



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

17 February 2022

Dear Elin

The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Public Health Information to Travellers and Operator Liability) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2022

In accordance with section 11A(4) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1946 I am notifying you that this statutory instrument has not adhered to the 21 day convention and will come into force on Friday 18 February 2022.

I attach a copy of the statutory instrument and I intend to lay this and an accompanying Explanatory Memorandum once the instrument has been registered.

This statutory instrument makes consequential amendments to the Public Health Information Regulations and Operator Liability Regulations in consequence of the revocation and replacement of the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) (Wales) Regulations 2020 by the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) (Wales) Regulations 2022 which came into force at 04:00 on 11 February 2022. The Public Health Information Regulations and the Operator Liability Regulations impose requirements on persons operating international passenger services arriving into Wales from outside the common travel area (“operators”).

The Public Health Information Regulations are also to be amended to provide that operators now need only provide specified information to passengers pre-departure and on-board an international passenger service.

Further amendments are also made so that the provision of information prior to departure is simplified and provided only once prior to departure. The information must be issued at least 24 hours prior to departure if the booking was made more than 24 hours before travel, or anytime in the 24 hours before travel if the booking was made within 24 hours of departure.

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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.

In addition, the Operator Liability Regulations are amended to replace the current suite of obligations on operators with an obligation to maintain adequate processes and systems to ensure that passengers possess certain information or evidence. Operators are also required to retain such records and information and are required to show that they have maintained adequate systems and processes.

Not adhering to the 21 day convention allows these Regulations to come into force at the earliest opportunity and continue the four nation approach to international travel; in view of the changing evidence on risk in relation to this disease this is considered necessary and justifiable in this case.

I am copying this letter to the Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd, Huw Irranca-Davies MS, Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, Siwan Davies, Director of Senedd Business, Sian Wilkins, Head of Chamber and Committee Services and Julian Luke, Head of Policy and Legislation Committee Service.

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 Services