



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

ATISN 15591

9 November 2021

Dear

ATISN 15591 – COVID passport assessments

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 11 October. You asked –

- 1. Please would you provide the assessment that the Welsh Government used to determine that the recently introduced Vaccine Passes would be of public health benefit.*
- 2. Please confirm if a cost-benefit assessment of their implementation was undertaken. If so, please provide a copy of that.*
- 3. Please confirm if a risk assessment of the use, misuse, and potential future expansion of the passes was undertaken. If so, please provide a copy of that.*

Response

In response to Question 1 and 3. The regulations confirming the mandatory use of the Covid pass in higher risk events and venues came into force in Wales from the 11 October. However, this is not a vaccine passport and the system in Wales, will allow individuals who want to attend these venues to either to show their covid pass to demonstrate that they are fully vaccinated or to show evidence that they have received a negative lateral flow test within the previous 48 hours.

There are a range of publically available documents, including within the UK:

- SAGE:
 - [NERVTAG: Immunity certification, 9 December 2020 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nervtag-immunity-certification-9-december-2020)
 - [NERVTAG: Immunity certification update, 4 February 2021 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nervtag-immunity-certification-update-4-february-2021)
 - [S1082 SAGE 79 Minutes.pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/98242/S1082_SAGE_79_Minutes.pdf)
- UK Government:
 - [COVID-19 Response: Autumn and Winter Plan 2021 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-response-autumn-and-winter-plan-2021)
 - [COVID-Status Certification Review: Report - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/98242/COVID-Status-Certification-Review-Report.pdf)
- Scottish Government: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccine certification: evidence paper - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-vaccine-certification-evidence-paper-2021-09-24/pages/1-1-introduction-and-background.aspx)

- Technical Advisory Cell advice to Welsh Government is published on the website here: ([Advice on coronavirus from the Technical Advisory Cell | GOV.WALES](#))
- The debate in the Senedd, and accompanying Explanatory Memorandum, are publically available: [SL\(6\)053 - The Health Protection \(Coronavirus Restrictions\) \(No. 5\) \(Wales\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 17\) Regulations 2021 \(senedd.wales\)](#)

The Covid pass has been in use for international travel for quite some time, and it has been required over the summer for access to many events and premises across the UK, including in England. The rationale for its use across the UK and internationally has been accepted by all governments in the UK on this basis (NI now also recommending for high risk venues). Similar schemes are in widespread use across the EU and beyond.

In response to Question 2 relating to the cost benefit analysis, the Summary Impact Assessment document below includes an economic impact assessment and was considered by Ministers as part of the previous 21 day restriction review process.

The [Summary Impact Assessment](#) covers the following:

- Wellbeing Impact;
- Economic Impact Assessment;
- Equality Impact Assessment;
- Children’s Rights Impact Assessment (if applicable and not sufficiently covered in the Equality Impact Assessment);
- Human Rights Impact Assessment;
- Welsh Language Impact Assessment.

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
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,