



Ein cyf/Our ref: ATI 10913

24 November 2016

Dear ,

Request for Information – ATISN 10913

Thank you for your request which I received on 11 November regarding self-catering holiday properties. You asked for the following information.

When the legislation changed for business rates for holiday self-catering properties for 2010 – 2015:

1. How many property owners have been found to be claiming self-catering small business rates inappropriately for properties being used primarily for private use?
2. If people have been found in (1) what action has been taken towards them?
3. How many genuine self-catering holiday businesses that have traded for some considerable years, and can prove this with certified accounts, have been penalised because of the new criteria placed on them, and are now being made to pay social and domestic rates retrospectively, from 2010 to 2015?
4. If businesses have been found in (3) how many have been put into financial difficulty or subsequently had to close because of this action?
5. How many appeals have taken place by affected property owners against the new legislation?
6. If there has been any appeals against the new legislation how many have been successful?

The data and information you have requested is not held by the Welsh Government. Any relevant information which is available is held by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) which is the body responsible for assessing and rating properties for the purposes of non-domestic rates and for processing appeals. The VOA compiles, maintains and holds data relating to local rating lists for local authorities which are, in turn, responsible for collecting non-domestic rates.

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 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