



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

ATISN 15598

11 November 2021

Dear

ATISN 15598 – COVID Vaccination for 12-15 year olds

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 14 October. You asked for:

A list of all doctors, health officials, scientists and government officials involved in the decision to offer COVID vaccinations to 12-15 year olds.

Response

The decision to offer COVID vaccinations to 12-15 year olds was taken on a 4 nation basis by the UK's Chief Medical Officers after reviewing evidence on the public health benefits of extending vaccination to younger people.

The link attached below provides details of the letter sent by the Chief Medical Officers to UK Health Ministers, and includes the terms of reference and key inputs used in coming to their decision.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/universal-vaccination-of-children-and-young-people-aged-12-to-15-years-against-covid-19>

The names of the four Chief Medical Officers in the United Kingdom are as follows:

- Dr Frank Atherton the CMO to the Welsh Government;
- Professor Chris Whitty, the CMO for England and to the UK government;
- Dr Michael McBride the CMO to the Northern Ireland executive;
- Dr Gregor Smith, the CMO to the Scottish government.

The Joint Committee for Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) also advised that the benefits from vaccination are marginally greater than the potential known harms in this age group.

The membership of the JCVI committee can be found here:

[Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

Next Steps

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,