



Ein cyf/Our ref: FM -/01596/20

Janet Finch-Saunders MS
Chair of Petitions Committee
Senedd

Petitions@senedd.wales

29 October 2020

Dear Chair

I am writing in response to your letter of 2 October in relation to the petition to adapt the local lockdown message to “stay local”.

During September and the early part of October, local health protection areas (LHPA) were introduced in areas of Wales where cases of coronavirus rose rapidly as a means of protecting people’s health and controlling the spread of the virus.

The local restrictions were two-fold – people were not allowed to enter or to leave an LHPA without a reasonable excuse and they were not able to gather/meet indoors with people they did not live with. The ability to form extended households was suspended for everyone in LHPAs with an exception for single adults living alone and single parents.

These local restrictions have helped to constrain the growth of the virus in Wales. However, in line with the very clear advice from our medical and scientific advisers, these local restrictions have been replaced by the two-week firebreak period, which started on 23 October and will end on 9 November.

This firebreak period is designed to bring coronavirus under control in Wales, prevent the NHS from becoming overwhelmed and save lives.

A new set of measures to control coronavirus will come into force after the firebreak ends.

Best wishes

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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.