



Ein cyf/Our ref RE/00147/20

Elin Jones AM  
Presiding Officer  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

6 March 2020

Dear Llywydd,

### **The Health Protection (Notification) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2020**

In accordance with section 11A(4) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1946, as inserted by Sch.10 para 3 of the Government of Wales Act 2006, I am notifying you that this Statutory Instrument (SI) will come into force less than 21 days from the date of laying. The Explanatory Memorandum for these Regulations is attached for your information.

The 2020 Regulations amend the Health Protection (Notification) (Wales) Regulations 2010 ("the Principal Regulations"). The Principal Regulations place obligations on various persons for the purpose of preventing, protecting against, controlling or providing a public health response to the incidence or spread of infection or contamination. This includes the duty to on health professionals to notify relevant local authority public health staff if they discover the presence of 'notifiable diseases' and 'causative agents' in their patients or elsewhere.

The 2020 Regulations amend the principle regulations by inserting 'Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)' into the schedule 1 list of 'Diseases and Syndromes' and 'Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)' (the causative virus of coronavirus disease) into the schedule 2 list of 'Causative Agents' for which a duty of notification will now apply.

The 2020 Regulations were made and laid as soon as practicable on public health grounds in order to ensure appropriate procedures are in place for monitoring and containing the spread of the disease. As a result, they have come into force less than 21 days after they were made.

Not adhering to the 21 day convention allows the Regulations to come into force on 5 March 2020 and in view of the circumstances surrounding this disease the reduced period is therefore thought necessary and justifiable in this case.

An Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared and this has been laid, together with the Regulations, in Table Office.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:  
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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.

A copy of this letter goes to Mick Antoniw AM, Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, Sian Wilkins, Head of Chamber and Committee Services and Julian Luke, Head of Policy and Legislation Committee Service.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca Evans." The script is cursive and fluid.

**Rebecca Evans AC/AM**

Y Gweinidog Cyllid a'r Trefnydd  
Minister for Finance and Trefnydd