



Ein cyf/Our ref WAQ80126, WQ80200, WQ80253,
WQ80255, WQ80458 and WQ80463

Dr Dai Lloyd MS
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

2 November 2020

Dear Dai,

I am writing to respond to coronavirus-related Written Questions, which you submitted and have not yet received an answer.

Please accept my apologies for the time it has taken to respond to these questions.

Will the Minister state whether the Technical Advisory Cell, Chief Science Adviser and Chief Medical Officer were consulted on the impact that changes in social distancing measures implemented on 11 May would have on the coronavirus reproduction number and its prevalence; and will the Welsh Government publish any advice received? WQ80255

The Technical Advisory Cell published a modelling update on May 7, which was a “snapshot” of the information being used by Ministers to make informed decisions in the best interests of the Welsh population, to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic: <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-05/technical-advisory-cell-modelling-update.pdf>

TAC has published summaries of its advice to Ministers on a weekly basis. The Chief Medical Officer’s advice to Ministers at each 21-day review of the coronavirus regulations has also been published.

Will the Welsh Government state what estimates it has for the average reproduction rate for coronavirus in care homes in Wales? WQ80253

An R value is only available at a Wales level. This is published weekly in the TAC summary reports.

When does the Welsh Government expect to reach its aim of testing all care home residents and staff for Covid-19; and how regularly will tests be administered? WQ80458

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Gohebiaeth.Vaughan.Gething@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales

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.

In my written statement on June 18, I set out the results of the first round of testing for all care home staff and residents: <https://gov.wales/written-statement-covid-19-testing-care-homes>. I also set out that care home staff would continue to be offered weekly tests.

Will the Minister confirm when the earliest discussions took place with the UK Government that related to the ‘world-leading’ test for Covid-19, referred to by the UK Government’s Health Secretary in his statement to the House of Commons on 23 January 2020? WQ80463

We would not use the term “world-leading”. Testing was referenced in the four-nation Covid Action Plan, published on 3 March: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-action-plan/coronavirus-action-plan-a-guide-to-what-you-can-expect-across-the-uk>

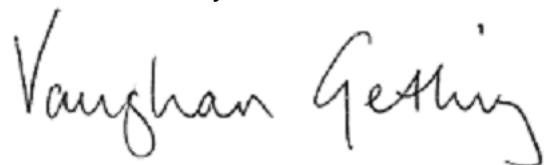
Did the Welsh Government implement the recommendations made by the New and Emerging Respiratory Virus Threats Advisory Group on personal protective equipment in 2016 and June 2019? WAQ80126

We do not receive NERVTAG recommendations as it is an expert committee of the Department of Health.

How many kidney transplants have been undertaken in Wales since the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic? WQ80200

NHS Blood and Transplant publish statistics for the UK. These are available at: <https://nhsbtdbe.blob.core.windows.net/umbraco-assets-corp/20036/monthly-stats.pdf>

Yours sincerely,



Vaughan Gething AS/MS

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