



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref ATISN 155590

12 November 2021

Dear

I wrote to you on 15 and 22 October regarding your FOI request. Please accept my apologies for the delay in providing you with this response.

### Information Requested

1. All information relating to the handling of your e-mail dated 11 November 2020 (our ref TO-LW-01035-20), including handling e-mail threads, copies of correspondence logs and other relevant handling activities relating to your correspondence.
2. All information relating to the handling of your e-mail dated 21 June 2021 (our ref TO-LW-11332-21), including handling e-mail threads, copies of correspondence logs and other relevant handling activities relating to your correspondence.
3. All information held relating to the Welsh Government responses to [WAQ79020](#), [WAQ79021](#), [WAQ79022](#), [WAQ79023](#) including handling e-mails and logs relating to the drafting of the replies to these Written Questions.
4. All information held relating to your email dated 17 March 2020 including handling e-mail threads, copies of correspondence logs and other relevant handling activities relating to your correspondence.

### Our response

I confirm the Welsh Government holds information caught by your request. The information we hold is enclosed at Annex 1. This includes e-mail exchanges and extracts from two separate databases. I have decided that some of this information, however, is exempt from disclosure under Regulation 13 of the Environmental Information Regulations, personal data and is therefore withheld. The reasons for applying this exception are set out in full at Annex 2.



BUDDSODDWYR | INVESTORS  
MEWN POBL | IN PEOPLE

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

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

Please note that some e-mails at Annex 1 refer to, or include as attachments, copies of correspondence received by, or sent to you. That information hasn't been included with this reply as you already have it. As this response is being made available to the World, your own personal and identifiable data has not been included.

### **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.of.information@gov.wales](mailto:Freedom.of.information@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

<p><b>Question 1 - All information relating to the handling of your e-mail dated 11 November 2020 (our ref TO-LW-01035-20), including handling e-mail threads, copies of correspondence logs and other relevant handling activities relating to your correspondence.</b></p>	
1.	<p>From: Correspondence mail - LG  Sent: 30 November 2020 13:22  To: Correspondence Mail - LW  Cc: Correspondence mail - LG  Subject: FW: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>Forwarding to you as per XXX's advice, have also attached original email for reference.</p> <p><i>[Refers to your chasing e-mail dated 30 November 2020 and your original email dated 11 November 2020]</i></p>
2.	<p>From: Correspondence Mail - LW  Sent: 01 December 2020 10:32  To: PS Deputy Minister Economy &amp; Transport; PS Minister Economy &amp; Transport  Cc: Correspondence Mail - LW  Subject: FW: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>Please see below and attached, can you confirm if this should be on for LW and on a TO or Jacket please?</p>
3.	<p>From: PS Minister Economy &amp; Transport  Sent: 01 December 2020 12:38  To: Correspondence Mail - LW; PS Deputy Minister Economy &amp; Transport; PS Minister Economy &amp; Transport  Subject: RE: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>Why is this with us please? It's for MEERA.</p>
4.	<p>From: Correspondence Mail - LW  Sent: 01 December 2020 15:30  To: Correspondence mail - LG; XXX OFM - Cabinet Division  Cc: Correspondence Mail – LW; PS Deputy Minister Economy &amp; Transport; PS Minister Economy &amp; Transport  Subject: FW: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>Please see below, looks like it's to stay with you XXX.</p>
5.	<p>From: Correspondence Mail - LW  Sent: 01 December 2020 16:00  To: XXX E&amp;T Government Business  Cc: Correspondence Mail - LW  Subject: FW: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p>

