



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

ATISN 15663

29 November 2021

Dear

### **ATISN 15663 – Covid19 Passport Scheme**

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 08 November regarding the Covid19 Passport Scheme. You requested the following information:

*Recently passed legislation (Covid Passport scheme) requires people to provide either proof of vaccinations or a negative Lateral Flow Tests (LFT) to gain access to theatres, cinemas, and concert halls from the 15th November 2021*

- 1. How was this decision reached, what was the scientific evidence/data that was used, and how many cases of Covid19 have actually been attributed to each of these 3 venues?*
- 2. What data/science has been used that has proven that these 3 venues are more of a risk of Covid19 than visiting either rugby or football clubs with less than 10,000 people which have no restrictions at all.*
- 3. What data/science has been used that has proven that these 3 venues are a higher risk of Covid19 than visiting a public house (pub) which is an indoor venue too?*

### **Our response**

The introduction of the COVID Pass builds on the measures in place to help to keep Wales safe and open during the pandemic. Covid Passes have been in use for international travel for quite some time, and it has been required over the summer for access to many events and premises across the UK, including in England. The rationale for its use across the UK and internationally has been accepted by all governments in the UK on this basis (NI now also recommending for high risk venues). Similar schemes are in widespread use across the EU and beyond.

Question 1.

- a. The debate in the Senedd, and accompanying Explanatory Memorandum, are publically available: [SL\(6\)053 - The Health Protection \(Coronavirus Restrictions\) \(No. 5\) \(Wales\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 17\) Regulations 2021 \(senedd.wales\)](#)

- b. The evidence that was used to enable a decision to be reached include the following:
- SAGE:  
[NERVTAG: Immunity certification, 9 December 2020 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nervtag-immunity-certification-9-december-2020)  
[NERVTAG: Immunity certification update, 4 February 2021 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nervtag-immunity-certification-update-4-february-2021)  
[S1082\\_SAGE\\_79\\_Minutes.pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/94444/S1082_SAGE_79_Minutes.pdf)
  - UK Government:  
[COVID-19 Response: Autumn and Winter Plan 2021 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/covid-19-response-autumn-and-winter-plan-2021)  
[COVID-Status Certification Review: Report - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/94444/COVID-Status_Certification_Review_Report.pdf)
  - Scottish Government:  
[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccine certification: evidence paper - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/bin/view/gov/Document/Coronavirus_COVID-19_vaccine_certification_evidence_paper)
  - Technical Advisory Cell advice to Welsh Government is published on the website [here](#)
  - Reference made in the debate on the 9<sup>th</sup> by Plaid Cymru to the article and research. [Community transmission and viral load kinetics of the SARS-CoV-2 delta \(B.1.617.2\) variant in vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals in the UK: a prospective, longitudinal, cohort study - The Lancet Infectious Diseases](https://www.thelancet.com/journal/S0140-6736(21)00444-1)
  - Further information on the NHS Covid Pass can be found here: [Get your NHS COVID Pass | GOV.WALES](https://www.nhs.uk/covid-pass)
- c. Welsh Government does not hold this information.

#### Question 2 & 3

The information that you have requested can be found by following the links below:

- [technical-advisory-group-advice-on-vaccine-passports.pdf \(gov.wales\)](#)
- [technical-advisory-group-updated-advice-on-face-coverings\\_1.pdf \(gov.wales\)](#)

#### 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](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,