



19 March 2018

Dear ,

Request for Information – ATISN 12102

I wrote to you on 26 February regarding your request for information in relation to Sport Wales. You asked for:

1. The release of all available correspondence on Welsh Government servers or other documents relating to Sport Wales, including:
 - a. The appointment of Dr Paul Thomas;
 - b. The organisation's review conducted by Dr Paul Thomas;
 - c. The suspension, dismissal of Dr Paul Thomas and the Vice Chair.
2. And any other related correspondence on Welsh Government servers or other documents relating to Sport Wales between the period of March 2016 and July 2017.

In my letter of 26 February, I explained that dealing with your request would likely be very time consuming to deal with and I provided you with advice and examples of how you may wish to reduce your request to bring it within scope. As you have not provided a refined request, I have considered your request as originally submitted.

From my preliminary assessment I estimate 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. The appropriate limit specified for central government is £600. This represents the estimated cost of it taking over 24 hours of time to determine whether we hold the information and to thereafter locate, retrieve and extract it.



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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 .

Whilst you have asked for some specific information, you have also asked for *all* correspondence the Welsh Government holds as a corporate body that relates to Sport Wales without specifying a search timeframe or business area. In order to provide you with the information you have requested would require me to search for a significant amount of information, meaning the time it will take to locate, retrieve and extract the information requested will be substantial.

There are several thousand documents saved on the Welsh Government electronic record management in relation to Sport Wales. In addition to locating, retrieving and extracting relevant information from those documents, searches would also need to be undertaken by at least 15 members of staff on their individual e-mail accounts. At an average estimate of one minute per result to check whether it is relevant to your request and then extracting the relevant information, would take one official several working days. Given e-mail accounts would also need to be searched for information which may not yet have been stored on our electronic record management system, the search would extend beyond that timeframe.

Having considered the above, due to the very broad nature of your request, I have concluded 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 deal with your request. I have therefore decided to refuse your request under Section 12 of the FoIA as to comply with it would 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 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