	Would this be one for you?
6.	<p>From: Correspondence Mail - LW  Sent: 02 December 2020 14:40  To: E&amp;T Government Business – Busnes y Llywodraeth EaTh  Subject: TO/LW/01035/20 TO Correspondence Due 23/12/2020 URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs ScannedMail linked to</p> <p>Please find attached correspondence dated 02/12/2020 about URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs from XXXX  Please issue an appropriately cleared official response by 23/12/2020 and send a copy to the Correspondence Mailbox associated with the reference number ONLY</p>
7.	<p>From: XXX On Behalf Of E&amp;T Government Business mailbox  Sent: 02 December 2020 14:49  To: XXX E&amp;T Government Business  Cc: E&amp;T Government Business mailbox; WG Official E&amp;T Government Business  Subject: FW: TO/LW/01035/20 TO Correspondence Due 23/12/2020 URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs ScannedMail linked to</p> <p>Can you confirm acceptance of this please?</p>
8.	<p>From: XXX E&amp;T Government Business  Sent: 01 December 2020 16:09  To: XXX ESNR - Digital Infrastructure;  Subject: FW: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>Your thoughts on this would be appreciated please!</p>
9.	<p>From: XXX ESNR - Digital Infrastructure  Sent: 02 December 2020 10:09  To: XXX E&amp;T Government Business  Cc: XXX ESNR - Digital Infrastructure  Subject: RE: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>Morning. Happy Wednesday ☺. We'll take this on a TO. It will just need the standard 5G response.</p>
10	<p>From: XXX E&amp;T Government Business  Sent: 07 December 2020 13:22  To: XXX ESNR - Digital Infrastructure  Subject: DRAFT: TO/LW/01035/20 TO Correspondence Due 23/12/2020 URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs ScannedMail linked to</p> <p>Draft attached with standard 5G lines.</p>
11	<p>From: XXX ESNR - Digital Infrastructure  Sent: 15 December 2020 09:43  To: XXX E&amp;T Government Business  Subject: TO-LW-01035-20 - XXXX - Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs - 23-12-20 (fA2479258)</p>

	XXXX ☺ This one is ready to go.
12	<p>From: XXX E&amp;T Government Business Sent: 15 December 2020 11:41  To: Correspondence Mail - LW  Subject: TO-LW-01035-20 URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>Final reply issued today via email.</p>

**Question 2 - All information relating to the handling of your e-mail dated 21 June 2021 (our ref TO-LW-11332-21), including handling e-mail threads, copies of correspondence logs and other relevant handling activities relating to your correspondence.**

1.	<p>From: Correspondence mail - RE  To: XXXX OFM - Cabinet Division  Cc: Correspondence mail - RE  Subject: FW: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>XXX – this has been sent to a few ministers.</p> <p>What shall I do with it?</p>
2.	<p>From: XXXX OFM - Cabinet Division  Sent: 07 September 2021 10:30  To: DeputyMCC – Gov Business Unit Mailbox  Subject: FW: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>Good morning</p> <p>I think this has been replied to – can we confirm – if so, I can send a response directing them to the information on the website that they won't get a further response.</p>
3.	<p>From: XXX On Behalf Of DeputyMCC – Gov Business Unit Mailbox  Sent: 07 September 2021 11:21  To: XXXX OFM - Cabinet Division DeputyMCC – Gov Business Unit  Subject: RE: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>I don't this has come in to us? The last I can see on CABS was December 2020 when Lee Waters was under Economy TO/LW/01035/20 refers.</p>
4.	<p>From: XXX E&amp;T Government Business Sent: 17 September 2021 10:48  To: XXXX OFM - Cabinet Division  Subject: FW: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>Morning XXX</p> <p>Further to the email chain below, I can confirm officials wrote to XXX on 15 December and I attach a copy for ref. Also attached is a delivery receipt so not</p>

	<p>sure why he has not received a response.</p> <p>This latest email has come through on TO-LW-11332-21 – can this be cancelled?</p> <p>Let me know if you need anything more.</p>
5.	<p>From: XXXX OFM - Cabinet Division Sent: 17 September 2021 10:51 To: XXX E&amp;T Government Business Subject: RE: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>Good morning</p> <p>If we have answered this previously (That's the bit I'm not sure on) can we do a quick further response stating they have received a response on behalf of the Welsh Government covering ALL ministers and in line with the information here - Contacting Welsh Government ministers   GOV.WALES will not receive a further response to the same correspondence?</p> <p>They keep writing in wanting individual personal responses, which we just need to head off.</p>
6.	<p>From: Correspondence Mail - LW Sent: 14 September 2021 14:34 To: DeputyMCC – Gov Business Unit/DirprwyGNH - Uned Busnes y Llyw Subject: TO/LW/11332/21 TO Correspondence Due 05/10/2021 Concerns over 5g ScannedMail linked to TO/LW/01035/20</p> <p>Please find attached correspondence dated 14/09/2021 about Concerns over 5g from XXXX</p> <p>Can we please indicate in the response that this response covers all correspondence to all Ministers - as per information available here - Contacting Welsh Government ministers   GOV.WALES</p> <p>This correspondence is linked to the following previous correspondence TO/LW/01035/20</p>
7.	<p>From: XXX On Behalf Of DeputyMCC – Gov Business Unit Mailbox Sent: 14 September 2021 15:36 To: XXX E&amp;T Government Business Cc: DeputyMCC – Gov Business Unit/DirprwyGNH - Uned Busnes y Llyw Subject: FW: TO/LW/11332/21 TO Correspondence Due 05/10/2021 Concerns over 5g ScannedMail linked to TO/LW/01035/20</p> <p>Can you confirm acceptance or advise.</p>
8.	<p>From: XXX E&amp;T Government Business Sent: 21 September 2021 13:40 To: XXX ESNR - Digital Infrastructure Subject: CLEARANCE: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>Please see attached draft response together with suggested enclosures. Grateful</p>

