



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

ATISN 15514

04 October 2021

Dear

### **ATISN 15514 – Cost of COVID-19 testing from CTM providers**

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 15 September. You requested the following -

- *Why do you force Welsh residents to pay £68 for a test instead of £20?*
- *How the Welsh Government has benefited from the deal you made with CTM.*
- *Please disclose the full contract between the Welsh Government and CTM, highlighting the profits and benefits the Welsh Government are due or have received from this.*

### **Response**

As of 21st September, people travelling to Wales can access tests from a wider selection of test providers. This coincides with the introduction of new legislative standards for private test providers, to ensure test results and genome sequencing are processed and reported quickly and within a comparable time period to NHS tests. Prior to this date, the Welsh Government required the tests people must take following their arrival to Wales to be provided by the NHS. NHS tests are booked through the CTM web portal. CTM are the booking agent for NHS tests, they are not the test provider. The price for NHS tests is the same across the UK, and is set by the UK Government. NHS tests are processed through the UK Lighthouse Laboratory network, which means we can identify positive cases quickly with results flowing directly to our Test, Trace, Protect system for follow up.

The UK Government's Department of Health and Social Care hold and manage the contract with CTM on behalf of all four UK nations. Therefore, no profits or benefits are received by Welsh Government as a result of the arrangement with CTM.

### **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  
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,