Dear Mark

The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 2) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 12) Regulations 2020

Our report on The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 2) (Wales) (Amendment) (No. 12) Regulations 2020 highlighted that keeping up to speed with all the changes to the principal Regulations is becoming increasingly difficult and confusing for members of the public.

In response to this reporting point, the Welsh Government highlighted that it publishes a revised version of the principal Regulations, which is updated after every revision and that this aids accessibility of the law. We welcome and acknowledge this approach, but in our view it does not adequately address our concern about the confusion that exists amongst the public. That concern is highlighted not only by the news article referenced in our report, but also by the sheer number of queries that all members of this Committee (and, no doubt, all Members of the Senedd) have received from members of the public who are confused as to what they can and cannot do.

We appreciate the difficulty the pandemic is causing for legislating in a rapidly changing environment. However, the more confusion that exists amongst the public, the less likely it is that the public will be able, and willing, to comply with the law.

I would be grateful therefore if you could indicate what additional steps the Welsh
Government may take to address the confusion that exists among the public in relation to their understanding of the law that applies at a particular time.

Yours sincerely

Mick Antoniw AM
Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg
We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English