



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

ATISN 14109

7 July 2020

Dear,

ATISN 14109 – Covid-19: Testing of Waste Water

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 01 July. I have interpreted your request as follows:

Has Welsh Government received data from Dwr Cymru/any other organisation in relation to the testing of waste water samples in Wales for traces of COVID-19/SARS-COV2?

If yes, please confirm:

- Whether any waste water samples tested positive for COVID-19 between September 2019 and March 2020.*
 - Which areas were tested positive.*
 - When was the earliest trace of SARS-COV2/COVID 19 in Wales?*
- Please can I have a break down where possible by region and month?*

If the Welsh Government has not received such data from Dwr Cymru/any other organisations, has Welsh Government ordered the testing of waste water samples?

Welsh Government does not hold any sampling data relating to the coronavirus.

The Minister for Health and Social Services has agreed to fund a pilot programme for monitoring Covid-19 in wastewater in Wales, with Sampling due to begin in July 2020. Further information can be found here: <https://gov.wales/pilot-programme-measure-coronavirus-prevalence-waste-water-treatment-plants>

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