



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: ATISN 13919/13920

1 June 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**

In your Freedom of Information request 20 April 2020, you asked for 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. *Were 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?*

I have conducted an independent review of your case and I am satisfied that this was handled correctly.

The decision taken in applying the guidance from the Information Commissioner and the criteria set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 to collate your multiple requests was appropriate.

Consequentially, I am satisfied with the original decision that was reached and I do not uphold your complaint.

Additionally, you submit 3 amended FOI requests and although they do not require any recorded information, I am able to provide you with responses below:

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 from 2016 until the present date?*

Welsh Government officials were consulted on the conclusions of the Exercise and since then have been involved in the UK Review of pandemic preparedness.

2. *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 in 2020 regarding assistance with and supplies of Personal Protective Equipment such as masks, ventilators etc. to assist with the fight against the Coronavirus outbreak?*

Welsh Government is not aware that it was consulted by UK Government on the contents of an email sent to UK Government by the European Union in 2020.

3. *Are the border controls at ports, and airports in Wales devolved to the Welsh Government or under the control of the UK Border Agency?*

Borders control and security is not devolved, however, many border controls interact closely with devolved powers, including public health and animal health and welfare.

If you remain dissatisfied with this response you also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Tel: 01625 545 745  
Fax: 01625 524 510  
Email: to [casework@ico.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:casework@ico.gsi.gov.uk)

Also, if you think that there has been maladministration in dealing with your request, you have the option to make a complaint to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales who can be contacted at:

Public Services Ombudsman for Wales  
1 Ffordd yr Hen Gae  
Pencoed  
Bridgend  
CF35 5LJ

Telephone: 0845 6010987 (local rate)  
Email: [ask@ombudsman-wales.org.uk](mailto:ask@ombudsman-wales.org.uk)

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'E. Lewis', written in a cursive style.