



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

ATISN 15412

09 September 2021

Dear

ATISN 15412 – Wearing of masks

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 09 August. You requested the following information:

Can you please provide me with the data you used to effectively continue with masks?

The data which is used to inform policy for the continued use of face coverings can be found in the following documents published by the Technical Advisory Group and the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies:

[Technical Advisory Group - Updated Advice on Face Coverings](#)

[Application of physical distancing and fabric face coverings in mitigating the B117 variant SARS-CoV-2 virus in public, workplace and community settings](#)

If you have any queries about this request, please do not hesitate to contact me at the address below. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future correspondence.

Please note: the Welsh Government is facing unprecedented challenges during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

As a result resources, both finances and people, are being diverted away from many of our usual activities to deal with the pandemic. This will undoubtedly impact on our ability to comply with the normal requirements for information rights work and as a result you may experience delays when making information rights requests during the pandemic. We thank you for your understanding during this time.

The following is a link to the blog page of the Information Commissioner's web site where you can find an article entitled "FOI and the coronavirus: a measured approach"

<https://ico.org.uk/about-the-ico/news-and-events/icos-blog-on-its-information-rights-work/>

The request you sent me contains personal information about you - for example, your name and address. The Welsh Government will be the controller 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
- 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

The contact details for the Information Commissioner's Office are:

Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Telephone: 01625 545 745 or 0303 123 1113
Website: www.ico.org.uk

Any information released under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or Environmental Information Regulations 2004 will be listed in the Welsh Government's Disclosure Log (at <https://gov.wales/freedom-of-information-responses>).

Yours sincerely,