

Ein cyf/Our ref ATISN 11477, 11497, 11523

6 October 2017

Dear,

## Requests for Information - ATISN 11477, 11497, 11523

I wrote to you on 13 September following your e-mails of complaint to the Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure regarding the responses you received to three requests for information. You sent one e-mail of complaint on 9 September in relation to requests ATISN 11477 and 11523 and a further e-mail on 12 September in relation to request ATISN 11497, all regarding the Traws Cymru Bus Service.

Freedom of Information requests are matters for Officials and the process for expressing dissatisfaction with your requests was outlined to you in the responses you received.

I have therefore conducted an internal review of your requests in accordance with the procedure outlined in the <u>Welsh Government's Practical Guide for Making Requests</u> <u>for Information</u> which is available by post on request, or via the internet.

I note that we wrote to you on 19 January to explain that the Freedom of Information Act provides a right to ask for recorded information at the time a request is made, and that it does not provide an authority such as the Welsh Government to provide views or opinions where those views are not already recorded.

With the above in mind, I will now address your complaints about your requests for recorded information.



QED Centre Main Avenue Treforest Industrial Estate CF37 5YR

EconomyandInfrastructureFOI@wales.gsi.gov.uk

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.

In relation to ATISN 11477 and 11497, I am satisfied that, as stated in the responses you received, we do not hold any recorded information that would answer these questions.

In relation to your eighth request under ATISN 11497, I confirm that this is the only recorded information we hold in relation to your request for information about additional bus services. Whilst there may have been other additional services provided at other times, we do not hold that information.

In relation to your fourth request under ATISN 11523, the figure of £425,000 is not expenditure. This figure is the amount bid by Powys County Council to the Welsh Government to undertake its proposals in the Powys area under the Traws Cymru scheme. We will not have a breakdown of the exact expenditure until the local authority submits it to us. The bid is broken down into two parts, Part A and Part B, as outlined in the response you received.

The Traws Cymru contract is managed on our behalf by the Local Authorities. The majority of your requests relate to operational or contractual issues which are a matter for the Local Authority and/or the contractors providing the service.

To conclude, I do not uphold your complaint and I trust the above provides a clearer explanation of our position on this matter.

If you remain dissatisfied with this response you also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner at:

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

Tel: 01625 545 745 Fax: 01625 524 510

Email: <a href="mailto:casework@ico.gsi.gov.uk">casework@ico.gsi.gov.uk</a>

Also, if you think that there has been maladministration in dealing with your request, you have the option to make a complaint to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales who can be contacted at:

Public Services Ombudsman for Wales 1 Ffordd yr Hen Gae, Pencoed, Bridgend, CF35 5LJ

Telephone: 0845 6010987 (local rate) Email: ask@ombudsman-wales.org.uk

Yours sincerely

Simon Jones
Director for Economic Infrastructure