

ATISN 14767



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

29 April 2021

Dear

Complaint in respect of ATISN 14767 – Vaccination Numbers

In your Freedom of Information (FOI) request 15 January 2021, you asked for:

1. As of end of working day 14th January 2021 how many Covid Vaccinations have been delivered to patients in Wales?
2. How many of those in #1 were given to NHS workers?
3. How many of those in #1 were given to care home staff
4. How many of those in #1 were given to those over the age of 80 years
5. How many of those in #1 were given to those over the age of 70 years
6. How many of those in #1 were given to those over the age of 60 years
7. Please list the vaccination centre locations
8. What are the percentages of vaccinations given at each location?
9. How many Covid vaccines Wales has in storage as of 13th January 2020.

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

On 19 January, your request was acknowledged, confirming the information you wished the Welsh Government to provide. The acknowledgment letter indicated that you would receive a response by 11 February. The response letter was sent to you on the 10 March and all questions were answered except question 9.

Information was withheld in relation to the number of vaccine doses Wales has received under **Section 43(2)** which exempts information from release if its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it). We recognise that there is a general public interest in the disclosure of information, as greater transparency makes Government and its decision making more open and accountable. However, against this, there is a strong public interest in ensuring that the commercial interests of external companies are not damaged or undermined by disclosure of information which is not common knowledge, and which could adversely impact current or future business. It is important that companies and Government are able to have discussions relating to commercially sensitive information as this can play a key role



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in the Government formulating policy and understanding the challenges faced by companies as well as considering how to respond to those challenges. For such information to be shared, companies must be confident that, whilst the information remains commercially sensitive, the Government will treat the information with the appropriate care and seek to ensure that companies do not suffer unnecessary damage to their wider commercial interests and opportunities. In this case we consider that the public interest in withholding the information outweighed the public interest in disclosure.

We are now able to provide you with the number of vaccines held in storage at close on 13 January:

- 330,675 doses had been allocated;
- 153,925 had been delivered to the NHS;
- 176,750 were 'in storage'

Data is now published on a weekly basis at: [COVID-19 vaccination programme \(stock and distribution\) | GOV.WALES](#)

The response sent to you on the 10 March was significantly late and I apologise for this delay. As the acknowledgment letter indicated, the Welsh Government is facing unprecedented challenges during the coronavirus pandemic. Not only are people being diverted from our usual activities to deal with the pandemic, but we are currently receiving around three times more FOI requests than usual.

Following your complaint to the Freedom of Information Officer on 11 March, I have conducted a review of your case, and (apart from the delay) I am satisfied that the response you received was correct.

Consequently I am satisfied with the response that we sent to you, and I do not uphold your complaint — except insofar as it concerns the delay in providing you with a response. In this latter regard, I can only repeat the apology that I gave above.

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

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Jones', enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

Peter Jones
Deputy Director, Public Health