

26th February 2021



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Newyddion Coronafeirws COVID-19



Safeguarding Wales

Wales is all in a period of lockdown (alert level 4)

- stay at home
- only meet people you live with
- working from home if you can
- wear a face covering where required
- wash your hands regularly
- wait 2 metres for anyone you don't live with

News Headlines

[Earlier targets for vaccination against COVID and new priorities confirmed for Wales](#)

A revised vaccination strategy for Wales has been published, which confirms that earlier key target dates have been set and that the advice of the Joint

Committee on Immunisation and Vaccination in relation to prioritisation for the next stage of the vaccination process is being adopted.

Supporting 750 entrepreneurs to start a business during the coronavirus crisis

Economy Minister Ken Skates has revealed that the Welsh Government's Business Wales service has supported 750 entrepreneurs to start a business or become self-employed during the coronavirus crisis.

Boost vaccination and testing programmes to help reopen Wales safely

Health Minister Vaughan Gething has announced that the testing programme will be expanded, with vaccinations being given more quickly to help Wales reopen safely.

Ken Skates: "Looking towards a greener, fairer and more prosperous future for north Wales"

North Wales can look to a greener, fairer and more prosperous future and we must work together to address the major challenges we face, said Economy and North Wales Minister Ken Skates.

Education Minister Kirsty Williams doubles funding to support most disadvantaged learners in Wales with £10m package

Education Minister Kirsty Williams confirmed that more than £10m will be provided to extend one of the Welsh Government's programmes that supports the most disadvantaged learners in Wales.

Lifting the ban on the use of plasma donations from the UK to make medication

In line with an agreement between the four countries, Health Minister Vaughan Gething has today (Thursday 25 February) announced that the ban on the use of plasma from the UK to make medication will be lifted.

COVID-19 alert level: update from UK Chief Medical Officers

Message from 4 UK Chief Medical Officers at UK alert level.

Other News

Welsh Government emergency funding for businesses hit by the floods

Up to £2,500 of emergency funding from the Welsh Government will be available to businesses in Wales hit by the recent floods.

Welsh Government sets out mission for a more prosperous, equal and greener economy

As Wales continues to navigate the many challenges of coronavirus, the Welsh Government is setting out how it will work to rebuild the Welsh economy so that it is more prosperous, equal and greener than ever before.

Outline a twenty-year vision for development in Wales

The Minister for Housing and Local Government has launched Wales of the Future, which sets out where housing, employment and infrastructure should be developed to support our towns and cities, decarbonise and ensure a resilient climate, and improve the health and wellbeing of our communities.

'A real inspiration for us all' – First Minister announces St David Awards worthys

First Minister Mark Drakeford has announced the inspirational people shortlisted for the St David Award.

Welsh Government invests £6 million in leading Maesteg paper production company

The Welsh Government is providing £6 million to WEPA UK to support its expansion plans. This will result in the creation of 54 jobs and the safeguarding of hundreds at its Maesteg site.

New law passed to give tenants in Wales greater protection

New legislation has been passed in Parliament, which will provide greater security, stability and security for tenants in their homes.

New scheme to safeguard manufacturing in Wales for the future

The Welsh Government has launched a new action plan to help secure the long-term future of the manufacturing sector in Wales.

Consultation launched on new Bill to improve working practices and create a fair Wales

The Deputy Minister for Housing and Local Government, Hannah Blythyn, has launched an 8 week consultation asking people for their views on a new bill to improve fair working practices and public services, reduce inequalities and create the right economic conditions for a more prosperous economy and workforce.

Welsh Government appoints environmental protection assessor

A very experienced environmental and rural lawyer has been appointed as the interim environmental protection assessor for Wales.

Guidance

[Alert level 4: frequently asked questions](#)

Guidance on how to protect yourself and what rules are in place to protect people at alert level 4.

[Guidance for local authorities on the Childcare Offer for Wales: coronavirus](#)

What local authorities need to do to restart the Childcare Offer for Wales for 3 and 4 year olds.

[Safeguards in childcare settings: keeping childcare safe](#)

How to prepare your childcare service to allow more children to attend, and protect them and your staff from coronavirus.

[COVID-19 vaccination: priorities for individuals with learning disabilities or severe mental illness](#)

Guidance on priority group 6 eligibility for people with a learning disability or severe mental illness.

[Equality impact assessment: school site closure regulations](#)

This impact assessment of the provisions in regulations to close schools to all but certain learners is in January 2021.

[COVID-19 vaccination for unpaid carers](#)

Guidance on COVID-19 vaccination for eligible unpaid carers as part of priority group 6.

COVID-19 workforce risk assessment tool: guidance

Guidance for assessing the risk of the COVID-19 workforce for managers and staff.

