



Ein cyf/Our ref DET/03021/20

Janet Finch-Saunders MS
Chair, Petitions Committee

16 November 2020

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your correspondence, regarding petition P-05-1063 to open golf courses during the firebreak.

Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to your query.

As you'll be aware the fortnight-long action was needed to save lives and prevent the NHS from being overwhelmed. Cases of coronavirus have been rising sharply in Wales as the virus has woken up for winter. While the national and local measures put in place across Wales have helped to keep that spread under check, there was a growing consensus that additional action is now needed, with a strong 'stay home message'. Considerations have had to be made around the cumulative impact of all the actions we might make. It is the combined impact of numerous activities which makes the difference, not the risk posed by any one activity.

Following the end of the October firebreak, as of the 9th November a new set of regulations came in for Wales, and many of the frequently asked questions and answers relating to these regulations can be found [here](#). On 2 November the First Minister set out the new national measures that came into effect following the fire-break and confirmed that golf courses and leisure facilities in Wales would be able to re-open from 9 November, and that organised activities for groups of up to 15 indoors and up to 30 outdoors will be allowed across Wales.

I would be grateful if you could please inform your constituent that we fully recognise the enormous efforts and sacrifices the Welsh public and businesses have made to keep Wales safe and to save lives, and are most grateful. The Welsh Government will continue to provide regular updates via the Covid19 press conferences and our social media channels over the coming weeks.

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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.

I hope this clarifies the current position.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Elis-Thomas'.

Yr Arglwydd Elis-Thomas AS/MS

Y Dirprwy Weinidog Diwylliant, Chwaraeon a Thwristiaeth
Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism