



Ein cyf/Our ref ATISN 10935

15 December 2016

Dear

Request for Information – reference ATISN 10935

Thank you for your request which I received on 21 November. You asked for the following information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000):

- 1. Why did Project 2000 come about and who was responsible?*
- 2. Who decided that the valuable State Enrolled Nurses should no longer exist and why?*
- 3. How much in today's money did it cost to train a State Registered Nurse prior to Project 2000? compared with today's Degree nurse training?*
- 4. How much did it cost in today's money to train S.E.N.'s compared with the N.V.Q's today?*

The Welsh Government believes 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.

Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 states a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information in circumstances where it estimates the cost of compliance would exceed "the appropriate limit". The appropriate limit is defined in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. In the case of the Welsh Government the limit is set at £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 (at a standard rate of £25 per hour) the limit will have been exceeded.

Your request is very broad in scope and seeks information covering a period of 10 years dating back to 1990, across a number of departments in the Welsh Government. A preliminary search of the hard files held just by the Health and Social Service department on Project 2000 has identified at least 11 files which would need to be checked, each holding on average 40 documents. We could therefore be potentially dealing with 440 documents. A sample exercise shows that 4 minutes on average would be required to check each document to see if it contains any information from your request. This would mean that it would take over 29 hours to complete.

In addition, in conducting a preliminary search of electronic records held just by the Health and Social Services department on Project 2000, we have identified that at least 70 documents would need to be checked. A sample exercise shows that 3 minutes on average would be required to check each document to see if it contains any information from your request. This would mean that it would take over 3 hours 30 minutes to complete and this is without investigating our email records covering the whole of the period. Therefore the total time required would be over 32 hours. For these reasons I have concluded that your request should be refused on the basis that it exceeds the appropriate limit under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Under s.16 of the FOIA, public bodies are under a duty to provide advice and assistance, as far as it is reasonable to expect. The information you have requested might be obtainable from the Nursing and Midwifery Council via the link below:-

https://www.nmc.org.uk/contact-us/foi-and-dpa/foi-request/? t_id=1B2M2Y8AsgTpgAmY7PhCfg%3d%3d& t_q=freedom+of+information+request& t_tags=language%3aen%2csiteid%3ad6891695-0234-463b-bf74-1bfb02644b38& t_ip=46.254.200.2& t_hit.id=NMC_Web_Models_Pages_FormPage/_Oce9bc74-07ef-4041-9260-2847d34e5fa9_en-GB& t_hit.pos=1

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.

The e-mail address is: 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, who 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

Government Business Team