



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

ATISN 14421

12 November 2020

Dear,

ATISN 14421 – Covid-19 Cross Border Infections

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 13 October. You asked for:

“Please could you provide the scientific / statistical information that Vaughan Gethin (Health Minister) is relying on when he stated that there is “clear evidence that the (Covid-19) virus has been brought into Wales from high risk areas in England” (12th October 2020).

Please note that this is a specific request for the “clear evidence” data that affirms Mr Gethin’s assertion that the virus has been brought in to Wales from high risk areas in England, and is NOT a request for general information about Covid-19 and infection rates in the UK.”

I attach a scientific paper SARS-CoV-2 Genomic Insights, October 2020, below which demonstrates the spread of infection geographically and supports the case for travel restrictions as a means of controlling the spread of the virus and avoiding seeding events in areas of lower prevalence.

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-10/sars-cov-2-genomic-insights-october-2020.pdf>

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.

Yours sincerely,