Our Ref: ATISN 15005

Date: 6 April 2021

Dear

ATISN 15005

The information you requested is enclosed.

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,

Information Requested

Q. Our central concern is with regard to displacement of both markets and liquid milk availability. As I'm sure you're aware, an assessment of displacement must be made prior to granting EU funding to an investment. Should the new dairy processing project progress with EU funding attached, we would ask that you furnish us with the assessment of displacement that has been made that forms part of the due diligence process.

A. The latest feasibility study conducted by Welsh Government on the sector can be found at the following web link.

https://gov.wales/dairy-processing-feasibility-study

Q. Details of the panel in place to assessment the EOI window in point 3 of our request. You answered that there was no panel in place for full applications. This was not the question we asked. You then stated that there would be a decision / investment panel in place for full applications, but that this is in the planning stages. This is somewhat contradictory.

A. To clarify, there is no panel for the assessment of the EOI. An agreed scoring and moderation process is undertaken for all projects submitted.

Full applications are subjected to due diligence, and submitted to an Investment Panel comprising civil servants who are highly experienced in appraising grant applications.

Q. Details appraisal of the feasibility of a new dairy facility in West Wales that includes an assessment of current processing capacity, the need for additional processing capacity and the potential for displacement of existing businesses such as ours.

A. All applications submitted are confidential and therefore cannot be released as per the second FOI letter.