



Janet Finch-Saunders MS
Chair
Petitions Committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Seneddpetitions@senedd.wales

10 March 2021

Dear Chair

I am writing in response to your letter dated 16 December regarding a petition asking for any coronavirus-related measures to be subject to a vote in the Senedd.

The Coronavirus Restrictions Regulations are made under Part 2A of the Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984. Section 45R of the Act allows Ministers to make regulations before they are approved by the Senedd if they are of the opinion that, by reason of urgency, it is necessary to make the regulations without a draft being laid before, and approved by, the Senedd.

The Welsh Government is committed to ensuring the Senedd has appropriate time to consider and scrutinise all restrictions. We are in the middle of an unprecedented public health emergency and it has been necessary for restrictions be made under the emergency procedure for reasons of urgency. All restrictions have however been debated and approved in the Senedd. In addition, the Welsh Government has tabled a number of motions to give Members of the Senedd the opportunity to discuss changes to restrictions.

The existing Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) No.5 (Wales) Regulations 2020 require a review of restrictions to be undertaken every 21 days to ensure they are proportionate, effective and necessary.

Best wishes

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400
YP.PrifWeinidog@llyw.cymru • ps.firstminister@gov.wales

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.

Mark Drakeford

MARK DRAKEFORD