## **COVID 19 - Our Statement**

## 16th March 2020

To our valued friends and supporters,

In response to the Prime Minister's statement this evening, advising the UK public to avoid unnecessary social contact, we regret to inform you that Venue Cymru and Theatr Colwyn will not be staging shows or screening films at this time. We will continue to follow guidance as to when we should recommence our programme.

We kindly ask that you do not contact the box office as our teams will be contacting you soon with further details regarding cancelled and postponed events.

We understand that this decision will come as a disappointment and inconvenience, but ultimately we all want the same thing: the health and safety of our communities, and we believe this is the correct decision to make.

Thank you for your patience, understanding and cooperation. We appreciate you support and look forward to welcoming you back to Venue Cymru and Theatr Colwyn again very soon.

## UPDATE: 31 March 2020

## Venue Cymru to be the first location for a temporary hospital in North Wales

The theatre, conference centre and arena in Llandudno will provide an additional 350 beds to support Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board's response to COVID-19.

Venue Cymru will provide hospital beds for patients with respiratory complaints as a result of the symptoms of COVID-19.

The temporary hospital will work alongside the existing capacity available at Llandudno Hospital.

Mark Wilkinson, Executive Director of Planning and Performance, said: "The development of temporary hospitals is an important step in our efforts to respond to the challenge COVID-19 presents.

"We're grateful for the support we're receiving from all of our partners across North Wales in identifying and assessing potential locations for similar sites.

"Conwy Council have provided fantastic support in reaching this stage, and over the coming days we will continue to finalise details on how we will transform Venue Cymru into a temporary working hospital."

Cllr Sam Rowlands, Leader of Conwy County Borough Council, said: "We're eager to do all we can to support our partners at this challenging time, and Venue Cymru was deemed a suitable choice because it offers sufficient space and infrastructure.

"Some of our services have temporarily closed and many of our staff have been redeployed to focus on our priority services, which we want to keep delivering for as long as possible. Repurposing buildings such as Venue Cymru is a key way we can help support the response effort in North Wales."