

12 July 2022

Dear

ATISN 16440 – Face Coverings

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) (FOIA) received on 29 June 2022 relating to face coverings. You have requested:

- *Provide the information that justifies the imposition of mask wearing policies? “information” means written science, ie the studies, articles or reports that contain the science that justifies imposing mask policies.*

Our Response

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 \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[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](#)

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