



Ein cyf/Our ref : MA-FM-2236-20

Elin Jones, MS
Llywydd
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1SN

9 July 2020

Dear Llywydd,

The Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel and Public Health Information to Travellers) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2020

In accordance with section 11A(4) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1946 (as inserted by paragraph 3 of Schedule 10 to the Government of Wales Act 2006), I am notifying you that this Statutory Instrument will come into force less than 21 days from the date of laying. The Explanatory Memorandum that accompanies the Regulations is attached for your information.

In order to prevent the spread of infection or contamination from coronavirus or coronavirus disease, the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) (Wales) Regulations 2020 were made on 5 June, coming into force on 8 June. Following a review these Regulations are now being amended so as to introduce a list of countries and territories from which travellers to Wales would be exempt from the restrictions imposed by the Regulations as well as amending and extending categories of person who are exempt from those restrictions.

The Regulations made today also amend the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Public Health Information for Persons Travelling to Wales etc.) Regulations 2020 that were made on 15 June and came into force on 17 June 2020 (save for the minor amendments to the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) (Wales) Regulations 2020 which came into force on making). The amendments ensure the on-board statement that operators of air and sea international passenger services must provide to passengers during their journey to Wales is consistent across the UK and provide greater flexibility in how the statement can be delivered.

Not adhering to the 21 day convention allows the Regulations to come into force on 10 July 2020 and in view of the circumstances surrounding this disease the reduced period is considered necessary and justifiable in this case.

Equivalent Regulations were made in England on 6 July, coming into force in stages on 7 and 10 July and similar timeframes are being followed in Scotland and Northern Ireland as part of a 4 nations approach to avoiding the spread of infection or contamination from coronavirus or coronavirus disease in the UK via any imported infections via travellers.

Due to the immediacy of the Regulations they have not been subject to consultation however the Welsh Government has been in regular contact with the UK Government and the other Devolved Administrations in connection with the development and introduction of the Regulations.

An Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared and this has been laid, together with the Regulations, in Table Office.

I am copying this letter to Mick Antoniw AM, Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, Sian Wilkins, Head of Chamber and Committee Services and Julian Luke, Head of Policy and Legislation Committee Service.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca Evans". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rebecca Evans AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Cyllid a'r Trefnydd
Minister for Finance and Trefnydd