

14 September 2023

Dear

ATISN 18849

Thank you for your request which I received on 17 August 2023, I have included my response to each of the questions you submitted, as follows:

- What is the average cost of creating legislation, to include only Bills that have been passed within the last 2 years if applicable?

I can confirm that Welsh Government do not hold the information requested. Legislation development varies greatly depending on the type of legislation and complexity. The length of time taken to develop legislation also varies greatly and therefore impacts on the cost.

The costs of developing a Bill are not something that are included in Bill Regulatory Impact Assessments (RIAs) – the costs would be ‘sunk costs’ (already incurred and irrecoverable) at the point the Bill is introduced and therefore should be disregarded in the assessment and the decision of whether or not to pass the Bill.

- What is the average cost of developing a public consultation?

The Welsh Government does not hold the information requested.

The Welsh Government uses a variety of different tools and methods to involve, engage and consult with citizens and organisations about what the Welsh Government is proposing to do. Consultation is one of the more formal methods used. It is sometimes a legal requirement to carry out public consultations and, whenever carried out, such consultations are always used to provide opportunities for stakeholders and citizens to express opinions and share knowledge on proposed actions. Consultation is one part of the policy development process. Whilst we do not hold any information on the costs of policy development, or public consultation within that, it would be fair to say that the scope and nature (and cost) of any public consultation will vary greatly depending on the subject matter. You can find details of all the formal public consultations at <https://www.gov.wales/consultations>

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 e-mail: 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

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Website: www.ico.org.uk

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely