



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein Cyf/ Our ref ATISN 14461

16 November 2020

Dear

ATISN 14461 – October's Fire break- lockdown

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 19 October. You asked for –

- *The evidence used to put Wales into a complete lockdown from 23 October 2020*
- *Your reasons for doing so.*

The information you have requested is available in the Technical Advisory Group's (TAC) firebreak paper, which is published here: <https://gov.wales/technical-advisory-group-fire-breaks>

The Welsh Government's approach to all covid restrictions has been and will continue to be cautious and based on the latest data and scientific evidence, which is relevant to Wales together with the latest advice from our own scientific and medical advisors (TAC), the UK's Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) and the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The firebreak was introduced because scientific and medical advisors advised that a short, sharp lockdown was required to respond to the rapid rise in coronavirus cases in all areas of Wales; as a means to avoid significant harm and ensure the NHS has the capacity to respond to pandemic, emergency and winter pressures.

I trust you will find this information helpful.

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

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,