The Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 2020

EXPLANATORY NOTE
(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations amend the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/574 (W. 132)) (the “International Travel Regulations”). The International Travel Regulations have been previously amended by:

- the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Public Health Information for Persons Travelling to Wales etc.) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/595) (W. 136);
- the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel and Public Health Information to Travellers) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/714) (W. 160);
- the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/726) (W. 163);
- the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/804) (W. 177);

The International Travel Regulations impose requirements on persons entering Wales after having been abroad. They include a requirement for persons
arriving in Wales to isolate for a period determined in accordance with the Regulations. The requirements imposed by the International Travel Regulations are subject to exceptions, and certain categories of person are exempt from having to comply. Persons entering Wales after being in one or more of the countries and territories listed in Schedule 3 to the International Travel Regulations are not required to isolate. The countries and territories listed in Schedule 3 are referred to as “exempt countries and territories”.

Regulation 2 of these Regulations amends the International Travel Regulations to add Brunei and Malaysia to the list of exempt countries and territories.

Regulation 4 removes Andorra, the Bahamas, and Belgium from the list of exempt countries and territories.

Regulations 3 and 5 make transitional provision relating to these countries’ change of status. These regulations address potential areas of doubt in terms of the effect on the operation of the International Travel Regulations, of the amendments made by regulations 2 and 4 of these Regulations.

The Welsh Ministers’ Code of Practice on the carrying out of Regulatory Impact Assessments was considered in relation to these Regulations. As a result, a regulatory impact assessment has not been prepared as to the likely cost and benefit of complying with these Regulations.
The Welsh Ministers, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by sections 45B and 45P(2) of the Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984(1), make the following Regulations.

Title, coming into force and interpretation

1.—(1) The title of these Regulations is the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 2020.

(2) These Regulations come into force at 11.59 p.m. on 6 August 2020.

(3) In these Regulations, the “International Travel Regulations” means the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) (Wales) Regulations 2020(2).
Additions to the list of exempt countries and territories

2. In Part 1 of Schedule 3 to the International Travel Regulations (exempt countries and territories outside the common travel area), at the appropriate places insert—

“Brunei”

“Malaysia”.

Transitional provision in connection with regulation 2

3.—(1) Paragraph (2) applies where, immediately before the 7 August 2020—

(a) a person (“P”) was subject to an isolation requirement by virtue of having arrived in Wales from, or having been in, a country listed in regulation 2, and

(b) P’s last day of isolation is the 7 August 2020 or a day after that day.

(2) The addition of the countries listed in regulation 2 to Schedule 3 to the International Travel Regulations does not affect the isolation requirement as it applies to P, nor affect how P’s last day of isolation is determined under the International Travel Regulations.

(3) Paragraph (4) applies where a person (“P”)—

(a) arrives in Wales on or after 7 August 2020, and

(b) was in a country listed in regulation 2 within the period of 14 days ending with the day of P’s arrival in Wales.

(4) For the purposes of regulations 7(1) and 8(1) of the International Travel Regulations, the question of whether P has arrived in Wales from, or having been in, a non-exempt country or territory is, in relation to a country listed in regulation 2, to be determined by reference to whether the country was a non-exempt country when P was last there (and not by reference to the country’s status upon P’s arrival in Wales).

(5) In this regulation, “isolation requirement” has the meaning given by regulation 10(2) of the International Travel Regulations; and references to P’s last day of isolation are to be interpreted in accordance with regulation 12 of those Regulations.

Removal of countries from the list of exempt countries and territories

4. In Part 1 of Schedule 3 to the International Travel Regulations (exempt countries and territories outside the common travel area), omit—

“Andorra”
“The Bahamas”

“Belgium”.

Transitional provision in connection with regulation 4

5.—(1) Paragraph (2) applies where a person ("P")—

(a) arrives in Wales on or after 7 August 2020, and

(b) was last in a country listed in regulation 4—

(i) within the period of 14 days ending with the day of P’s arrival in Wales, and

(ii) before 7 August 2020.

(2) P is, by virtue of having been in that country, to be treated for the purposes of regulations 7(1) and 8(1) of the International Travel Regulations as having arrived in Wales from, or having been in, a non-exempt country or territory.

Mark Drakeford
The First Minister, one of the Welsh Ministers
At 8.38 p.m. on 6 August 2020