



Ein cyf/Our ref ATISN 10239

Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

24 March 2016

Dear ,

### Request for Information – ATISN 10239

Thank you for your request for information which I received on 26 February. You have asked for information on the amount of meetings the Welsh Government has had with BAE Systems, Lockheed Martin, Boeing, Raytheon, Northrup Grumman, General Dynamics, EADS/Airbus Group, Finmeccanica, and Thales since 1 January 2010.

I have concluded that to provide the information requested would cost more than the appropriate limit established in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 to consider your request and because of this the regulations allow me to refuse to deal with it. The appropriate limit specified for central government is £600.

When calculating whether or not your request exceeds the appropriate limit I am allowed to consider the time it is likely to take to establish if we hold the information, locate the information, retrieve the information and extract it. If these tasks are estimated to take more than 24 hours of working time, the limit will have been exceeded.

In order to satisfy your request I would need to interrogate several electronic record systems, and also corroborate with staff in the team. In order to estimate the time required for this request I have looked at the Welsh Government's Customer Relationship Management records for Airbus and General Dynamics, which returned over 900 instances of contact – including emails and phone calls – with these two companies. I have also interrogated the Welsh Government's iShare records management system, which contains over 800 items relating to Airbus alone. Assuming it would take an average of 1 minute to review each item to confirm whether it related to a specific meeting, the total time required would be 1700 minutes, or over 28 hours. This exceeds the appropriate limit of 24 hours, without considering the time it would take to corroborate with staff, or interrogate records that relate to the other seven companies noted in your request, or liaise with other Welsh Government departments to analyse and collate any information they may also hold. I am therefore unable to provide the information requested.

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:



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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.

Information Rights Unit, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ or  
[FreedomOfInformationOfficer@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:FreedomOfInformationOfficer@wales.gsi.gov.uk).

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely