



Ein cyf/Our ref: WAQ79986

Angela Burns MS  
Welsh Parliament  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

18 May 2020

Dear Angela,

I write in response to WAQ79986: Will the Minister outline how many people with blood cancer have received a letter asking them to shield at home for 12 weeks and of these how many have (i) chronic lymphocytic leukaemia and (ii) Myeloproliferative neoplasms?

The Welsh Government does not routinely hold information on the medical condition of the patients on the shielded patient list. On this occasion my officials spoke with the NHS Wales Informatics Service and received the following information on the two specific groups identified above (information correct as at 12 May):

1,052 patients who have chronic lymphocytic leukaemia  
1,012 patients who have Myeloproliferative neoplasms

I do not intend to provide detailed breakdowns of the shielded patient list going forward due to the complexity of the process, not least the fact the criteria and data is regularly refined. I can confirm the Cancer Network Information System Cymru (CaNISC) is one of the NHS databases that is regularly searched as part of this exercise to ensure all relevant cancer patients are added to the shielding patient list.

Yours sincerely,

**Vaughan Gething AS/MS**  
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Health and Social Services

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.