



Cabinet Office

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5 October 2021

Dear Wynne Jones,

Thank you for contacting the Cabinet Office on 23 February 2021 regarding Covid 19 - Vaccine Passports.

On 19 July, the Prime Minister served notice that by the end of September, the Government was planning to make full vaccination a condition of entry to nightclubs and other venues where large crowds gather.

The gap between this announcement and intended implementation has given people sufficient time to receive two doses of a vaccination. Since 19 July, almost 7.4 million doses have been administered to adults 18 and older in England, considerably bolstering the level of immunity in the population. At the same time, more than 200 events and venues have made voluntary use of certification and the NHS Covid Pass as a condition of entry.

On 14 September, the Prime Minister set out the government's plan to manage COVID-19 throughout autumn and winter. In light of growing voluntary uptake of certification, and considering the latest data on the state of the epidemic, the Government has decided not to introduce mandatory vaccine-only certification from the end of September.

However, as the Prime Minister also set out, autumn and winter could pose renewed challenges and it is difficult to predict the path of the virus with certainty. So as the public would expect, there will be a range of 'Plan B' measures kept under review to help control transmission of the virus and ensure the

NHS does not become overwhelmed, while minimising economic and social damage. Plan B would include introducing mandatory vaccine-only Covid status certification in a limited number of settings. It will be kept in reserve as a potential option as part of Plan B if the data suggests action is required to prevent unsustainable pressure on the NHS.

On 27 September the government published a detailed policy statement outlining the proposals on mandatory vaccine certification in a Step B scenario, so that organisations and individuals can understand the policy and can prepare their own contingency plans should mandatory certification be implemented. In parallel, the government has also issued a call for evidence, inviting submissions from stakeholders to ensure the proposed measures would be proportionate and effective in the event mandatory certification was introduced.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/proposal-for-mandatory-covid-certification-in-a-plan-b-scenario/proposal-for-mandatory-covid-certification-in-a-plan-b-scenario>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/proposal-for-mandatory-covid-certification-in-a-plan-b-scenario-call-for-evidence>

Yours sincerely

Naomi

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