Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

**ATISN 15678** 

December 2021

Dear

## ATISN 15678 - Covid19 Passport Evidence

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 11 November regarding vaccine passports for admission to venues. I have interpreted your request as follows:

On Tuesday 9th Nov 2021, further legislation on vaccine passports for admission to venues was passed. Plaid Cymru voted in favour based upon scientific evidence and you would like:

- 1. A copy of that evidence
- 2. Evidence that a person that has taken a lateral flow test within 48 hours will not be at any risk of infection from a vaccinated person.
- 3. Confirm that a double vaccination is sufficient for the passport or would a booster also be required?

## Our response

- 1. The information that you requested is publically available and I have attached the following links for your convenience:
  - SAGE:

NERVTAG: Immunity certification, 9 December 2020 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

NERVTAG: Immunity certification update, 4 February 2021 - GOV.UK
(www.gov.uk)

S1082 SAGE 79 Minutes.pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk)

UK Government:

COVID-19 Response: Autumn and Winter Plan 2021 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
COVID-Status Certification Review: Report - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Scottish Government:

<u>Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine certification: evidence paper - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)</u>

- Links to the TAC papers were provided to the Cabinet prior to its decision to extend
  the passes to cinemas, theatres and concert halls and can be found on the following
  link: Advice on coronavirus from the Technical Advisory Cell | GOV.WALES
- With reference to the claim made in the debate on the 9<sup>th</sup> by Rhun Ap Iorwerth, I refer to the following link to the article and research. Community transmission and viral



<u>load kinetics of the SARS-CoV-2 delta (B.1.617.2) variant in vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals in the UK: a prospective, longitudinal, cohort study - The Lancet Infectious Diseases</u>

- 2. Welsh Government does not hold the information requested. The result of a lateral flow test provides information about the infection status of the individual tested. The test does not, in and of itself, confer any protection to the tested individual against the transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 virus from an infected person. Vaccination is one of our best defences against the spread of coronavirus, however, no vaccine is 100% effective and some fully vaccinated people could still become infected or pass the virus to others without knowing. The more people that are vaccinated, the lower the risk to everyone else.
- 3. Welsh Government is able to confirm that at present, evidence of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19, a negative lateral flow test taken within 48 hours before the event or attending a venue indicating a negative result is sufficient. Any updates will be published here.

## **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,