal is to consist of the following members—
  - (a) the President of the Welsh Language Tribunal (referred to in this Measure as the "President");
  - (b) legally-qualified members; and
  - (c) lay members.
- (3) The Welsh Ministers must appoint the members of the Tribunal.
- (4) Schedule 11 makes further provision about the Tribunal.

#### **Commencement Information**

- I1 S. 120(1) in force at 30.4.2015 by S.I. 2015/1217, art. 2
- I2 S. 120(2)(3) in force at 7.1.2014 by S.I. 2013/3140, art. 2(a)(b)
- I3 S. 120(4) in force at 1.4.2012 for specified purposes by S.I. 2012/969, art. 2(1)
- I4 S. 120(4) in force at 7.1.2014 in so far as not already in force by S.I. 2013/3140, art. 2(c)

# 121 Composition for proceedings before Tribunal E+W

(1) The President must select the members of the Tribunal who are to deal with particular proceedings before the Tribunal.

- (2) The President must select three members of the Tribunal to deal with the proceedings.
- (3) The President must ensure that—
  - (a) at least one of the three members is a legal member, and
  - (b) at least one of the three members is a lay member.
- (4) If only one of the three members is a legal member, that legal member is to chair the proceedings.
- (5) If more than one of the three members are legal members, the President is to select the legal member who is to chair the proceedings.
- (6) This section is subject to Tribunal Rules.
- (7) In this section "legal member" means—
  - (a) the President, or
  - (b) a legally-qualified member of the Tribunal.

### **Commencement Information**

I5 S. 121 in force at 30.4.2015 by S.I. 2015/1217, art. 2

# 122 Hearings in public E+W

- (1) Proceedings before the Tribunal are to be held in public.
- (2) But that is subject to Tribunal Rules.

## **Commencement Information**

I6 S. 122 in force at 30.4.2015 by S.I. 2015/1217, art. 2

Practice and procedure etc

# 123 Welsh Language Tribunal Rules E+W

- (1) The President must make rules governing the practice and procedure to be followed in the Tribunal.
- (2) The rules are to be known as "Welsh Language Tribunal Rules" (but are referred to in this Measure as "Tribunal Rules").
- (3) Tribunal Rules must include the following—
  - (a) provision about the selection under section 121(2) of the three members of the Tribunal to deal with proceedings;
  - (b) provision about the selection under section 121(5) of the legal member to chair proceedings;
  - (c) provision about conflicts of interest that arise—
    - (i) in relation to the participation of members of the Tribunal in the determination of proceedings, or

- (ii) in relation to the exercise of the President's functions under section 121.
- (4) Tribunal Rules may, amongst other things, include provision about the following matters—
  - (a) the exercise by the President, or by the member chairing any proceedings, of any functions which relate to matters that are preliminary or incidental to the proceedings;
  - (b) the conduct of proceedings in the absence of any member other than the member chairing them;
  - (c) the disclosure or inspection of documents, and such right to further particulars as might be granted by a county court;
  - (d) the determination of proceedings without a hearing in circumstances prescribed in Tribunal Rules;
  - (e) frivolous and vexatious proceedings;
  - (f) the award of costs (including, but not limited to, punitive costs) or expenses;
  - (g) assessing or otherwise settling any such costs or expenses (and, in particular, for enabling such costs to be assessed in the county court);
  - (h) the publication of reports of the Tribunal's decisions;
  - (i) the Tribunal's powers to review its decisions, or revoke or vary its orders, in such circumstances as may be determined in accordance with Tribunal Rules;
  - (j) the date upon which a notice is deemed to have been given by the Tribunal.
- (5) The power to make Tribunal Rules includes power—
  - (a) to make different provision for different purposes, and
  - (b) to confer functions on the President or the Welsh Ministers (as well as on any other person), including functions involving the exercise of a discretion.
- (6) The President must submit Tribunal Rules to the Welsh Ministers.
- (7) The Welsh Ministers may allow or disallow Tribunal Rules submitted to them.
- (8) Rules allowed by the Welsh Ministers—
  - (a) come into force on such day that the Welsh Ministers direct, and
  - (b) are to be contained in a statutory instrument to which the Statutory Instruments Act 1946 applies as if the instrument contained rules made by the Welsh Ministers.
- (9) A statutory instrument containing rules made by the President is subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of the National Assembly for Wales.

## **Commencement Information**

I7 S. 123 in force at 7.1.2014 by S.I. 2013/3140, art. 2(d)

## 124 Practice directions E+W

- [F1(1) The President may give directions as to the practice and procedure of the Tribunal.
  - (2) But the President may not give practice directions unless they have been approved by the Welsh Ministers.

- (3) Subsection (2) does not apply to practice directions to the extent that they relate to—
  - (a) the application or interpretation of the law, or
  - (b) the making of decisions by members of the Tribunal.
- (4) The power under this section to give practice directions includes—
  - (a) power to vary or revoke practice directions given in exercise of the power, and
  - (b) power to make different provision for different purposes.]

#### **Textual Amendments**

F1 S. 124 omitted (coming into force in accordance with reg. 2(1) of the commencing S.I.) by virtue of Wales Act 2017 (c. 4), s. 71(4), Sch. 6 para. 92 (with Sch. 7 paras. 1, 6); S.I. 2017/351, reg. 2 [Editorial note: S.I. 2017/1282 was made under 2017 c. 4, Sch. 5 para. 7(1) and comes into force on 12.12.2017]

#### **Commencement Information**

I8 S. 124 in force at 7.1.2014 by S.I. 2013/3140, art. 2(e)

# 125 Guidance, advice and information E+W

- (1) The President may give guidance to other members of the Tribunal in relation to the exercise of their functions as members of the Tribunal.
- (2) A member of the Tribunal must have regard to such guidance in exercising such functions.
- (3) The President may give advice and information in respect of the Tribunal and its functions (including, but not limited to, its practice and procedure).
- (4) The President may give such advice—
  - (a) to particular persons, or
  - (b) more generally.

