



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

ATISN 14889

March 2021

Dear

ATISN 14889 – Covid 19 Virus

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 14 February 2021. I have interpreted your request as follows:

Please provide a full and accurate list of records held within your Department of Office, and or under your Departments Authority, describing and outlaying within substance the isolation of a 'SARS-COV-2 Virus', directly taken from a symptomatic patient whom is thought to have 'COVID-19' where the sample was not first combined with any other source of genetic material as described hereafter but not limited to (Monkey Kidney Cells aka Vero Cells, Live Cancer Cells) thereby eliminating contamination as a possible alternative source of sampling

Response

The information being requested is readily available and therefore has been exempted under Section 21 on the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I have provided links to where this information can be found for your convenience below.

Welsh Government have not isolated the COVID-19 virus. The Centre for Disease Control and Prevention have successfully managed to isolate the COVID-19 Virus. I have attached a paper below on this matter -

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/lab/grows-virus-cell-culture.html>

A copy of the genomic sequence is available within a paper published by the American Society for Microbiology. I have attached the link below for your convenience –

<https://mra.asm.org/content/9/11/e00169-20>

If you require further information, you may wish to contact Public Health Wales Freedom of Information team using the following email address: foi.phw@wales.nhs.uk

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,