

Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ81846

Neil McEvoy MS Welsh Parliament Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1SN

30 January 2021

Dear Neil,

I am writing in response to WQ81846: What checks are made of international travellers who must self-isolate in Wales to ensure compliance during the 10-day isolation period?

Passengers travelling to the UK must complete a Passenger Locator Form up to 48 hours prior to travel. This will indicate whether they are required to quarantine or whether they are exempt (based on sectoral/occupational exemptions). PHW writes electronically to all non-exempt UK port arrivals who arrive in Wales from any country outside the Common Travel Area. This letter highlights the public health importance of quarantine and tells passengers of the requirement to self-isolate for 10 full days starting the day after they left the country of departure. PHW also telephones 10 randomly selected arrivals per day to ask if the information has been received and understood.

Given that enhanced restrictions now apply to arrivals from a number of 'Variant of Concern' (VOC) specified countries, there are enhanced public health follow-up process in place. As well as being issued with an e-mail describing these enhanced restrictions (which includes the requirement for any household members to quarantine as well as the traveller), every traveller is contacted by telephone to explain the quarantine requirement again and to arrange testing for day 7/8 of isolation. If a traveller tests positive then any household member is also tested. All positive results are sent for genome sequencing to determine whether VOC or otherwise.

Yours sincerely,

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Vaughan Gething AS/MS Y Gweinidog lechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Minister for Health and Social Services

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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.