



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

ATISN 15768

19 January 2022

Dear

### **ATISN 15768 – The science used to invoke lockdown**

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 29 December 2021. You requested the following:

- 1. The science that Mr Drakeford has used to invoke lockdown.*

### **Our Response**

The information you have requested is publically available.

The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) Regulations 2022 provides for four alert levels, set out in the Coronavirus Control Plan. These describe the measures the Welsh Government would put in place to control the spread of coronavirus and protect people's health, depending on the state of the epidemic across Wales.

The different iterations of the Coronavirus Control Plan are published here:

<https://gov.wales/coronavirus-control-plans>

Alert level four in the Coronavirus Control Plan includes a requirement for people to stay at home, commonly referred to as 'lockdown'. This was last put in place 13 months ago, on 20 December 2020, and was the last time a decision was made to require these protections.

More recently a limited number of less intrusive additional protections were introduced on 26 December 2021, moving Wales to a modified alert level two.

Information on the science and data used to inform all decisions on coronavirus measures are published, with links to key data sources provided at **Annex 1** to this letter. The Welsh Government also publishes advice from the Chief Medical Officer on coronavirus protections. Links are provided in **Annex 1** to key documents for the decisions referred to above, made in December 2020 and December 2021.

I regret to inform you I will not be advising the First Minister to hold a televised meeting for you to discuss further. The First Minister has an extremely busy diary and this means it is difficult for him to attend every event and meet every person who wishes to see him.

## Next Steps

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](mailto:DataProtectionOfficer@gov.wales)

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>).

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](mailto: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,

## Annex 1

### Decision to move to alert level four on 20 December 2020

- Technical Advisory Group Policy Modelling: December 2020 and January 2021 (18 December 2020). <https://gov.wales/technical-advisory-group-policy-modelling-december-2020-and-january-2021>
- Advice from the Chief Medical Officer for Wales (19 December 2020). <https://gov.wales/chief-medical-officer-statement-amendments-health-protection-coronavirus-restrictions-no-5>
- First Minister Statement (19 December 2020). <https://gov.wales/first-minister-statement-19-december>
- Written Statement: Alert level four restrictions (19 December 2020). <https://gov.wales/written-statement-alert-level-four-restrictions>
- Welsh Government Impact Assessment Alert levels and restrictions in Wales: children's rights (published 21 December 2020). <https://gov.wales/alert-levels-and-restrictions-wales-childrens-rights-html>

### Decision to move to amended alert level two on 26 December 2021

- Advice from the Technical Advisory Group (15 December 2021). <https://gov.wales/technical-advisory-group-advice-cabinet-weekly-covid-19-review-15-december>
- Technical Advisory Group: policy modelling update (17 December 2021). <https://gov.wales/technical-advisory-group-policy-modelling-update-17-december-2021>
- Statement by the Chief Medical Officer COVID-19 Review (22 December 2021). <https://gov.wales/statement-chief-medical-officer-covid-19-review-21-days-22-december-2021>
- Written Statement: Review of the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No.5) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (22 December 2021). <https://gov.wales/written-statement-review-health-protection-coronavirus-restrictions-no5-wales-regulations-2020-0>

Links to the primary sources of, and summaries of, data used to support decisions to amend the various Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (Wales) Regulations are set out below. These also include links to further sources of information, such as wider Technical Advisory Cell reports, which synthesise data from a range of sources including the UK Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE).

### Welsh Government statistics and research on coronavirus

- Coronavirus (Covid-19) related statistics and research. <https://gov.wales/coronavirus-covid-19-related-statistics-and-research>.
- Welsh Government Survey of public views on the coronavirus (COVID-19). <https://gov.wales/survey-public-views-coronavirus-covid-19>
- Welsh Government Test, Trace, Protect (contact tracing for coronavirus (COVID-19)). <https://gov.wales/test-trace-protect-contact-tracing-coronavirus-covid-19>
- Covid-19 Situation Reports. <https://gov.wales/covid-19-situational-reports>

#### **Office of the National Statistics data**

- Office of the National Statistics Coronavirus research. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases>
- Office of the National Statistics Coronavirus (COVID-19) Infection Survey, UK. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/bulletins/coronaviruscovid19infectionsurveysurvey/pilot/previousReleases>

#### **Public Health Wales (PHW) data**

- PHW Headline summary data. <https://public.tableau.com/profile/public.health.wales.health.protection#!/vizhome/RapidCOVID-19virology-Public/Headlinesummary>

#### **Technical Advisory Cell reports**

- A summary of what TAC do including publications of all reports. <https://gov.wales/technical-advisory-cell>
- Technical Advisory Group – High level summary of evidence on costs and benefits and potential mitigations for measures to address Covid-19 in Wales (published 25 November 2020). <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-12/technical-advisory-group-summary-of-evidence-on-costs-and-benefits-and-potential-mitigations-for-measures-to-address-covid-19-in-wales.pdf>

#### **Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) reports**

- UK-wide scientific evidence supporting the government response to coronavirus (COVID-19). <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/scientific-evidence-supporting-the-government-response-to-coronavirus-covid-19>