



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Our ref: ATISN 12347

Date: 13 June 2018

Dear ,

Request for Information – ATISN reference 12347

Thank you for your request which was received by the Welsh Government on 24 May 2018. You asked for the following information:

For each of the years 2016 and 2017 and up to 15 May 2018, details of meetings that Welsh Ministers had with the following organisations (please name the Minister(s) and the name of the organisation for each occasion):

- *The Countryside Alliance*
- *The British Association for Shooting and Conservation*
- *The Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust*
- *National Gamekeepers' Organisation*
- *The British Game Alliance*
- *Bettws Hall Game Farm*
- *The Bodfuan Shoot*
- *The League Against Cruel Sports*
- *RSPCA Cymru*

2) *The subject matter – broadly – for each of those meetings.*

Some of this information is already publicly available at the following link:

<http://gov.wales/about/cabinet/ministerial-meetings-and-engagements/?lang=en>

The Information you have requested from April 2018 to May 2018 is exempt under Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), information intended for future publication. Section 22 is a publicly tested exemption and I have set out my arguments for non-disclosure at Annex 1 to this letter.

To clarify, the remaining information requested will be published in due course.

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

Annex 1

Section 22: Information intended for future publication.

The Welsh Government believes that Section 22 is applied in relation to the requested information. Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act is subject to the public interest test. This means that in order to withhold information under its provisions, any personal interest of the requester notwithstanding, it has to be shown that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs that in releasing it.

Public interest arguments in favour of disclosure

The general presumption of openness and transparency, which the Freedom of Information Act aspires to.

Public interest arguments against disclosure

The intended publication date is in the not too distant future.

The Welsh Government acknowledges the public interest in openness and transparency, and Ministerial attendance at engagements and events is published quarterly. The information for April and May 2018 will be published in early July 2018.

Therefore, we believe the public interest would be better served in the information being published at the appropriate time. To that end, I believe the information in relation to Ministerial meetings should be withheld under s22 of the Act, until it is published in due course at the following link:
<http://gov.wales/about/cabinet/ministerial-code/?lang=en>