



Eich cyf/Your ref
Ein cyf/Our ref WQ82948

Andrew R T Davies MS
Senedd Regional Member for South Wales Central

AndrewRT.Davies@senedd.wales

13 October 2021

Dear Andrew,

Thank you for your Written Question asking me what pilots and trials local health boards are currently undertaking into infection-control strategies. Please accept my sincere apologies for the delay in responding to you.

I can confirm that health boards and trusts have not been asked to carry out pilots and trials into infection control strategies as, throughout the pandemic, all organisations have been required to comply with the evidence based guidelines produced by the UK Infection Prevention and Control Cell which may be found [here](#). Wales, like all UK countries, has adhered to this guidance and will continue to do so.

In complying with this guidance, organisations have worked to develop reliable systems for the implementation of the hierarchy of controls, exclusion of symptomatic individuals, testing of staff and patients and risk assessment of visitors.

Health boards have also been required to ensure that environmental modifications are in place to enable adequate ventilation, social distancing and safe movement through hospitals.

We have also issued an extensive range of guidance including, most recently, the 'Operational guide for the transition of healthcare environments in preparation for Autumn Winter 2021-22 incorporating COVID-19 measures' which was drafted by leads within Public Health Wales and NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership.

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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.

On 16 July 2021, the Director General for Health and Social Services wrote to chief executives of NHS health boards and trusts to ask for details of the mechanisms by which the organisations' boards gain assurance that all preventive measures, including those on Infection Prevention and Control, are carried out reliably. Responses to this letter are being carefully reviewed.

I hope you find this response helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. E. Morgan'.

Eluned Morgan AS/MS

Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social