

02 August 2021

Dear ,

ATISN 15300 - Funding for Sport Wales

Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on 05 July 2021. You asked for:

1. How much government funding did Sport Wales receive for the period April 2020 to April 2021
2. How much Government funds were approved and allocated by Sport Wales for the period April 2020 to April 2021
3. Dated copies of the contact the Welsh Government had with Sport Wales regarding this written concern (DB/10031/21)
4. How much is the current Deputy Minister for Arts and Sport, and Chief Whip annual remuneration
5. How much is the current Finance and Corporate Governance Officer annual remuneration

Our response

The information you requested is enclosed.

1. How much government funding did Sport Wales receive for the period April 2020 to April 2021

This information is publically available and is accessible under 'Main Expenditure Group Allocations' on the link provided below:

<https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20210404064736/https://gov.wales/3rd-supplementary-budget-2020-2021>

2. How much Government funds were approved and allocated by Sport Wales for the period April 2020 to April 2021

This information is publically available and is accessible on the link provided below:

<https://senedd.wales/media/tvlhsodh/gen-ld14478-e.pdf>

3. Dated copies of the contact the Welsh Government had with Sport Wales regarding this written concern (DB/10031/21)

Information has been provided below in **Annex 1**.

- 4 How much is the current Deputy Minister for Arts and Sport, and Chief Whip annual remuneration

This information is publically available and is accessible on the link provided below:
<https://senedd.wales/media/vtvkvcpy/gen-ld14244-r-e.pdf>

- 5 How much is the current Finance and Corporate Governance Officer annual remuneration

Information about Welsh Government salaries, including the Executive Officer pay band, is publically available and is accessible on the link provided below:
<https://gov.wales/welsh-government-pay-policy-statement-2020>

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

Annex 1

From: [Redacted – Personal Information]
Sent: 15 April 2021 13:35
To: [Redacted – Personal Information]
Cc: [Redacted – Personal Information]
Subject: RE: [External Email]- FW: Sport Wales Funding


Afternoon [Redacted – Personal Information],

From the letters I have sighted on this – I can't see any evidence of us liaising with the FAW in relation to this specific ask. I also don't think we would have done that without an application from the individual. It seems as though at the time, we referenced our existing funding streams and priorities, advised on potential other sources of funding and on how we work with NGBs more broadly.

Hope this answers your question and helps with the reply. If you need any more info, please let me know.

Thanks,
[Redacted – Personal Information]

Sport Wales | Chwaraeon Cymru

 www.sport.wales | www.chwaraeon.cymru

From: [Redacted – Personal Information]
Sent: 15 April 2021 12:49
To: [Redacted – Personal Information]
Subject: FW: [External Email]- FW: Sport Wales Funding

Hi [Redacted – Personal Information]

On the advice below, did colleagues contact FAW for advice on that occasion or were you just pointing out the process of speaking with governing bodies when you had concerns with queries and applications come in.

Regards

Is Adran Chwaraeon/Sports Division
Llywodraeth Cymru/Welsh Government

[Redacted – Personal Information]
From: [Redacted – Personal Information]
Sent: 07 April 2021 17:56

To: [Redacted – Personal Information]
Cc: [Redacted – Personal Information]
Subject: RE: [External Email]- FW: Sport Wales Funding

Hi [Redacted – Personal Information],

Thanks for the email.

We have done some investigating internally and I've summarised below some information which will hopefully be helpful in your response.