	<p>for your thoughts please as you may want to take a different approach. I also attach advice received.</p> <p>Thanks</p>
9.	<p>From: XXX E&amp;T Government Business  Sent: 22 September 2021 08:24  To: XXX ESNR - Digital Infrastructure  Subject: FW: CLEARANCE: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>Morning XXX</p> <p>Sorry to be a nuisance but I finish at lunchtime today and not back until 4 October. This isn't due until 5th but wondering if you can look at it this morning.</p> <p>Thanks</p>
10	<p>From: XXX ESNR - Digital Infrastructure  Sent: 22 September 2021 08:50  To: XXX E&amp;T Government Business  Subject: Re: CLEARANCE: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>Hi XXXX, I am at a conference in London so could you ping the docs to me as word docs and I will have a look. Ta XXXX</p>
11	<p>From: XXX E&amp;T Government Business  Sent: 22 September 2021 08:52  To: XXX ESNR - Digital Infrastructure  Subject: RE: CLEARANCE: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>Thank you ☺</p>
12	<p>From: XXX ESNR - Digital Infrastructure  Sent: 22 September 2021 09:02  To: XXX E&amp;T Government Business  Subject: Re: CLEARANCE: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>Hi XXXX, happy with the response, thanks XXXX</p>
13	<p>From: XXX E&amp;T Government Business  Sent: 22 September 2021 11:00  To: Correspondence Mail - LW  Subject: FW: TO/LW/11332/21 TO Correspondence Due 05/10/2021 Concerns over 5g ScannedMail linked to TO/LW/01035/20</p> <p>Final reply issued today via email.</p>
14	<p>From: Correspondence mail - LN  Sent: 06 September 2021 15:58  To: Correspondence Mail - LW  Subject: FW: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p>

	<p>Afternoon</p> <p>I think this would have come your way? Can you confirm it has been responded to, and I'll go back and tell them so (again)</p> <p><i>[This is in response to your chasing e-mail of 6 September 2021]</i></p>
15	<p>From: Correspondence Mail - LW  Sent: 06 September 2021 16:29  To: Correspondence mail – LN; Correspondence Mail - LW  Cc: XXXX OFM - Cabinet Division  Subject: RE: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>Hi XXX,</p> <p>The particular correspondence below, I can't see anything on CABS regarding it from this year but one with the same subject was answered on TO/LW/01035/20 (attached above).</p>

**Question 3 - All information held relating to the Welsh Government responses to [WAQ79020](#), [WAQ79021](#), [WAQ79022](#), [WAQ79023](#) including handling e-mails and logs relating to the drafting of the replies to these Written Questions.**

1.	<p>From: XXX On Behalf Of Government AQ Mail  Sent: 28 October 2019 12:45  To: PS FirstMinister; PS Counsel General &amp; Brexit Minister; PS Minister Health &amp; Social Services; PS Minister Environment Energy and Rural Affairs; PS Minister Economy &amp; Transport  Cc: WG officials  Subject: RE: URGENT - Written Assembly Questions for answer on 1st November  Importance: High</p> <p>All,</p> <p>There have been a number of WAQs regarding the 'UK and Commonwealth EMF Action Group' tabled to different Ministers. I would suggest, therefore, that they be grouped together and one Minister provides the answer to all. As far as I can tell EMF refers to Electro-magnetic Field and appears to be regarding 5G etc. therefore it may be best that they are all transferred to the Minister for Economy &amp; Transport.</p> <p>WAQS listed below, grateful for your thoughts/comments.</p> <p>To ask the First Minister  Russell George (Montgomeryshire): What assessment has the First Minister made of the concerns identified by the UK and Commonwealth EMF Action group in its recent correspondence and engagement with the Welsh Government?  WAQ79020 (e)</p>
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To ask the Counsel General and Brexit Minister  
Russell George (Montgomeryshire): Does the Counsel General recognise the basis for any of the concerns or failures relating to either Welsh or European legislation, UK law, or international law, that the UK and Commonwealth EMF Action group has identified in their recent correspondence and engagement with the Welsh Government? WAQ79023 (e)

