



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

10 November 2020

Dear

**ATISN 14423 Sanctuary Wales**

Thank you for your request which I received on 13/09/2020.

In the request, you asked:

- for the total cost of the 'Nation of Sanctuary: Refugee and Asylum Seeker Plan' so far.

*Please see Annex A for a detailed breakdown of known costs specifically relating to refugees and asylum seekers. The Nation of Sanctuary plan was developed through extensive cross-government working on the basis that all parts of the Welsh Government should be ensuring that schemes and initiatives are inclusive of those with protected characteristics, including refugees or asylum seekers. Accordingly, many of the actions in the plan reflect in-depth discussions about how existing funded schemes can be better aligned to the needs of these individuals. It is not possible to quantify how much of these general budgets has been used to support these members of our communities.*

- for a breakdown of costs for housing, healthcare and translators etc.;

*This information is not held by the Welsh Government.*

- have any of these people been involved with crimes, and if so what crimes

*This information is not held by the Welsh Government. The Home Office is responsible for ensuring that security assessments are undertaken for those seeking asylum.*

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.

Merthyr Tydfil Office  
Rhydycar  
Merthyr Tydfil  
CF48 1UZ

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre  
0300 0604400

- have the people taken in had any stock of social housing and if so how much in each county

*Asylum seekers are provided with accommodation on a 'no choice' basis by the Home Office – this is not considered to be social housing and is rented from private landlords. If granted refugee status, local authorities are able to provide homelessness assistance to individuals but the Welsh Government does not hold information relating to the number of refugees accommodated in social housing.*

- what percentage of these people are employed

*Asylum seekers are almost always prohibited from working whilst they await the decision on their asylum claim. The Welsh Government does not hold information about the percentage of refugees who are employed in Wales.*

- when the policy is due to end.

*The Nation of Sanctuary plan was developed for the current Senedd term, which concludes in April 2021. Ongoing work in relation to the plan will need to be considered by a future Welsh Government.*

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](mailto: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.

Yours sincerely

Annex A

<b>Name of Project/Scheme</b>	<b>Cost (Jan 2019 – Oct 2020)</b>
ReStart: Refugee Integration*	£1,502,922
Asylum Rights Programme	£760,500
Asylum Justice	£45,000
Sanctuary Website	£17,071
WARD Scheme	£54,466
Move On Project**	£323,330
Research (Hosting)	£10,000
Research (Employer Gaps and Opportunities)	£14,998
Hate Crime Funding (WRC)	£36,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2,764,287</b>

\* This Project is funded through the EU Asylum Migration Integration Fund.

\*\* This cost is based on the annual allocation for the project during 2019-20 and 2020-21.