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Freedom of Information request to Public Health Wales

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| Date request received | 29 March 2020 |
| Date information is due to be sent | 28 April 2020 |

Information Requested:

I'm doing some research into the testing system for coronavirus in the UK and wondered if you might be able to help me with a few questions I've been unable to answer with the information available on the internet.

I've managed to find a list of the relevant laboratories in England which are currently approved for testing for coronavirus, but I can't find a similar list for Wales, would you be able to provide me with the information or point me to where it would be located?

Also, are the coronavirus tests being conducted in Wales the same as those being conducted in England? Did Public Health Wales simply follow PHE's lead in terms of what test is used in Wales?

Thanks, and appreciate you must be very busy at the moment so will greatly appreciate it if you manage to send me anything of help on this.

Information provided for the answer:

Thank you for your recent request.

It is the test that is accredited rather than the Laboratory. In Wales, accredited tests are performed at University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff. Accredited tests are to be rolled out to other microbiology laboratories across Wales in the coming weeks.

The Specialist Virology Service based at UHW developed a local test, this is not the same as Public Health England. We do our own evaluation of any tests / platforms to ensure we are content with using them.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of the decision, you should write to the Corporate Complaints Manager, Public Health Wales NHS Trust, 3, Number 2, Capital Quarter, Tyndall Street, Cardiff, CF10 4BZ.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Trust. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner for Wales

2nd Floor
Churchill House
Churchill Way
Cardiff
CF10 2HH

Telephone: 029 2067 8400

Email: wales@ico.org.uk