

Dear *****

Thank you for your email below. I have been asked to reply. I apologise for the delay in responding - the Welsh Government has received an unprecedented amount of correspondence regarding the pandemic and I trust that you will understand why we have not replied sooner.

The response to the Coronavirus pandemic is a fast-moving and evolving situation and all possible resources across Welsh Government and the NHS in Wales are now directed to tackling Covid-19. I hope you understand that at this time we are unable to respond to individual queries relating to the pandemic. As I'm sure you will appreciate, these are extraordinary times and we find ourselves in an unprecedented situation. We must therefore continue to be guided by medical experts and public health authorities. Should their advice change, our policy and guidance will be updated to reflect that.

Since you contacted us there have been many changes to the restrictions previously in place.

The Welsh Government Technical Advisory Cell, which provides scientific and technical advice to support Welsh Government decision making, has published two papers on this topic:

1. [Technical Advisory Cell: Principles for using RT-PCR test to detect SARS-CoV-2](#), published 15th July
2. [Technical Advisory Group: consensus statement on post-mortem testing](#), published 23rd July

Death Certification is a reserved area. The UK government (Office of National Statistics and Her Majesty's Passport Office) has issued the following guidance to all medical practitioners in England and Wales for use during the emergency period:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-notes-for-completing-a-medical-certificate-of-cause-of-death>

The Welsh Government guidance below has been circulated to medical practitioners in Wales in relation to the excess death provisions of the Coronavirus Act 2020.

<https://gov.wales/coronavirus-act-guidance-excess-death-provisions>

Regular updates on the response to the pandemic will also be provided on our website at: <https://gov.wales/coronavirus>
The latest information from Public Health Wales is available here: <https://phw.nhs.wales/topics/latest-information-on-novel-coronavirus-covid-19/>

The latest news can be seen on Twitter account: <https://twitter.com/WelshGovernment>

A set of frequently asked questions is here: <https://gov.wales/coronavirus-regulations-guidance>

Announcements about further changes to the Welsh Government approach for moving out of lockdown will be published

here: https://gov.wales/announcements/search?field_policy_areas%5B980%5D=980&keywords=&published_after=&published_before=&page=0

Thank you for your understanding at this extremely busy time.

Yours sincerely,

PETER JONES
Deputy Director of Operations