



Ein cyf/Our ref EM/11569/21

Jack Sargeant MS
Chair - Petitions Committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

08 September 2021

Dear Jack,

Thank you for your letter of 22 July about Petition P-06-1171 Publish clear evidence that Covid 19 is spread by pubs and restaurants practising social distancing.

The period that this petition covers is for the National fire-break which started at 6pm on Friday 23 October and ended on Monday 9 November.

The coronavirus regulations in Wales are kept under constant review to ensure they are proportionate to the public health situation. They are formally reviewed every 21 days, taking account of the latest scientific evidence, with all major decisions in relation to the coronavirus emergency being taken or approved by the First Minister, in consultation with the Welsh Government Cabinet.

When restrictions are no longer proportionate, Welsh Ministers are committed to amending or withdrawing them. The reviews consider the most recent public health situations as well as wider financial and well-being implications, with evidence from the [Technical Advisory Cell \(TAC\)](#) which includes, weekly summaries of advice, surveillance data (including the R value) and reports about specific issues. Welsh Government officials are also regular contributors at the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE), and their outputs are published [here](#).

Looking forward, we have published a summer 2021 update of our Coronavirus Control Plan, it sets out how we can move to a new alert level zero, which will see us gradually move away from complex legal restrictions.

The Cabinet's intention was that Wales should move to [alert level zero](#) on 7 August, which we have now done. The First Minister has been very clear that coronavirus has not gone away. Here in Wales we will not abandon all the simple measures which have done so much to keep us all safe.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Gohebiaeth.Eluned.Morgan@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Eluned.Morgan@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

At alert level zero, carrying out a coronavirus risk assessment will continue to be a legal requirement for businesses, employers and event organisers. There will also still be a requirement to put in place reasonable measures to manage the risk of coronavirus but they will be for each organisation to determine based on the outcome of the risk assessment.

Each business or organisation will need to consider what measures are reasonable to put in place, which should include a combination of measures. These will determine what reasonable measures are needed to be put in place to keep workers and customers and visitors safe.

As we enter a new phase of the pandemic, the First Minister has set out a new longer-term plan for the summer which will help to enhance what is already looking to be a successful and busy summer for the visitor economy in Wales. However, we still all need to take steps to protect ourselves, and to work together to keep Wales safe. This will include making sure that our visitors are aware that Welsh Covid rules will apply in Wales and that in some ways these will differ from rules in place in other parts of the UK.

We all have a really important part to play to keep Wales, our visitors, workers and communities safe as we head into the summer. Visit Wales' Addo campaign has been running since restrictions were lifted in March to encourage the people of Wales and visitors to look after each other and to remain respectful of the countryside and the communities we visit.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. E. Morgan'.

Eluned Morgan AS/MS

Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services