



Elin Jones, MS
Llywydd
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1SN

10 February 2022

Dear Elin

The Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) (Wales) Regulations 2022

In accordance with section 11A(4) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1946 I am notifying you that this statutory instrument has not adhered to the 21 day convention and will come into force at 04:00 hours on Friday 11 February.

I attach a copy of the statutory instrument and I intend to lay this and an accompanying Explanatory Memorandum once the instrument has been registered.

This statutory instrument revokes the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (“the 2020 regulations”). The statutory instrument changes and consolidates the requirements set out in the 2020 regulations. The key differences in the statutory instrument when compared to the 2020 regulations are:

- 16 countries have been added to the list of recognised vaccination programmes and transitional arrangements are implemented for persons isolating in Wales who have been vaccinated in those countries (such persons can cease isolating);
- the testing and isolation requirements for arriving travellers have been changed significantly so that;
 - “eligible travellers” (which includes fully vaccinated persons and those under 18) are not required to undertake any testing (and, in line with the extant position, are not required to isolate on arrival);
 - Non-eligible travellers who began their journey outside the common travel area will not be required to isolate on arrival in Wales. They will still be required to take a pre-departure test and a day 2 test;

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

- Positive cases will have to isolate in accordance the requirements in the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions (No. 5) (Wales) Regulations 2020;
- the time at which a passenger locator form can be completed has been changed to not more than 3 days before a person arrives in Wales;
- the information required in a passenger locator form has been changed;
- the requirements for isolation following positive day 2 test have been changed, so that a person who tests positive must follow the isolation requirements of the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) Regulations 2020;
- exemptions for arriving travellers to requirements to complete a passenger locator form and undertake testing have been changed.

The statutory instrument also revokes Part 3 of the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel and Notification) (Wales) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2021. This returns the Health Protection (Notification) (Wales) Regulations 2010 to their position as it was prior to the amendments in Part 3 being made. As such, private laboratories must report results of COVID-19 (including genomic sequencing) and influenza to the proper officer of the local authority.

Not adhering to the 21 day convention allows these Regulations to come into force at the earliest opportunity and continue the four nation approach to international travel; in view of the changing evidence on risk in relation to this disease this is considered necessary and justifiable in this case.

I am copying this letter to the Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd, Huw Irranca-Davies MS, Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, Siwan Davies, Director of Senedd Business, Sian Wilkins, Head of Chamber and Committee Services and Julian Luke, Head of Policy and Legislation Committee Service.

Yours sincerely



Eluned Morgan AS/MS

Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services