To ask the Minister for Health and Social Services  
Russell George (Montgomeryshire): Does the Minister recognise the basis for any of the concerns or failures relating to health or social care that the UK and Commonwealth EMF Action group has identified in their recent correspondence and engagement with the Welsh Government? WAQ79021 (e)

To ask the Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs  
Russell George (Montgomeryshire): Does the Minister recognise the basis for any of the concerns or failures relating to the environment, energy, or rural affairs that the UK and Commonwealth EMF Action group has identified in their recent correspondence with the Welsh Government? WAQ79022 (e)

2. From: XXX, Public Health Division, WG  
Sent: 28 October 2019 13:08  
To: Government AQ Mail; PS FirstMinister; PS Counsel General & Brexit Minister; PS Minister Health & Social Services; PS Minister Environment Energy and Rural Affairs; PS Minister Economy & Transport  
Cc: WG Officials  
Subject: RE: URGENT - Written Assembly Questions for answer on 1st November

This particular group (or rather its leader) engaged in protracted and ultimately vexatious correspondence with the Minister for Health and Social Services, the Chief Medical Officer and others in HSS, which culminated in Russell George AM writing to First Minister. XXXX brought together the response on that occasion. I am not sure therefore how you wish to proceed.

3. From: XXX On Behalf Of Government AQ Mail  
Sent: 28 October 2019 13:19  
To: XXX, Public Health Division, WG; Government AQ Mail; PS FirstMinister; PS Counsel General & Brexit Minister; PS Minister Health & Social Services; PS Minister Environment Energy and Rural Affairs; PS Minister Economy & Transport  
Cc: WG officials  
Subject: RE: URGENT - Written Assembly Questions for answer on 1st November

Thanks XXX,

That's really helpful. I would suggest that the response issues from the First Minister along the lines of:

'I refer you to my letter of July 2019'

	<p>As the letter in question fully covers the history and background of these questions.</p>
4.	<p>From: XXX On Behalf Of PS FirstMinister  Sent: 28 October 2019 13:33  To: Government AQ Mail; XXX, Public Health Division, WG; PS FirstMinister; PS Counsel General &amp; Brexit Minister; PS Minister Health &amp; Social Services; PS Minister Environment Energy and Rural Affairs; PS Minister Economy &amp; Transport; XXX, Digital Infrastructure  Cc: WG Officials  Subject: RE: URGENT - Written Assembly Questions for answer on 1st November</p> <p>Thanks all,</p> <p>Yes happy for these to be transferred to the First Minister.</p> <p>XXX – I'll draft the response.</p>
5.	<p>From: XXX On Behalf Of Archive2021.PS FirstMinister  Sent: 01 November 2019 17:37  To: Government SQ Mail  Cc: Archive2021.PS FirstMinister  Subject: RE: URGENT - Written Assembly Questions for answer on 1st November</p> <p>Please see attached answer to WAQs 79020, 79023, 79021 and 79022 cleared by the First Minister.</p> <p><i>ATTACHMENT:</i></p> <p>WRITTEN ASSEMBLY QUESTION  FOR ANSWER BY THE FIRST MINISTER  ON 1<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER</p> <p>Russell George (Montgomeryshire): What assessment has the First Minister made of the concerns identified by the UK and Commonwealth EMF Action group in its recent correspondence and engagement with the Welsh Government? WAQ79020 (e)</p> <p>Russell George (Montgomeryshire): Does the Counsel General recognise the basis for any of the concerns or failures relating to either Welsh or European legislation, UK law, or international law, that the UK and Commonwealth EMF Action group has identified in their recent correspondence and engagement with the Welsh Government? WAQ79023 (e)</p> <p>Russell George (Montgomeryshire): Does the Minister recognise the basis for any of the concerns or failures relating to health or social care that the UK and Commonwealth EMF Action group has identified in their recent correspondence and engagement with the Welsh Government? WAQ79021 (e)</p> <p>Russell George (Montgomeryshire): Does the Minister recognise the basis for any of the concerns or failures relating to the environment, energy, or rural affairs that the UK and Commonwealth EMF Action group has identified in their recent</p>