- There was a series of communication with Mr Morrell, the Grants (now Investment) department, and [Redacted – Personal Information] about this in 2019. There were 3 letters from Mr Morrell dated 4th May, 9th August and 23rd August. [Redacted – Personal Information] wrote twice on 19th August and 5th September, after which we didn't hear back from Mr Morrell.
- Our last letter to him also detailed another funding option being Denbighshire Voluntary Services Council (DVSC) which was more appropriate for his project than anything Sport Wales could support at that time.
- The specific reference to FAW was outlined in one of these letters in reference to the way in which we work with various NGBs seeking insight where appropriate relevant to their sport. We typically seek the insight of a NGB when we have an application that relates to their sport in question. Whilst naturally if an NGB had concerns about an application we would assist in investigating this, ultimately - decisions about applications are made by Sport Wales. This was also confirmed to Mr Morrell.
- Funding is not available to establish and run a coach education workshop provision, however would be for those who wished to attend a UK accredited coach education course. Current emphasis on funding is on applications that directly focus on participation and the delivery of the sporting activity in question.
- Of note – Mr Morell has never applied for Sport Wales funding for this project, and therefore hasn't been rejected. The advice given in 2019 in that he should not progress an application, was in relation to what was outlined at the time, and wouldn't have met existing priorities for funding streams. He is welcome to review the current funding streams – although, it remains that we would invest only in the delivery of sport through community funding at present. To add to this - we wouldn't have funds for a private business start-up or funds for activities to take place within school settings.

Hope this is helpful info for your response, let me know if you need anything further.

Thanks,
[Redacted – Personal Information]

Sport Wales | Chwaraeon Cymru

From: [Redacted – Personal Information]
Sent: 06 April 2021 13:37
To: [Redacted – Personal Information]
Subject: [External Email]- FW: Sport Wales Funding

Hi

We have had a correspondence by Chris Morrell below regarding a start-up project, are you able to provide me with any information to help me answer this query.

Please could I have something by Monday 12th April.

Regards

[Redacted – Personal Information]

Is Adran Chwaraeon/Sports Division
Llywodraeth Cymru/Welsh Government

Dear Mr Ellis-Thomas

I am a professional football coach from North Wales.

I am highly experienced with over 10 years of coaching and uefa qualified.

I have proudly represented my country (Wales) on 6 occasions in uefa competition across Europe, worked at the highest level of football in the country and worked with all ages, gender and abilities across North Wales.

On looking to start a project which aimed to deliver vocational workshops in schools/youth organisations etc to assist in the future careers of young people to stay in sport (on or off the pitch), I was advised to seek out start-up or support funding from Sport Wales.

On doing so I was rejected after being informed (and I quote), *'that without the support of the FAW your project would not be eligible for funding.'*

The FAW is an independent ltd company (03202751) and I have no desire to work with them at all on this project as should be my choice and I'm sure nor do they, indeed they may possibly be classed a competitor with regards to the project.

This should **not** discriminate me from being eligible for assistance or funding and ultimately relying on the approval of a 'competitor' which quite clearly could be a restriction of trade.

The Sports Council for Wales (trading as Sport Wales) is publicly funded and I was informed by CEO Sarah Powell in a letter in August 2019 that *'funding is not available to establish and run a coach education provision'* however I was subsequently informed by information officer Phil Stephens that Sport Wales funded

the FAW Trust Department, who's significant business is exactly coach education, the sum of £2,414,916.00 in 2019 alone.

A monopoly exists when a specific person or enterprise is the only supplier of a particular commodity (i.e Sport Wales only funding FAW). This seems clearly to be the case.

This is certainly no slur or dig at the FAW at all and the great work they do but I am however merely asking that the funding process be autonomous and fair to private providers and the general public who ultimately fund the Sports Council, without the involvement or approval of an independent, possible 'rival' company.

Many thanks
Mr C. Morrell



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On Tue, 2 Mar 2021 at 12:31, Chris M <cmcoach11@gmail.com> wrote:
Dear Mr Ellis-Thomas

I am a professional football coach from North Wales.

I am highly experienced with over 10 years of coaching and uefa qualified.

I have proudly represented my country (Wales) on 6 occasions in uefa competition across Europe, worked at the highest level of football in the country and worked with all ages, gender and abilities across North Wales.

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This is certainly no slur or dig at the FAW at all and the great work they do but I am however merely asking that the funding process be autonomous and fair to private providers and the general public who ultimately fund the Sports Council, without the involvement or approval of an independent, possible 'rival' company.

I'm pleased to provide the opportunity for your comment....

Many thanks
Mr C. Morrell