

Dear Colleague,

I wanted to provide further context to the announcement made by Welsh Government earlier this evening about our new coronavirus restrictions.

Firstly, I would like to apologise for the lack of advanced notice. As you know, I always like to give you an early 'heads up' before any such significant announcements are made.

I'm sure you can appreciate that today's developments have been very fast moving. Discussions have been taking place most of the day and the announcement was issued early evening, leaving us with very little time to react.

It is unfortunate that these restrictions are being implemented, but it reflects the seriousness of the current situation within the county borough.

I'm conscious that there are many unanswered questions arising from the announcement and we are seeking urgent clarification in order to provide you with more detailed guidance, FAQs and the regulations themselves. We will endeavour to get this to you tomorrow.

As the largest employer within the area we need to lead by example and we all need to play our part over the coming days and weeks to control the virus.

All staff are being reminded that they must work from home if they have the ability to do so. Over recent weeks we have seen an increase in the number of staff returning to the office, but we now need to keep this to an absolute minimum while this spike in cases continues to rise.

I would urge everyone to be vigilant and follow these new measures, because if we all work together we can bring this outbreak under control.

Regards
Christina