



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

ATISN 15048

23 April 2021

Dear

### **ATISN 15048- Wearing Masks Indoors**

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 4 April 2021. You have requested information regarding the use of masks indoors as follows;

a) *Evidence used in determining the mandate for the wearing of masks indoors*

### **Our Response**

The following advice from the Technical Advisory Group sets out the most recent evidence about the effectiveness of face coverings and the risks and benefits:

[https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-08/technical-advisory-group-updated-advice-on-face-coverings\\_1.pdf](https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-08/technical-advisory-group-updated-advice-on-face-coverings_1.pdf)

The UK Government has also published an evidence paper relating to physical distancing and fabric face coverings:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/957010/s1029-emg-face-coverings-distancing.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/957010/s1029-emg-face-coverings-distancing.pdf)

### **Next Steps**

The request you sent me contains personal information about you - for example, your name and address. The Welsh Government will be the data processor 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
- to 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)

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,