



**Professor Chris Jones**  
**Dirprwy Brif Swyddog Meddygol**  
**Deputy Chief Medical Officer**

**Llywodraeth Cymru**  
**Welsh Government**

02 September 2020

Dear Colleague,

### **Abortion – Covid-19 – Approval for Mifepristone to Be Taken At Home**

My letter of 3 April informed you of the Minister for Health and Social Services approval of 2 temporary measures in Wales to limit the transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19) and ensure continued access to early medical abortion services:

- women and girls will be able to take both pills for early medical abortion up to 10 weeks in their own homes, without the need to first attend a hospital or clinic
- registered medical practitioners (doctors) will be able to prescribe both pills for the treatment of early medical abortion up to 10 weeks from their own homes

We are aware that the UK Government plans to consult on the temporary arrangements allowing both abortion pills to be taken at home and the potential to make these changes permanent. The safety of women accessing termination of pregnancy services is of paramount importance and consequently Welsh Government is gathering evidence before considering a similar consultation in Wales.

I should be grateful if you would provide me with your views and experiences of how the temporary arrangements have worked within your health board. I am particularly interested in learning of the benefits and negative consequences you feel the arrangements have provided to both the women accessing termination of pregnancy services as well the impact it has had on the service and resources, specifically:

- Have waiting times reduced as a consequence of these arrangements?
- Has there been a reduction in gestational age when services are accessed as a consequence of these arrangements?
- Are you aware of any negative outcomes as a consequence of these arrangements?
- Is there any feedback on these arrangements from clinicians involved in offering termination of pregnancy services?

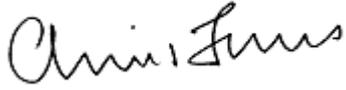


**BUDDSODDWR MEWN POBL**  
**INVESTOR IN PEOPLE**

Ffon/Tel: 03000 257143  
Parc Cathays, Caerdydd CF10 3NQ Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3NQ  
Ebostr/Email: PSCchiefMedicalOfficer@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Please respond to [WomensHealth@gov.wales](mailto:WomensHealth@gov.wales) by 11 September.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**PROFESSOR CHRIS JONES**