



# Department of Health and Social Care

*Rheynn Slaynt as Kiarail y Theay*

**Isle of Man**  
Government

*Reilys Ellan Vannin*

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**Our ref: 1646813**

18<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Mr Gardner

We write further to your request which was received on the 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and states:

**Question 1:**  
**Has Covid 19/21 been isolated?**

**Question 2:**  
**Has covid 19/21 been purified?**

**Question 3:**  
**Has there been a risk assessment on masks?**

**Question 4:**  
**Have all places of business who have mandatory masks done a risk assessment or should they do a risk assessment, in regards to masks? For their employees and customers.**

**Question 5:**  
**Is the sequence in the PCR test SarsCov2?**

**Question 6:**  
**What amplifications has the PCR test been run at?**

**Question 7:**  
**Can you provide the season flu death numbers for 2019 & 2020?**

**Clarification sought:**  
**Regarding questions 1 & 2 when you say 'Has Covid 19/21 been isolated' do you mean has SARS-CoV-2 been isolated? If you don't please can you clarify what you are referring to?**

**Clarification received:**

**Yes, SarsCov2 has it been isolated and purified.**

**Our response:**

**Clarification sought:**

**Regarding questions 1 & 2 when you say 'Has Covid 19/21 been isolated' do you mean has SARS-CoV-2 been isolated? If you don't please can you clarify what you are referring to?**

**Clarification received:**

**Has the SarsCov2 been isolated and purified. To be proven scientifically and proven the virus causes disease.**

**Question 1:**

**Has Covid 19/21 been isolated?**

Regarding SARS-CoV-2 the virus is not isolated.

**Question 2:**

**Has covid 19/21 been purified?**

Regarding SARS-CoV-2 it is not purified.

**Question 3:**

**Has there been a risk assessment on masks?**

The Department has and does risk assessments on masks.

**Question 4:**

**Have all places of business who have mandatory masks done a risk assessment or should they do a risk assessment, in regards to masks? For their employees and customers.**

While our aim is to provide information whenever possible, in this instance the Department of Health and Social Care ("the Department") is unable to provide the information that you have requested. This is in line with Section 11(3)a of the Act, as a practical refusal reason applies; namely we do not hold or cannot, after taking reasonable steps to do so, find the information that you have requested.

Places of business are responsible for undertaking their own risk assessments and setting their own policies for wearing masks.

To provide further advice and assistance guidance on face coverings, including 'face coverings at work' is available within the public domain at:

<https://covid19.gov.im/general-information/guidance-on-face-coverings/>

**Question 5:**

**Is the sequence in the PCR test SarsCov2?**

Yes, the sequence in the PCR test is SARsCov2

**Question 6:**

**What amplifications has the PCR test been run at?**

The amplification is 45 cycles.

**Question 7:****Can you provide the season flu death numbers for 2019 & 2020?**

While our aim is to provide information whenever possible, in this instance the Department of Health and Social Care ("the Department") is unable to provide the information that you have requested. This is in line with Section 11(3)a of the Act, as a practical refusal reason applies; namely we do not hold or cannot, after taking reasonable steps to do so, find the information that you have requested.

However you may wish to re-submit your request to Public Health within the Cabinet Office who may be able to help you. The information you have requested is held by Public Health.

Please quote the reference number 1646813 in any future communications.

**Your right to request a review**

If you are unhappy with this response to your freedom of information request, you may ask us to carry out an internal review of the response, by completing a complaint form and submitting it electronically or by delivery/post.

An electronic version of our complaint form can be found by going to our website at <https://services.gov.im/freedom-of-information/Review> . If you would like a paper version of our complaint form to be sent to you by post, please contact me and I will be happy to arrange for this. Your review request should explain why you are dissatisfied with this response, and should be made as soon as practicable. We will respond as soon as the review has been concluded.

If you are not satisfied with the result of the review, you then have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner for a decision on;

1. Whether we have responded to your request for information in accordance with Part 2 of the Freedom of Information Act 2015; or
2. Whether we are justified in refusing to give you the information requested.

In response to an application for review, the Information Commissioner may, at any time, attempt to resolve a matter by negotiation, conciliation, mediation or another form of alternative dispute resolution and will have regard to any outcome of this in making any subsequent decision.

More detailed information on your right to a review can be found on the Information Commissioner's website at [www.inforights.im](http://www.inforights.im).

Should you have any queries concerning this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Further information about freedom of information requests can be found at [www.gov.im/foi](http://www.gov.im/foi).

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours sincerely

Debbie Hay  
FOI Coordinator