



Ref: ATISN 16456

27 July 2022

Dear ,

### **ATISN 16456 – Mask Evidence**

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) (FOIA) received on 06 July 2022 relating to face coverings and vaccines. I have interpreted your requested as follows:

- *Provide scientific and/or medical evidence that face masks/coverings are effective at reducing coronavirus infections?*
- *Confirm whether Graphene Oxide is not found in the COVID-19 vaccines?*

### **Our Response**

1. The scientific and technical evidence on the use of face coverings is available in the following documents published by the Welsh Government's Technical Advisory Group and Technical Advisory Cell as well as the UK Health Security Agency

[Face coverings and COVID-19: statement from an expert panel - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/face-coverings-and-covid-19-statement-from-an-expert-panel)

[Technical Advisory Group: Consensus statement on face masks for the public | GOV.WALES](#)

[Technical Advisory Group: updated advice on face coverings | GOV.WALES](#)

[Technical Advisory Cell: use of face coverings in the context of COVID-19 | GOV.WALES](#)

[Technical Advisory Group: face coverings for children and young people in education settings | GOV.WALES](#)

[Technical Advisory Group: use of face coverings in childcare and educational settings for Under 18s | GOV.WALES](#)

2. I can confirm that that there is no Graphene Oxide in the COVID-19 vaccines licensed for use in the UK -Individual information for the vaccines licensed for use in the UK can be found using the following link: <https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/> under SmPCs and by navigating the '*MEDICINE*' drop down box.

### **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](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,