



Ein cyf/Our ref ATISN 15497

8 October 2021

Dear

Request for Information – ATISN 15497

I wrote to you on 17 September regarding your request for information on Cardiff Airport. In my letter I explained that from my preliminary assessment I estimated it would cost more than the appropriate limit set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 to answer question 3 of your request. You were invited to refine this part of your request, however, no refined request has been received.

Information requested

You asked for the following information:

1. How much has the Welsh Government spent in subsidy of Cardiff Airport over the last 5 years
2. How much has the Welsh Government spent in subsidy of the Cardiff-Anglesey flight over the last 5 years
3. How many Ministers and Government workers have used the Cardiff-Anglesey flight over the last 5 years. With a log of names and dates
4. How many Cabinet Ministers, Assembly Members and government workers have electric cars
5. A log of Assembly Members and Cabinet Members travel expenses



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Llywodraeth Cymru /
Welsh Government
Parc Cathays / Cathays Park
CF10 3NQ

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynir 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 .

Our Response

I can confirm that the Welsh Government holds some information captured by your request.

For your first question, I can confirm that the Welsh Government has agreed investment by way of a grant of up to £42.6m over the next 5 years for Cardiff International Airport Limited (CIAL) under rescue and restructuring aid under the terms of the UK-EU Trade and Co-operation Agreement, £10m of this has been drawn down to date.

Prior to this in 2016, the Welsh Government provided grant funding of £169,000 to support the airport's safety and security, and in 2019, grant funded the replacement of e-Passport Gates at a cost of £523,000. (£1m grant offered but not fully utilised).

For question 2, the Welsh Government has spent a total of £7,340,863 in subsidy of the Cardiff-Anglesey flight over the last 5 financial years. Please note, that as 2021/22 is not a complete year, the above figure has been calculated on the following full financial years 2016/17 – 2020/21 inclusive.

For question 3, as explained above, I estimate that it will take longer than the appropriate limit set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 to answer your requests. The appropriate limit specified for central government is £600. This represents the estimated cost of it taking over 24 hours of time to determine whether we hold the information and to thereafter locate, retrieve and extract it.

The Welsh Government's finance system does not hold the specific information you have requested and as such, officials would need to review transactions/records to respond.

Over the last 5 years, there have been 444,011 transactions booked to the travel & subsistence nominal on the Welsh Government's finance system (the nominal describes the category of expenditure) which could include information within the scope of your request.

I estimate it would take approximately 3 minutes to extract and review each record categorised as travel and subsistence to determine whether any flight information therein was captured by your request – the limit is therefore exceeded ($444,011 \times 3$ minutes /60 = 22,201 hours). I am unable to provide you with this information, however, if you do refine your request in the future, this will be treated as a new request. Please note that any personal data, i.e. names of Government officials, contained in any information we hold would be exempt from disclosure under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

For question 4, I can confirm we do not hold information on Cabinet Ministers. With regard to Welsh Government staff, I can confirm no information is held on their car ownership other than where an application has been received to the Welsh Government salary sacrifice Green Car Scheme that allows staff to lease an ultra-low carbon emission car. I can confirm 70 applications have been approved.

For question 5, the records held cannot be attributed on an individual basis

As explained in my previous letter, for questions 4 and 5, we do not hold information on individual Senedd Members as that would be a matter for the Senedd Commission
[Freedom of Information \(senedd.wales\)](http://Freedom.ofInformation.senedd.wales).

Next steps

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.

Yours sincerely