



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Our ref: ATISN 11312

Date: 23 June 2017

Dear ,

Request for Information – ATISN reference 11312 – Exempted payments

Thank you for your request which was received by the Welsh Government on 25 May 2017. You asked for the following information:

On the Welsh Government's page which details transactions over £25,000*, it says: "A limited number of transactions have been withheld from publication based on exemptions under the Freedom of Information Act 2000."

Please provide the value of each transaction removed from the data under the FoIA, from April 2011 to February 2017, and the specific exemption applied in each case.

The information is not held centrally within the Welsh Government and to locate, extract and retrieve any information held across the organisation would require an exercise to be undertaken by Departments. To answer your request we would need to establish which departments had removed transactions from each monthly report over the period requested by running reports and then conducting a comparison of the published report with all transactions over the limit in each month. We would then need to request those transactions were checked by the department in question as to the reasons for non disclosure, separating redactions under FoI from others under for example the Data Protection Act.

To estimate the time required, we ran a report for one month and compared this to what has been published to produce a redactions list. For that month there were 65 redacted payments. I would estimate that departments would need at least 3-5 minutes to review each transaction but for the older payments this could be much longer or the data may no longer be held by the department in question. On the basis of one month test the time estimated to answer your request is as follows:

To reproduce the report and produce the list of redacted payments, 40 minutes

Departments to review the redacted list, approximately 4 hours

Total for one month = 4 hours 40 minutes

Total for 71 months (April 2011 to February 2017) = 331 hours



You may wish to refine your request by narrowing its scope. This could be by being more specific about what information you particularly wish to obtain, or through considering whether there is a particular period of time relevant to the information required rather than the entire period for which we have published details of these transactions. If you do refine your request in this way, 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 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