



Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ81685

Darren Millar MS  
Welsh Parliament  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

25 January 2021

Dear Darren,

I am writing to response 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.

WQ81685: Will the Welsh Government make a statement on access to the test and release scheme for people returning from overseas to Wales, including where tests will be available, how quickly results will be relayed, and the costs to travellers?

The Welsh Government made provision in the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) (Wales) Regulations 2020 to ensure that travellers entering Wales from overseas countries and territories must isolate for 14 days and provide passenger information, to prevent the further spread of coronavirus. These restrictions came into force on 8 June 2020.

The 'Test to Release' for International Travel scheme is a UK Government scheme for people who need to self-isolate on arrival in England that requires returning travellers to arrange and pay for private tests if they wish to opt into the scheme. UK Government lead on the availability of commercial tests to support this policy. The current position in Wales remains that returning travellers must isolate for 10 days.

I clarified in a written statement on 17 December the position in relation to a person entering Wales who has been released from isolation in England under 'Test to Release' that such a person would still need to complete any outstanding isolation period in Wales, unless entering for a specified purpose, and for no longer than necessary.

Yours sincerely,

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

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

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

[Gohebiaeth.Vaughan.Gething@llyw.cymru](mailto:Gohebiaeth.Vaughan.Gething@llyw.cymru)  
[Correspondence.Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales](mailto:Correspondence.Vaughan.Gething@gov.wales)

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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.