

Policy and Public Affairs

Member Bulletin



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Product Regulation and Metrology Bill Update

Dear Member,

The [Product Regulation and Metrology Bill](#) is progressing through Parliament and will have its second reading on 8th October. Following second reading, the Bill still faces a number of stages before becoming law.

The majority of the UK's product safety and metrology framework is derived from the EU. Now the UK has left the EU, the Government is passing the Product Regulation and Metrology Bill to establish a new framework to:

- Ensure our laws can be kept updated.
- Respond to new product risks and opportunities, keeping pace with technological advances.
- Identify new and emerging business models in the supply chain, ensuring the responsibilities of those involved in the supply of products, such as online marketplaces, are clear.
- Enable improvements to compliance and enforcement.

The Bill focuses on three key powers:

1. **Product Regulation**
2. **Online Marketplaces**
3. **Metrology**

The Bill has fourteen specific clauses which will have the following implications:

1. **Product regulations** - mitigate risk / give accurate readings / operate efficiently & effectively / set out other definitions / lists the exclusions.
2. **Product requirements** - set out requirements (including EU requirements) that relate to the conditions to be met for products which are marketed or used in the UK / persons who may impose requirements / standards.
3. **Enforcement of product regulations** - designate a relevant authority / mitigating non-compliance and investigating / give notice / introduce sanctions / create criminal offences.
4. **Emergencies** - subject to conditions, provides that product regulations may disapply or modify regulatory requirements in response to emergencies.
5. **Metrology** - makes provision about the units of measurement including that must be used to express quantities in which goods may or must be marketed in the UK / regulations should set requirements for the marking or packaging of goods; monitoring, assessing and verifying the quantities and units of goods being marketed, retention of documents and information and clarifies meaning of goods and quantity.
6. **Enforcement and Metrology** - designate a relevant authority / mitigating non-compliance and investigating / give notice / introduce sanctions / create criminal offences.
7. **Information sharing** - enables product regulations or metrology regulations to be made permitting the sharing of information between persons specified.

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8. **Cost recovery** - enables provisions to be made for fees to be imposed in respect of any costs incurred by relevant authorities.
9. **Consequential** - enables regulations to repeal or amend sections of the Consumer Protection Act 1987, Consumer Rights Act 2015 and the Weights and Measures Act 1985.
10. - 11 - 12 - 13 - 14 - defines key terms, amends the definition of an online marketplace and sets out that the Bill will extend to England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any queries or concerns regarding the legislation that I can assist with.

I will send further updates when appropriate.

Kind regards,

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