Vaughan Gething AS/MS Y Gweinidog lechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ81825

Mark Isherwood MS Welsh Parliament Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1SN

20 January 2021

Dear Mark,

I am writing to respond to a coronavirus-related Written Question, which you submitted and to which you had not yet received an answer. Please accept my apologies for the time it has taken to respond to this question.

WQ81825: What research has been undertaken by the Welsh Government into the risks faced by cemetery staff and funeral workers due to the isolation requirement exceptions contained in Regulation 15 (2) (e) of the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 4) (Wales) Regulations 2020?

The Welsh Government has not undertaken any research into the risks faced by cemetery staff and funeral workers due to the isolation requirement exceptions contained in the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 4) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (succeeded by the No.5 Regulations).

The Welsh Government has sought to ensure that all funerals are as safe and as accessible as possible, for all of those who are invited to attend. All staff should follow the guidance issued on infection control practices for care of the deceased and the <u>funeral guidance</u> which covers taking all reasonable measures to minimise risk of exposure to coronavirus:

I can confirm there have been no clusters or outbreaks of Covid-19 linked to funerals reported to the Welsh Government by the Regional Incident Management Teams.

The isolation exemptions and the wider regulations are kept under regular review and are updated in line with the latest expert advice and scientific evidence.

Yours sincerely,

Vaughan Gething AS/MS Y Gweinidog lechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Minister for Health and Social Services

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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.