

Shan Morgan
Ysgrifennydd Parhaol
Permanent Secretary



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Rev Ruth Coombs
Head of Wales
EHRC Wales | EHRC Cymru

4 August 2020

Dear Ruth,

Thank you for your letter of 3 July in which you request information on the application of the Public Sector Equality Duty by Welsh Government in relation to Coronavirus legislation and guidance.

The First Minister has been clear that the Welsh Government must and will put equality and human rights considerations at the centre of the response to the pandemic and recovery in Wales, and our work has kept this as the guiding principle throughout.

There has been a considerable effort from across Government and in collaboration with stakeholders to understand the impacts arising from covid-19 and the measures the Welsh Government has decided to put in place to manage covid-19.

The Welsh Government published the approach it will take in assessing whether and when conditions enable specific lockdown restrictions to be eased in [Leading Wales out of the coronavirus pandemic: a framework for recovery](#) on 24 April and [Unlocking our society and economy: continuing the conversation](#) on 15 May. Both these documents embody the Welsh Government's commitment to ensuring decisions to ease lockdown restrictions will seek to deliver a 'high positive equality impact'.

We have published the equality assessments of the measures to manage Covid-19 covering the 21-day reviews. These can be found on the gov.wales website.

- 21-day review of measures to manage COVID-19 (18 June) : equality impact assessment (<https://gov.wales/21-day-reviews-measures-manage-covid-19-18-june-review-equality-impact-assessment>)



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- Assessment of additional measures proposed to manage COVID-19 in Wales from 6 July : equality impact assessment (<https://gov.wales/assessment-additional-measures-proposed-manage-covid-19-wales-6-july-equality-impact-assessment>)
- 21-day reviews of measures to manage COVID-19 (9 July review): equality impact assessment (<https://gov.wales/21-day-reviews-measures-manage-covid-19-9-july-review-equality-impact-assessment>)
- 21-day reviews of measures to manage COVID-19 (16 July review): equality impact assessment (<https://gov.wales/21-day-reviews-measures-manage-covid-19-16-july-review-equality-impact-assessment>)

These documents set out the government's policy objectives and a summary of the impacts of measures to manage COVID-19. Further impact assessments relating to coronavirus legislation and guidance will be published in due course. I have asked colleagues from the Restart and Recovery Directorate to notify you as and when documents are uploaded.

I have also enclosed a copy of the letter from the Minister for Health and Social Services, and Deputy Minister and Chief Whip to the Chair of the Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee on the impact of coronavirus on equality and human rights. This outlines the work we have done and the engagement we have facilitated to listen to the voices of those who are impacted by COVID-19.

We will look to learn the lessons of the past few months to ensure that consideration of impact remains an integral part of how decisions are made by the Welsh Government. Whilst we were not able to meet in April as planned, I would welcome the opportunity to discuss these matters with you.

Yours,

Personal Data

Shan Morgan

Ysgrifennydd Parhaol/ Permanent Secretary
Llywodraeth Cymru/ Welsh Government



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