



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Our ref: ATISN 11746

Date: 19 December 2017

Dear ,

Request for Information – ATISN reference 11746

Thank you for your request which was received by the Welsh Government on 21 November 2017. You asked for the following information:

1. What are the total costs of social media (including training) used in the Welsh Government for the past three years (sorted as such)?

I have concluded that to provide the information requested would cost more than the appropriate limit established in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 to consider your request and because of this the regulations allow me to refuse to deal with it. 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 locate, retrieve and extract it. If these tasks are estimated to take more than 24 hours of working time, the limit will have been exceeded.

In the financial year 2016/17 alone, there were over 421 transactions against the nominal codes on our finance system that could contain an element of expenditure on social media. Based on a minimum time of 10 minutes per transaction, it would take 70 hours to identify which of these transactions for the financial year 2016/17 related to social media (421 transactions x 10 minutes = 70hours).

The time it would take to locate, extract and retrieve from our finance system the individual purchase orders, and to determine from the commissioning teams which, if any of the costs related to social media spend, would therefore exceed the specified limit.

2. Details of how much was spent on departmental / government Christmas and New Year parties for the past five years. For clarity, this is defined as parties hosted by staff, ministers, or the First Minister. Invitees do not necessarily have to be from the above categories – if stakeholders or other such people were invited, then they should be included in the figure.

The First Minister's Annual Christmas Media Reception costs are as follows. Invitations would have been extended to a wide variety of media outlets covering the National Assembly. A list of attendees is not held.

2016 £443 (£531.60 inc VAT) - Bar One, WMC.
2015 £529 (£634.80 inc VAT) – Bar One, WMC.
2014 £708.60 (£850.32 inc vat) – Bar One, WMC.
2013 £341.10 (£409.32 inc vat) – at Ty Hywel.
2012 £295.32 (£354.38 inc VAT) – at Cabinet Room, 5th flr, Ty Hywel.

With regard to Welsh Government staff, any costs for parties would be met by staff themselves.

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