



Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ81839

Darren Millar MS
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

23 January 2021

Dear Darren,

I am writing in response to WQ81839: What consideration has the Welsh Government given to prioritising coronavirus vaccination for ministers of religion and celebrants given their roles in the provision of pastoral care, spiritual care, and funerals?

Wales like other UK nations is vaccinating people who are most at-risk of catching coronavirus and developing serious illnesses first, in line with the recommendations from the JCVI. They have recommended the vaccine be offered to in the first instance to care home residents and frontline health and social care workers, alongside people aged 80 and over. Whilst those working as minister of religion and celebrants have not been identified as a specific priority group by the JCVI, many individuals working in the sector may fall into the age-based or clinically vulnerable groupings on which roll-out will be based. Therefore, they will be offered the vaccine in line with their relative risk.

Yours sincerely,

Vaughan Gething AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Iechyd 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.