



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Our ref: ATISN 12122

Date: 23 March 2018

Dear ,

Request for Information – ATISN reference 12122

Thank you for your request which was received by the Welsh Government on 23 February 2018.

In response to published information at the following link, you asked for all transactions over £25,000 from November 2017 to January 2018, to include:

- the date;
- value;
- recipient of each transaction; and
- Procurement category of each transaction.

<https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fgov.wales%2Fabout%2Fcivilservice%2Fhow-we-work%2Ffacts-figures%2Fourfinance%2Fexpenditure-over-25k%2F%3Fflang%3Den&data=02%7C01%7CFreedomofinformation%40gov.wales%7Cc71956758c5b4794459208d57ade67c5%7Ca2cc36c592804ae78887d06dab89216b%7C0%7C1%7C636550018004706578&sdata=9MJVnwjV8swllMzkV7ZnMBzS9AzkV7wdjujDB%2B4fITY%3D&reserved=0>.

I have concluded the information you have requested is exempt under Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), information intended for future publication. I have set out my arguments for non disclosure at Annex A of this letter.

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



BUDDSODDWYR | INVESTORS
MEWN POBL | IN PEOPLE

Parc Cathays • Cathays Park
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

Central Departments-FOI/DPgov.wales
Gwefan • website: www.cymru.gov.uk

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

Annex A

Section 22 – Information intended for future publication

Information is exempt information if—

- (a) the information is held by the public authority with a view to its publication, by the authority or any other person, at some future date (whether determined or not),
- (b) the information was already held with a view to such publication at the time when the request for information was made, and
- (c) it is reasonable in all the circumstances that the information should be withheld from disclosure until the date referred to in paragraph (a).

Section 22 is a public tested exemption. This means that in order to engage it, I must show that the public interest in withholding the information is greater than the public interest in releasing it.

Public interest arguments in favour of release

In considering the public interest in providing the information prior to its intended publication date, I note the public interest in transparency being demonstrated by releasing the information with this reply. Further I note that there is a public interest in public bodies providing information they hold that falls within the scope of an FOI request as quickly as possible. However, this needs to be balanced with the public interest in such a public body sharing accurate information. I am of the view that provision of this information in response to an FOI request prior to publication would not be in the public interest when it may yet be subject to further amendments (as part of the established pre-publication process) and the final version will be published in due course.

Public interest against disclosure

Against disclosure the argument is the public interest in permitting public body to publish information in a manner and form and at a time of their choosing. It is a part of the effective conduct of public affairs that the general publication of information is a conveniently planned and managed activity within the reasonable control of a public body. Where the decision has been made in to publish, there is a reasonable entitlement to make arrangements to do so.

Conclusion

Given the potential for further modification and/or imminence of the report being finalised, I have concluded that the public interest in withholding this information outweighs the public interest in releasing it prior to its intended publication.