

30 August 2024

Dear

ATISN 20880 – Intensive Poultry Units.

Thank you for your request submitted on 27 August, which I received on the same day.

Information requested

Your request asked for:

- Whether it is indeed the case that applications for intensive poultry units made to local authorities in Wales have been suspended with regard to potential calling in over the last three years.
- If so, how many such applications have been suspended by the Welsh Government.
- From which local authorities have such applications been suspended, including numbers of applications for each authority.
- What is the status of the suspended applications (if any)? Are they, for example, still awaiting a decision as to whether to be called in, or have already been called in, or have had a Government decision to accept or refuse the application, or have been returned without action to local authorities for decision. Please confirm numbers of each and details of the status of each individual application if possible.
- Finally, has the Government initiated or is it intending to introduce revised planning legislation/ guidelines or related action with respect to the approval of intensive poultry units in Wales. Please provide details of these.”

The request you sent me contains personal information about you - for example, your name, mobile phone number and both home and e-mail 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.

Our response

The information requested in points 1 – 4 above is already in the public domain and can be found at the following link: <https://www.gov.wales/planning-decisions-being->

[considered-welsh-ministers](#). This list is updated regularly. In regards to point 5 above this information is not held. As far as revised legislation or policy is concerned, we do not hold the information until it is in place, and it would be available on the Welsh Government's website.

As to the rationale in issuing the Holding Directions, this is purely an administrative procedure to ensure that the Welsh Ministers have sufficient time to consider call-in requests made to them. The Holding Directions only prevents the LPA from granting planning permission; it does not prevent the LPA from continuing to process or consult on the application, neither does it prevent the LPA from refusing planning permission. The Directions will remain in force until consideration of the call-in request is concluded. All the poultry units currently being considered for call-in have Holding Directions in place.

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,