

Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013

2013 anaw 4

PART 5

OTHER CHANGES TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Joint standards committees

68 Joint standards committees

- (1) The Local Government Act 2000 (c.22) is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 53 (standards committees)—
 - (a) in subsection (1), for "(referred to in this Part as a standards committee)" substitute "or, with one or more other relevant authorities, a joint committee",
 - (b) after subsection (1) insert—

"(1A) In this Part, a reference to a "standards committee" is a reference to a committee or a joint committee established under subsection (1).",

- (c) in subsection (11)—
 - (i) in the opening words, for "National Assembly for Wales" substitute "Welsh Ministers",
 - (ii) in paragraph (a), after "authority" insert "or authorities",
 - (iii) after paragraph (d) insert-
 - "(da) about establishing a standards committee which is a joint committee (including, in particular, provision about any restrictions on the number or types of relevant authority that may establish a joint committee),",
 - (iv) in paragraph (e), for "such" substitute "standards",
- (d) after subsection (12) insert—

- "(13) A relevant authority which is considering establishing a joint committee must have regard to any guidance issued by the Welsh Ministers about establishing joint committees and the circumstances in which it is appropriate to do so.".
- (3) In section 54 (functions of standards committees)-
 - (a) in subsection (5), for "National Assembly for Wales" substitute "Welsh Ministers",
 - (b) after subsection (5) insert—
 - "(5A) Regulations made under subsection (5) may modify any provision of this Part, or any other enactment relating to a standards committee or to any functions of a standards committee, in relation to cases where a function of a standards committee is exercisable by a joint committee.
 - (5B) In subsection (5A) "enactment" includes an enactment comprised in subordinate legislation (within the meaning of the Interpretation Act 1978 (c. 30)), whenever passed or made.",
 - (c) for subsection (7) substitute—
 - "(7) A standards committee must, in exercising any of its functions, have regard to any relevant guidance issued by the Welsh Ministers.".
- (4) In section 106 (Wales)—
 - (a) in subsection (5), after "section 21G" add "or regulations under section 53(11) or 54(5)",
 - (b) in subsection (6), after "section 21A(13)(b)" insert "or regulations made under section 53(11) or (subject to subsection (6A)) section 54(5)",
 - (c) after subsection (6) insert—
 - "(6A) Where a statutory instrument contains regulations made under section 54(5) which include provision adding to, replacing or omitting any part of the text of an Act of Parliament or a Measure or Act of the National Assembly for Wales, the instrument may not be made unless a draft of it has been laid before, and approved by a resolution of, the National Assembly for Wales.".

69 Referral of cases relating to conduct

(1) The Local Government Act 2000 is amended as follows.

- (2) In section 73 (matters referred to monitoring officers)—
 - (a) in subsection (2)—
 - (i) in paragraph (b), after "authority" where it second occurs insert ", or to the standards committee of another relevant authority,",
 - (ii) after paragraph (b), insert—
 - "(ba) enabling a standards committee of a relevant authority to refer a report or recommendations made by its monitoring officer to the standards committee of another relevant authority,",
 - (b) for paragraph (c) substitute—

- "(c) enabling a standards committee of a relevant authority to consider any report or recommendations made or, as the case may be, referred to it by—
 - (i) a monitoring officer of a relevant authority, or
 - (ii) the standards committee of another relevant authority.
- (ca) the procedure to be followed by a standards committee as respects a report or recommendation made or referred to it,",
- (c) in paragraph (d), for "the authority" substitute "a relevant authority",
- (d) in subsection (4)—
 - (i) in paragraph (a), omit "of the authority,", and
 - (ii) in paragraph (b), after "the authority" insert "of which they are a member".
- (3) In section 81 (disclosure and registration of members' interests)-
 - (a) in subsection (4), after "standards committee" insert ", or by the standards committee of another relevant authority,",
 - (b) in subsection (5)—
 - (i) the words from "circumstances" to the end become paragraph (a), and
 - (ii) after that paragraph, insert—
 - "(b) procedure to be followed for the granting of dispensations.".