



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

WRITTEN STATEMENT BY THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

TITLE **Review of the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions)
(Wales) Regulations 2020**

DATE **10 July 2020**

BY **Mark Drakeford MS, First Minister**

The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (the Regulations) place a series of restrictions on gatherings, the movement of people, and the operation of businesses, including closures. They also impose requirements on businesses, which are open to take reasonable measures to ensure physical distancing between people. They are designed to protect people from the spread of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2).

Under regulation 3(2), Welsh Ministers are required to review the need for the requirements and restrictions in the regulations, and their proportionality, every 21 days. The fifth review of these regulations was carried out this week.

The scientific and medical advice shows a coronavirus is continuing to decline in Wales. The number of new confirmed cases has fallen, following a recent increases linked to the two outbreaks at meat and food processing plants in Wrexham and Anglesey and an incident in Merthyr Tydfil.

Our Test Trace and Protect system is working well and – it has played a critical role in our response to the coronavirus pandemic since its launch and will be vital as we continue to ease restrictions.

As I have previously set out, the UK Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) and the Welsh Government's Technical Advisory Cell (TAC) advise that each and every change to the lockdown measures has a cumulative effect. They should therefore be introduced in a phased fashion and carefully monitored. We have already made a number of significant changes to the restrictions in Wales over recent review cycles, including in the last week to lift the stay local requirement and to introduce extended households.