#### **Commencement Information**

I9 S. 125 in force at 7.1.2014 by S.I. 2013/3140, art. 2(f)

# 126 Supplementary powers E+W

- (1) In relation to the matters mentioned in subsection (2), the Tribunal has the same powers, rights, privileges and authority as the High Court.
- (2) The matters are—
  - (a) the attendance and examination of witnesses,
  - (b) the production and inspection of documents, and
  - (c) all other matters incidental to the Tribunal's functions.
- (3) Subsection (1)—
  - (a) does not limit any power to make Tribunal Rules, or
  - (b) is not limited by anything in Tribunal Rules, except an express limitation.

- (4) The Tribunal may direct that a party or witness is to be examined on oath or affirmation.
- (5) The Tribunal may administer any oath, or take any affirmation, that is necessary for that purpose.

#### **Commencement Information**

I10 S. 126 in force at 30.4.2015 by S.I. 2015/1217, art. 2

## Staff and other resources

# 127 Staff, accommodation and other resources of Tribunal E+W

- (1) The Welsh Ministers must ensure that the Tribunal is provided with—
  - (a) staff,
  - (b) accommodation, and
  - (c) financial and other resources,

that are appropriate for the Tribunal to exercise its functions.

- (2) It is for the Welsh Ministers to determine what staff, accommodation and financial and other resources are appropriate for that purpose.
- (3) The Welsh Ministers may satisfy the duty under subsection (1) by—
  - (a) providing staff, accommodation or other resources, or
  - (b) entering into arrangements with any other person for the provision of staff, accommodation or other resources.
- (4) The Welsh Ministers may pay remuneration to the staff of the Tribunal.
- (5) The Welsh Ministers may pay allowances (including, but not limited to, travelling and subsistence allowances) and gratuities to the staff of the Tribunal.
- (6) The Welsh Ministers may pay—
  - (a) pensions to, or in respect of, persons who have been staff of the Tribunal, and
  - (b) amounts for or towards provision of pensions to, or in respect of, persons who have been staff of the Tribunal.

# **Commencement Information**

III S. 127 in force at 7.1.2014 by S.I. 2013/3140, art. 2(g)

# 128 Specially qualified advisers E+W

- (1) The President may appoint specially qualified advisers to provide assistance to the Tribunal (whether in relation to particular proceedings before the Tribunal or otherwise).
- (2) The President may pay remuneration to specially qualified advisers.

- (3) The President may pay allowances (including, but not limited to, travelling and subsistence allowances) and gratuities to specially qualified advisers.
- (4) But the Welsh Ministers must approve the amount of any remuneration, allowances or gratuities payable to a specially qualified adviser before the President agrees to pay, or pays, the remuneration, allowances or gratuities.

#### **Commencement Information**

I12 S. 128 in force at 7.1.2014 by S.I. 2013/3140, art. 2(h)

#### Administrative matters

# 129 Seal E+W

- (1) The Tribunal is to have an official seal.
- (2) purporting to be sealed with the official seal of the Tribunal is to be received in evidence in England and Wales without further proof.
- (3) But subsection (2) does not apply if the document is shown not to be sealed with the official seal of the Tribunal.

#### **Commencement Information**

II3 S. 129 in force at 30.4.2015 by S.I. 2015/1217, art. 2

## 130 Financial year E+W

- (1) The Tribunal's first financial year is the period that begins with the commencement day and ends with—
  - (a) the following 31 March (if the commencement day is 1 April), or
  - (b) the second following 31 March (if the commencement day is not 1 April).
- (2) Subject to that, the Tribunal's financial year is the period of 12 months ending with 31 March.
- (3) In this section "commencement day" means the day when section 120 comes into force.

#### **Commencement Information**

I14 S. 130 in force at 30.4.2015 by S.I. 2015/1217, art. 2

# 131 Vacancy in the office of President E+W

- (1) This section applies if the office of President is vacant.
- (2) The Welsh Ministers may appoint one or more of the legally-qualified members of the Tribunal to exercise any or all of the President's functions.

- (3) If, or to the extent that, the President's functions are not exercisable by a legally-qualified member in accordance with subsection (2), the Welsh Ministers may exercise the functions.
- (4) But the Welsh Ministers may not participate in determining any proceedings before the Tribunal.

## **Commencement Information**

I15 S. 131 in force at 7.1.2014 by S.I. 2013/3140, art. 2(i)

Reports, reviews and performance

# 132 President's annual report E+W

- (1) As soon as practicable after the end of each financial year, the President must—
  - (a) produce a report on the Tribunal's exercise of its functions in that financial year, and
  - (b) lay a copy of the report before the National Assembly for Wales.
  - (c) The President must comply with any requirements of the National Assembly for Wales in relation to the form of the report and the laying of it.

#### **Commencement Information**

I16 S. 132 in force at 30.4.2015 by S.I. 2015/1217, art. 2

## 133 Training etc for members of Tribunal E+W

- (1) The President must maintain appropriate arrangements for the training, guidance and welfare of members of the Tribunal.
- (2) It is for the President to decide what arrangements are appropriate for that purpose.

#### **Commencement Information**

I17 S. 133 in force at 7.1.2014 by S.I. 2013/3140, art. 2(j)

# **Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, PART 7.