Fairness and excellence: our nation's mission report on further and higher education

This plan provides an update on the progress made in post-16 education since 2016, and the actions we have taken in response to COVID-19.

Policy and strategy

Coronavirus management plan: alert levels in Wales (gradual easing of restrictions)

In this update, we set out what has changed since December and what this means for our decisions.

COVID-19 vaccination strategy update February 2021

An update on our COVID-19 vaccination strategy, priorities and achievements to date.

Legislation, Technical Advice and Statistics

Coronavirus legislation and guidance on the law

The laws and guidance on these laws were passed in Wales in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

Evidence and data used to inform coronavirus restrictions

The evidence the Welsh Government is using to decide how to protect everyone from coronavirus.

Coronavirus advice from the Technical Advice Cell

Information to help ministers respond to the COVID-19 pandemic in a way that is in the best interests of the people of Wales.

Technical Advice Cell: council summary 22 February 2021

Summary of COVID-19 advice provided to Welsh Ministers on 22 February 2021.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) related statistics and research

Latest data and analysis on the impact of coronavirus on Welsh society.

Impact assessments: coronavirus

Assessments of how our measures to manage COVID-19 impact on equality.

Promotional Material and Toolkits

Here's sharing with you the latest Safeguarding Wales assets. You can use them on your communication channels – website, newsletter, social media.

[Safeguarding Wales promotional material](#)

This link has been updated.

[Education Assets](#)

This link has been updated.

[Test, Trace and Protect promotional material](#)

Test, Trace, Protect is the Welsh Government's strategy for testing the public and tracking the spread of coronavirus in Wales. There are ongoing Test, Trace, Protect communications to let people know about symptoms, test, self-isolate, contact tracing, self-isolation support and the NHS COVID-19 app. The latest posters, explanation documents and multilingual assets are available here

New videos and social media assets are also regularly produced for stakeholders to share through their own channels. The assets are available to download here - spread these to your networks and use them across your internal and external channels to help share information about Test, Trace, Protect.

[Business Wales Toolkit](#)

Practical resources to help employers keep their employees safe in the workplace.

[COVID-19 risk assessment tool for the workforce](#)

This resource helps you consider your personal risk factors for COVID-19 and recommends how you can stay safe.

NHS COVID-19 App

Do you use the NHS COVID-19 app? The app allows you to report symptoms, order a coronavirus test, and register at locations by scanning a QR code. The app does this while protecting your anonymity. If you have already downloaded the app, remember to use it - the more people use the app, the greater our chances of reducing the spread of the virus. The app is an important part of our Test, Trace, Protect program.

COVID Symptom Study

Help us fight coronavirus by reporting your health on a daily basis, even if you are feeling ok.

You can help the NHS in the fight against coronavirus by completing a daily health survey on the [COVID Symptom Study app](#). This app is suitable for everyone, not just for the individuals with symptoms.

The app will help us understand the symptoms and spread of COVID-19. By answering some quick questions, you can help us plan our response to coronavirus.

We will not share your answers beyond the NHS and trusted organisations working directly with the NHS to respond to coronavirus.

Testing, tracking and protection

A campaign is underway to raise public and key worker awareness of the Welsh Government's Test, Trace and Protect strategy. The latest information on the strategy, including guidance for employers, can be found on the website. (<https://gov.wales/test-trace-protect-coronavirus>). Video material has produced for use in campaigns and for stakeholders to share on its channelling. You can download the [digital material here](#) and we would appreciate it if you would share on your social channelling, in order to share information about the Test, Trace and Protect strategy.

Information



[Education and childcare](#)

Coronavirus guidance for parents, all those working in education and childcare providers



[Businesses and employers](#)

Support to help businesses and third sector organisations affected by coronavirus



[Health advice](#)

Staying at home, self-isolating, being supported as an extremely vulnerable person



[Health and social care professionals](#)

Coronavirus guidance for the NHS and people working in social, community and residential care



[Or](#)

Guidance for landlords, park homes (mobile) and rough sleeping services during the coronavirus pandemic



Travel

Coronavirus advice for people coming back from abroad or planning to travel



Volunteering (third sector)

Volunteering during the coronavirus pandemic, support for the third sector



Community services

Planning, fire, domestic abuse and sexual violence



Jobs, skills and financial support

Help with benefits, staying at work and gaining new skills

Useful links

[Welsh Government](#)

[Public Health Wales](#)

[Business Wales](#)

[Looking at each other](#)

[Volunteering Wales](#)

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A newsletter to provide the latest information and advice from Welsh Government on Coronavirus (COVID-19).

More information on the web:

gov.wales/coronavirus

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