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Our ref: ATISN 14524  
Date: 4 December 2020

Dear Mr Jones

### **ATISN 14524 - Covid 19 Caerphilly Local Lockdown**

Thank you for your request which I received on 8 November. You asked for the following information:

**A copy of the "*Impact Assessment*" undertaken to inform the ministerial lockdown decision.**

On 8 September, the Welsh Ministers - following meetings with local authority leaders and other public authorities - agreed to establish a Local Health Protection Area (LHPA) in the County Borough of Caerphilly because of the emergency situation emerging in the Borough. This decision was supported by the Chief Medical Officer and followed the advice of the Aneurin Bevan Health Board. At the time the decision was made Caerphilly had the highest incidence rate of coronavirus in Wales, which was growing more quickly than any other part of Wales.

An impact assessment was not prepared in relation to these regulations due to the need to put them in place urgently as part of the ongoing response to a serious and imminent threat to public health. The Welsh Government has published a series of impact assessments on coronavirus, including the evidence of socio-economic and equality impacts of restrictions considered by Welsh Ministers (<https://gov.wales/impact-assessments-coronavirus>). This includes an integrated impact assessment covering social gathering and travel (<https://gov.wales/summary-restrictions-social-gathering-and-travel-business-closures-and-attendance-school>) which were principal restrictions introduced in Caerphilly.

The advice received by Welsh Ministers from the Technical Advisory Cell (TAC) on 25 September can be found here: <https://gov.wales/technical-advisory-cell-summary-advice-25-september-2020> and advice from the SAGE advisory group on Non Pharmaceutical Interventions can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/npis-table-17-september-2020>) The rising risks of Covid related health impacts were balanced against the social and economic impact of restrictions with financial support put in place for businesses suffering hardship.

Information can be found on the [Business Wales website](https://businesswales.gov.wales/coronavirus-advice/) (<https://businesswales.gov.wales/coronavirus-advice/>)

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

Nia Lewis