Swyddfa'r Prif Weinidog a Swyddfa'r Cabinet

Office of the First Minister and Cabinet Office



Our ref: ATISN 11752 Date: 8 December 2017

Dear ,

Request for Information – ATISN reference 11752

Thank you for your request which was received by the Welsh Government on 22 November 2017. You asked for the following information:

What legal costs were incurred by your authority defending threatened and issued judicial review proceedings over each of the last 5 years (or however many fewer years can be considered within the appropriate FOIA costs limit)? If possible within the FOIA costs limit, please (a) specify the number of threatened and issued judicial review claims for each year, and (b) break the figures for costs incurred down by client department.

I have concluded that to deal with your request would exceed the 'appropriate limit'. Where that is the case, section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 does not oblige a public authority to comply with the request. The appropriate limit specified for central government is £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, to locate the information, retrieve the information and extract it. If these tasks are estimated to take more than 24 hours of working time, the limit will have been exceeded.

In relation to your request, I have estimated that it will cost more than the appropriate limit I've mentioned above.

The information you have sought is not contained in a single source. Multiple data sources would need to be checked in order to establish the specific data you seek. Locating the sources of information, which include electronic registers and archived paper files, will take approximately 8 to 10 hours.

Retrieving the information will take approximately 8 hours.

Once retrieved, extracting the specific information you seek will involve a detailed consideration of several sources of information for each identified year. It is estimated that this will take up to 40 hours in total.



In total, I consider that dealing with your request will take between 56 to 58 hours. Because of this, I am refusing your request under section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

We considered whether it would be possible to provide the information you seek for a more limited time period. However, I anticipate that establishing whether we hold the information for a single calendar year, together with retrieval and extraction would also exceed the appropriate limit.

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