



Ein Cyf/ Our ref ATISN 13152

15 May 2019

Dear ,

ATISN 13152 – Welsh Independent Living Grant

Thank you for your request which was received on 9th May 2019. You asked for the following information:

1. *How many people are in receipt of the WILG or the equivalent provided by LAs following transition? In total, including those that have transitioned from the Welsh Government to LAs; and those who have not yet transitioned.*
2. *What is the age profile of the recipients? In the following age bands: Under 18; 18-39; 40-59; 60-74; 75+? (or if it is not available in these bands, then however you are able to readily provide it by age band)*
3. *How many of the recipients have transitioned from the Welsh Government to the LAs? And for those who have transitioned to the LAs*
4. *How many are using the grant to fund personal assistants?*
5. *Of these, how has the transition affected the value of the grant, measured in the number of hours per week of personal assistance:*
 - a) *How many have funding for the SAME number of hours?*
 - b) *How many have funding for an INCREASE in the number of hours?*
 - c) *How many have funding for a REDUCTION in the number of hours?*

To put the response to your requests in context, local authorities in Wales administered the Welsh Independent Living Grant (WILG) on behalf of the Welsh Government. As such we do not hold personal details relating to those people who received payments under WILG. This includes not only details such as their names and addresses, but also their characteristics such as their age or the level of support they received. Nevertheless we do hold certain information captured by your request and this is set out as below:

1. How many people are in receipt of the WILG or the equivalent provided by LAs following transition? In total, including those that have transitioned from the Welsh Government to LAs; and those who have not yet transitioned.
 - The most recent data provided by local authorities shows that as at 31 December 2018 there were 998 people now receiving their support to live independently through their local authority following transition. This was instead of receiving payments under the WILG;
 - A further 78 people at that time were either to begin their care assessment prior to transition or had started this assessment but were yet to complete it. The remainder of 207 people had completed that care assessment but had yet to transfer to receiving support through their local authority. As a result both of these latter groups were still receiving payments under the WILG at that time until their situation was resolved.
 - The situation with both of these remaining groups to transition will have changed recently as outstanding care assessments have been completed and more people transferred to receiving support from their local authority.

2. What is the age profile of the recipients? In the following age bands: Under 18; 18-39; 40-59; 60-74; 75+? (or if it is not available in these bands, then however you are able to readily provide it by age band)
 - As explained above, we do not hold current information on this. However, in 2014 the Independent Living Fund (ILF) provided an age profile of ILF recipients in Wales as part of the transfer of responsibility for them then to the Welsh Government. This showed the number of ILF recipients in Wales by age as of 31 July 2014. Whilst the total number who received payments has reduced in the intervening period due to a range of reasons, the age groups are still likely to be relevant:

ILF Recipients by Age by Category	Total
16-25 yrs old	82
26-35 yrs old	405
36-45 yrs old	414
46-55 yrs old	410
56-65 yrs old	239
65 + yrs old	136
Total	1, 686

3. How many of the recipients have transitioned from the Welsh Government to the LAs? And for those who have transitioned to the LAs
 - Please see the answer to question 1.

4. How many are using the grant to fund personal assistants?

5. Of these, how has the transition affected the value of the grant, measured in the number of hours per week of personal assistance:
 - a) How many have funding for the SAME number of hours?
 - b) How many have funding for an INCREASE in the number of hours?
 - c) How many have funding for a REDUCTION in the number of hours?

- We do not hold information on how payments under the WILG were used by recipients to support their independent living. Consequently it is not possible to answer your question 4 or 5.

The request you sent me contains personal information about you - for example, your name and address. The Welsh Government will be the data processor for this information and, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation, it will be processed in order to fulfil our public task and meet our legal obligations under the Act to provide you with a response. We will only use this personal information to deal with your request and any matters which arise as a result of it. We will keep your personal information and all other information relating to your request for three years from the date on which your request is finally closed. Your personal information will then be disposed of securely.

Under data protection legislation, you have the right:

- to be informed of the personal data we hold about you and to access it
- require us to rectify inaccuracies in that data
- to (in certain circumstances) object to or restrict processing
- for (in certain circumstances) your data to be 'erased'
- to (in certain circumstances) data portability
- to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) who is our independent regulator for data protection

For further information about the information which the Welsh Government holds and its use, or if you wish to exercise your rights under the GDPR, please see contact details below:

Data Protection Officer
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
CARDIFF
CF10 3NQ
Email: DataProtectionOfficer@gov.wales

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: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

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.

Any information released under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or Environmental Information Regulations 2004 will be listed in the Welsh Government's Disclosure Log (at <https://gov.wales/about/open-government/freedom-of-information/responses/?lang=en>).

Yours sincerely,