



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein Cyf/ Our ref ATISN 14424

9 November 2020

Dear

**ATISN 14424: SARS-COV-2**

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 12 October. You asked for –

*Information on what guidance the UK Governments are taking from both WHO and CDC in relation to the SARS-COV-2 pandemic*

Information from the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and World Health Organisation (WHO) are used on a routine basis to inform Government thinking on the COVID-19 pandemic in Wales.

The Chief Medical Officer in Wales receives and considers evidence and reports from the WHO and European CDC (ECDC) through Public Health Wales and directly through his health professionals.

Additionally, information produced by the Welsh Government's COVID-19 Technical Advisory Group (TAG) is regularly used to inform Welsh Ministers and the Chief Medical officer on key decisions relating to the COVID-19 pandemic. Both TAG and the UK Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) receive and consider information and evidence from the WHO, US CDC and ECDC. I have attached a link to the respective organisational webpage as mentioned above where their publications can be found for your convenience:

<https://gov.wales/technical-advisory-cell>

<https://www.who.int/publications/i>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/guidance-list.html?Sort=Date%3A%3Adesc&Search=covid>

<https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en>

Decisions on what actions to take are made by Welsh Ministers taking into account the situation in Wales. The conditions in Wales are not exactly the same as those in other countries so it is appropriate, and even expected, that different courses of action may be taken from time to time. Public Health Wales and the NHS in Wales provides information and data on hospital admissions, ICU occupancy, death rates, etc. on a very frequent basis

and this is also used to inform decision making. I have included a link below to the Public Health Wales website where this data can be found –  
<https://public.tableau.com/profile/public.health.wales.health.protection#!/vizhome/RapidCOVID-19virology-Public/Headlinesummary>

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

or 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.

Yours sincerely,