



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

ATISN 13983

28 May 2020

Dear ,

ATISN 13983 - Covid 19 Social distancing policy - Scientific advice

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 16 May. With regards to the Covid-19 social distancing, you have requested the following:

- 1. Confirmation on whether the 2.0 metre distance is a statutory requirement or government guidance, and*
- 2. Copy of the scientific / medical evidence provided to Welsh Government to support the 2.0 metre social distance requirement.*

The 2.0m distance is based on SAGE advice. Welsh Government are members of SAGE but are not the owners of the papers that are submitted. The SAGE secretariat will work with the commissioners and authors of the papers to publish in due course, but until the papers are released we do not have permission to share them. The information that you have requested will be published on the GOV.UK SAGE webpages in due course, therefore this request falls within scope of an exemption category under section 22, "Information intended for future publication".

I have attached a link to the GOV.UK SAGE website should you wish to find out more about SAGE. <https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/scientific-advisory-group-for-emergencies-sage-coronavirus-covid-19-response>

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

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

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>).

Yours sincerely