



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

3 August 2016

Dear ,

ATISN 10560

Thank you for your requests which I received on the 8 July. You asked:

“May I see copies of the emails between Ceri Breeze and Huw Lewis between May 1st 2011 and July 31st 2011 and also those between Ceri Breeze and Huw Lewis in the whole month of January 2012? Please keep in mind that when I ask for this I am taking into account the point you made that other people might be copied into these emails and I shall expect to see them too.”

From my assessment I estimate that it will cost more than the appropriate limit set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 to answer your request. The appropriate limit specified for central government is £600. This represents the estimated cost of it taking over 24 hours of time to determine whether we hold the information and to thereafter locate, retrieve and extract it.

Based on your request, the information covers the following: :

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- (i) Emails sent by Ceri Breeze i.e. as the “originator” or “sender” to Huw Lewis (to him personally or to him as Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage)
- (ii) Emails sent by Ceri Breeze where Huw Lewis or the Private Secretary for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage” is a cc recipient.
- (iii) Emails sent to Ceri Breeze by Huw Lewis personally or as Minister i.e. where he is the originator/sender. This includes emails sent from the Private Secretary email address.
- (iv) Emails sent by Huw Lewis / Minister / Private Secretary Minister to third parties where Ceri Breeze is also copied in. These would include new emails generated by the Minister or his Private Office but also emails where the Minister/Private Office responds to an email sent to him by a third party - as the Minister would be the originator of the responding email.

In assessing the time it would take to respond to your request, searches of our electronic records management system were undertaken. The searches were based on key words from the categories above. The searches identified a total of 8,106 documents on the system which could be relevant to your request. While your request was limited to defined periods, the large number of documents stems from the fact that your request covered any subject.

The search for documents for each of the categories “(i)” to “(iv)” are not mutually exclusive. Documents caught by a search using one criterion may also be caught by a search using another criterion. For purposes of identifying and extracting information, it’s not possible to strip out duplication, thus all documents would need to be reviewed after they’ve been identified as a result of the search to determine whether they captured by your request.

The total time estimate for the above i.e. to search and extract the information to meet the request is 108 hours, which exceeds the time limit. Should you wish to refine your request by narrowing its scope by being more specific about the information required, this will be treated as a new request.

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:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: FreedomOfInformationOfficer@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference numbers 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