



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: ATISN 13919/13920

22 April 2020

Dear ,

**Freedom of Information requests in relation to conclusions in Exercise Cygnus 2016 Pandemic Drill relating to widespread infection and disease, PPE equipment, Care Homes, Coronavirus assistance offered by EU, Testing and quarantine at Welsh ports, airports and border control**

Thank you for your requests which I received on 20 April 2020. You asked for information relating to Pandemic Drill and Coronavirus assistance which includes the following:

***Request 1 – Pandemic Drill***

- 1. Was the Welsh Government consulted by the UK Government regarding the conclusions reached regarding Exercise Cygnus relating to the 2016 Pandemic Drill relating to widespread infection and disease?*
- 2. Was the Welsh government sent copies by the UK government of the conclusions reached regarding Exercise Cygnus relating to the 2016 Pandemic Drill relating to widespread infection and disease?*
- 3. If so, what were the conclusions and what is the text of the conclusions?*

***Request 2 – Pandemic Drill***

- 1. Does the Welsh Government have any information supplied by the UK Government to the Welsh Government on the implementation of any or all of the conclusions reached regarding Exercise Cygnus relating to the 2016 Pandemic Drill relating to widespread infection and disease?*
- 2. If so, what information does the Welsh Government have on which conclusions were implemented and how they were implemented regarding Exercise Cygnus relating to the 2016 Pandemic Drill relating to widespread infection and disease?*

**Request 3 - Information regarding Personal Protective Equipment in the Welsh NHS and Care Homes.**

- 1. Does the Welsh Government and the Welsh Department of Health and Social Services have a central database regarding the obtaining and distribution of PPE to Welsh NHS hospitals and Welsh NHS and private Care Homes?*
- 2. If not, how does the Welsh Government and the Welsh Department of Health and Social Services keep track regarding the obtaining and distribution of PPE to Welsh NHS hospitals and Welsh NHS and private Care Homes?*
- 3. If not, is the control of PPE to Welsh NHS hospitals and Welsh NHS and private Care Homes left to each individual Welsh NHS Trust or Welsh NHS Area?*
- 4. How much PPE has so far been supplied to Welsh NHS hospitals and Welsh NHS and private Care Homes and what has been the total cost so far?*
- 5. What individual items of PPE have so far been supplied to Welsh NHS hospitals and Welsh NHS and private Care Homes?*
- 6. How much of PPE has been supplied from domestic manufacturers in Wales and the rest of the UK and how much from abroad and from which countries?*
- 7. How are items of PPE distributed to Welsh NHS hospitals and Welsh NHS and private Care Homes and what has been the total cost so far?*
- 8. How much more PPE does the Welsh Government and the Department of Health and Social Services propose to be supplied to Welsh NHS hospitals and Welsh NHS and private Care Homes?*
- 9. How much more individual items of PPE are proposed to be supplied to Welsh NHS hospitals and Welsh NHS and private Care Homes?*
- 10. What records does the Welsh Government and the Welsh Department of Health and Social Services have regarding how much PPE and individual items of PPE have so far been received from Welsh and UK domestic manufacturers and manufacturers from abroad and supplied and distributed to Welsh NHS hospitals and Welsh NHS and private Care Homes?*

**Request 4 Information regarding joint procurement from the European Union regarding the Coronavirus outbreak.**

- 1. Was the Welsh Government consulted by the UK Government regarding the contents of the email or emails sent to the UK Government by the European Union regarding assistance with and supplies of Personal Protective Equipment such as masks, ventilators etc. to assist with the fight against the Coronavirus outbreak?*
- 2. Was the Welsh Government sent copies by the UK Government of the email or emails sent to the UK Government by the European Union regarding assistance with and supplies of Personal Protective Equipment such as masks, ventilators etc. to assist with the fight against the Coronavirus outbreak?*
- 3. If so, what are the contents of the email or emails sent to the Welsh Government that were sent to the UK Government by the European Union regarding assistance with and supplies of Personal Protective Equipment*

*such as masks, ventilators etc. to assist with the fight against the Coronavirus outbreak?*

- 4. If so, which UK Government or departmental email address was used by the European Union to send the email or emails?*
- 5. Where there any previous email addresses used by the UK Government or department responsible prior to the email or emails being sent by the European Union that were sent by the UK government to the Welsh Government concerning communications generally from the European Union?*

**Request 5 Information regarding Welsh Ports, Airports and Border Controls regarding the Coronavirus outbreak.**

- 1. Does the Welsh Government and the Welsh Department of Health and Social Services have any information as to why both UK nationals and non UK nationals entering the UK at UK ports, airports and border controls were not tested for the Coronavirus immediately after the Coronavirus outbreak?*
- 2. Does the Welsh Government and the Welsh Department of Health and Social Services have any information as to why were both UK nationals and non UK nationals entering Wales at Welsh ports, airports and border controls not required to be in quarantine isolation centres for 14 days immediately after the Coronavirus outbreak?*
- 3. Does the Welsh Government and the Welsh Department of Health and Social Services have any information as to why were both UK nationals and non UK nationals entering Wales at Welsh ports, airports and border controls not tested for the Coronavirus later on after the Coronavirus outbreak?*
- 4. Does the Welsh Government and the Welsh Department of Health and Social Services have any information as to why were both UK nationals and non UK nationals entering Wales at Welsh ports, airports and border controls not required to be in quarantine isolation centres for 14 days later on after the Coronavirus outbreak?*
- 5. Does the Welsh Government and the Welsh Department of Health and Social Services have any information as to why are both UK nationals and non UK nationals entering Wales at Welsh ports, airports and border controls not tested for the Coronavirus at the present time after the Coronavirus outbreak?*
- 6. Does the Welsh Government and the Welsh Department of Health and Social Services have any information as to why are both UK nationals and non UK nationals entering Wales at Welsh ports, airports and border controls not required to be in quarantine isolation centres for 14 days at the present time after the Coronavirus outbreak?*

**Request 6 - Information regarding Welsh Ports, Airports and Border Controls regarding the Coronavirus outbreak.**

- 1. Are the border controls at ports, and airports in Wales devolved to the Welsh Government?*
- 2. If so, does the Welsh Government have any information as to why were Welsh ports, airports and border controls not closed to non UK residents immediately after the Coronavirus outbreak?*

3. *If so, does the Welsh Government have any information as to why were Welsh ports, airports and border controls allowing flights and entries to continue from high risk countries affected by the Coronavirus such as China, Iran, Italy and Spain immediately after the Coronavirus outbreak?*
4. *If so does the Welsh Government have any information as to why were Welsh ports, airports and border controls not closed to non UK residents later on after the Coronavirus outbreak?*
5. *If so, does the Welsh Government have any information as to why were Welsh ports, airports and border controls allowing flights and entries to continue from high risk countries affected by the Coronavirus such as China, Iran, Italy and Spain later on after the Coronavirus outbreak?*
6. *If so, does the Welsh Government have any information as to why are Welsh ports, airports and border controls not closed to non UK residents at the present time after the Coronavirus outbreak?*
7. *If so does the Welsh Government have any information as to why are Welsh ports, airports and border controls allowing flights and entries to continue from high risk countries affected by the Coronavirus such as China, Iran, Italy and Spain at the present time after the Coronavirus outbreak?*

From my initial searches, I estimate that it is very likely that it will cost more than the appropriate limit set out in the Freedom of Information & Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations to answer your request. The appropriate limit specified for central government is £600. This represents the estimated cost of it taking over 24 hours of time to determine whether we hold the information and to thereafter locate, retrieve and extract it.

In order to provide you with the information that you have requested would require a number of searches through all communications between the identified parties to identify which contain the information you are seeking.

When conducting a search of our electronic filing system for the key words for each of your requests listed above, over 26,945 documents were returned. Based on an average check of each document taking 20 seconds, the full search would take 249 hours. (26,945 x 20 sec per doc = 538,900 sec = 8,981.66 minutes = **149.40 hours**). This does not take account of the mailbox searches that would also be required in order to comply with your request. Consequently, I have decided not to provide you with the information you have requested.

You may wish to refine your request by narrowing its scope by being more specific about what information you particularly wish to obtain, including any dates or period of time relevant to the information required.

The request you sent me contains personal information about you - for example, your name and address. The Welsh Government will be the data processor for this information and, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation, it will be processed in order to fulfil our public task and meet our legal obligations under the Act to provide you with a response. We will only use this personal information to deal

with your request and any matters which arise as a result of it. We will keep your personal information and all other information relating to your request for three years from the date on which your request is finally closed. Your personal information will then be disposed of securely.

Under data protection legislation, you have the right:

- to be informed of the personal data we hold about you and to access it
- to require us to rectify inaccuracies in that data
- to (in certain circumstances) object to or restrict processing
- for (in certain circumstances) your data to be 'erased'
- to (in certain circumstances) data portability
- to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) who is our independent regulator for data protection

For further information about the information which the Welsh Government holds and its use, or if you wish to exercise your rights under the GDPR, please see contact details below:

Data Protection Officer  
Welsh Government  
Cathays Park  
CARDIFF  
CF10 3NQ  
Email: [DataProtectionOfficer@gov.wales](mailto:DataProtectionOfficer@gov.wales)

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,  
Welsh Government,  
Cathays Park,  
CARDIFF,  
CF10 3NQ  
Email: [Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales](mailto:Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales)

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office,  
Wycliffe House,  
Water Lane,  
Wilmslow,  
CHESHIRE,  
SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Any information released under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or Environmental Information Regulations 2004 will be listed in the Welsh Government's Disclosure Log (at <https://gov.wales/about/open-government/freedom-of-information/responses/?lang=en>).