



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

ATISN 14770

10 February 2021

Dear

ATISN 14770 – Spread of COVID-19 in supermarkets

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 15 January. You requested the following information -

1. *A copy of the "significant scientific evidence of the spread of Covid-19 within supermarkets in Wales" referred to by the First Minister as justification for the change in secondary legislation to be introduced.*
2. *A copy of the Scientific evidence available to the First Minister confirming the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 new variant in Wales*

Our Response

The Technical Advisory Cell (TAC) provides scientific and technical advice to support Ministers' to make informed decisions about the risk of transmission. You can view all publications at: <https://gov.wales/technical-advisory-cell>. Specifically, I include the following links for information:

Factors contributing to risk of SARS-CoV2 transmission associated with various settings by the PHE Transmission Group

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/945978/S0921_Factors_contributing_to_risk_of_SARS_18122020.pdf

Technical Advisory Group: variant of concern and education in Wales

<https://gov.wales/technical-advisory-group-variant-concern-and-education-wales>

Technical Advisory Group: statement regarding non-pharmaceutical interventions in the pre-Christmas period

<https://gov.wales/technical-advisory-group-statement-regarding-non-pharmaceutical-interventions-pre-christmas-period>

Technical Advisory Group: Firebreaks

https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-10/technical-advisory-group-fire-breaks_2.pdf

Furthermore, I have attached a paper below published by the Technical Advisory Cell relating to the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 new variant in Wales, together with a link to the four nation's variant counter that may be helpful -

<https://gov.wales/technical-advisory-group-brief-viral-variant-voc-20201201>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-variants-genomically-confirmed-case-numbers/variants-distribution-of-cases-data>

Next Steps

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,