Freedom of Information request to Public Health Wales

FOI Reference: FOI 527

Date request received: 27th November 2020

Date information is due to be sent: 29th December 2021

Information Requested:

I am attempting to visualise Covid-19 infections by MSOA over time. The purpose of this is to investigate whether breaches during the national lockdown affected North Wales in tourist areas.

As I know which of the MSOAs are tourist areas, and when people tend to come on holiday / go home in Wales (I used to work in the restaurant industry). I’m hoping that visualising this data will show an increase of Covid-19 infections within these tourist areas around the summer holidays, and will help as a warning that people who broke the lockdown had an affect on the infection and death rates within North Wales despite efforts to maintain it.

I can see PHW offer data to the public and it is presented both on the PHW website and the tableau public website, but the data offered is only for the past 21 days and is continually updated.

I would like to (if possible) please request a subset of the database with limited attributes (I don’t need all the columns, but if the only way of obtaining the data is with all attributes I’ll be able to scrub the data for my project), from when the data first started being collected (March), until recently (Any time in November if possible).
I called the phone number available on the PHW website and they gave me this email address and asked that I forward my query to you, as they were unsure about what data they are allowed to offer and what data they aren’t.

I hope you’re able to help me, as this project I felt it the message I am trying to get across is important, and may help to prevent some people flouting a future lockdown just to go on holiday.

I’ll list the query details below just to be clear about what I’m requesting

Time Period – March to November if possible

North Wales Only – (Local Health Board - Betsi Cadwaladr UHB)

Columns required:

- Time Period (7 days)
- Local Authority
- MSOA Code
- MSOA Name (EN)
- MSOA Name (CY)
- Cases

Information provided for the answer:

Thank you for your recent request.

I have consulted with the relevant department and please find attached separately the information held.

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