



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

9 March 2021

Dear

**Bawso requests during February 2021: ATISN 14851, 14866, 14907, 14917, 14942, 14949**

During the course of February 2021, the Welsh Government has received a number of requests for information related to Bawso. These are:

- *ATISN 14851 received on 9 February: all documentation about a complaint made in 2020 to Welsh Government about Bawso.*
- *ATISN 14866 received on 11 February: communication, agreements, protocols, policies and all other relevant documentation pertaining to information sharing between Welsh Government and bodies that fund Bawso.*
- *ATISN 14907 received on 16 February: Details about Welsh Government's racism policies and procedures, data and training*
- *ATISN 14917 received on 18 February: documentation about the consultancy and communications between Welsh Government and the consultants engaged by Welsh Government to work with Bawso during 2019/20.*
- *ATISN 14942 received on 25 February: Documentation and correspondence about furlough to third sector organisations and correspondence between two members of staff*
- *ATISN 14949 received on 25 February: Documentation and correspondence about Bawso's core funding, correspondence about meetings with Bawso and reports about Bawso provided to Ministers.*

I understand Claire Bennett has previously been in touch to discuss refining the requests and that the Board Sub-Group feels it is unable to prioritise or narrow down the requests.

Claire was in touch as Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) allows a public authority not to deal with a request where it estimates that it would exceed the appropriate limit to: -

- either comply with the request in its entirety or;
- confirm or deny whether the requested information is held.

The appropriate limit is currently £600 for central government.

The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulation 2004 (the 'Fees Regulations') also allows that where two or more requests are made to a public authority:

- (a) by one person, or
- (b) by different persons who appear to the public authority to be acting in concert or in pursuance of a campaign,

the estimated cost of complying with any of the requests is to be taken to be the estimated total cost of complying with all of them. This provision applies where:

- the two or more requests relate, to any extent, to the same or similar information, and
- those requests are received by the public authority within any period of sixty consecutive working days.

Although the six requests set out above were received separately, each is asked to correspond with the same corporate email address, and each contains references the same reason for the request. As the requests all relate to the same or similar information, we are satisfied that the requests can be aggregated for the purposes of the appropriate limit.

The information requested is likely to be held in a number of emails and documents which would have to be searched individually to identify whether the information requested is held. This will take us above the appropriate limit. Consequently, we will not be able to provide you with the information you have requested. However, as Claire has noted, we would be happy to work with you to refine your requests for information so that they would fall within the appropriate limit.

You may wish to refine your requests by narrowing its scope by being more specific about what information you particularly wish to obtain. If you do refine your requests in this way, this will be treated as a new request.

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