	<p>correspondence with the Welsh Government? WAQ79022 (e)</p> <p>Mark Drakeford: The Welsh Government has considered the concerns raised by the UK and Commonwealth EMF Action group in its correspondence and responded to these directly.</p>
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<p><b>Question 4 - All information held relating to your email dated 17 March 2020 including handling e-mail threads, copies of correspondence logs and other relevant handling activities relating to your correspondence.</b></p>	
1.	<p>From: PS FirstMinister  Sent: 21 April 2020 14:10  To: Director of Governance and Ethics; XXX Project Team - C-19  Cc: PS FirstMinister  Subject: FW: Communications with the First Minister</p> <p>Grateful for advice on the below please. We have had extensive correspondence with XXX over the past few years and have advised that we will no longer be writing to him on this issue – as per the attached TO, issued from XXX.</p> <p>We have received a further email from XXX and although this isn't in relation to the breach of the code, it's in relation to the same subject on which he believes Ministers have breached the code.</p> <p>Can you advise whether you believe the email below should be considered as information only (as no new evidence has come to light) or if a response should be considered?</p> <p><i>[In response to your e-mail dated 17 March 2020 and chasing e-mail of 13 April 2020]</i></p>
2.	<p>From: XXX PSG - Permanent Secretary's Office  Sent: 23 April 2020 17:34  To: PS FirstMinister; Director of Governance and Ethics  Subject: RE: Communications with the First Minister</p> <p>I have reviewed the email in more detail and the WAQ's from November 2019 to which he refers.</p> <p>As you say XXX is not raising any new evidence in his correspondence which would change our response.  I suggest the email is considered for information only and forwarded to PHW colleagues (XXX's team) on that basis.</p>
3.	<p>From: PS FirstMinister  Sent: 27 May 2020 14:57  To: XXX HSS - DHP Public Health  Cc: XXX HSS - DHP Public Health; PS FirstMinister  Subject: FW: Communications with the First Minister</p>

	<p>Please see attached and below email trail for information. I'm sorry for not sharing sooner.</p> <p>As you can see XXX has been in contact again on this issue. As you are aware, in previous correspondence to XXX we have said that we consider this matter unless any new information or evidence is provided.</p> <p>I will respond to confirm this to him</p>
4.	<p>From: XXX HSS - DHP Public Health  Sent: 28 May 2020 08:34  To: PS FirstMinister  Cc: XXX HSS - DHP Public Health  Subject: 20-05-28 0834 - query to PS re email - RE: Communications with the First Minister inc 17 mar, 13 apr emails</p> <p>Do you mean 'consider this matter closed'?</p>
5.	<p>From: PS FirstMinister  Sent: 28 May 2020 13:03  To: XXX HSS - DHP Public Health; PS FirstMinister  Cc: XXX HSS - DHP - Public Health  Subject: 20-05-28 1303 - PS response re query - RE: Communications with the First Minister</p> <p>I do, sorry XXX.</p>
6.	<p>From: XXX TAC – Technical Advisory Cell  Sent: 30 November 2020 13:36  To: Deputy Director Public Health  Cc: Health Protection; HSSG.TAC  Subject: FW: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>Hi XXX – has your side responded to this email? Perhaps we could discuss??</p> <p><i>[In response to your e-mail dated 30 November 2020]</i></p>
7.	<p>From: Deputy Director Public Health  Sent: 30 November 2020 13:41  To: XXX TAC – Technical Advisory Cell; XXX HSS - DHP Public Health  Cc: Health Protectio; HSSG.TAC  Subject: RE: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>Happy to discuss.</p> <p>XXX Could you confirm whether or not we received the letter, please.</p>
8.	<p>From: XXX HSS - DHP Public Health  Sent: 30 November 2020 13:43  To: Deputy Director Public Health; XXX TAC – Technical Advisory Cell  Cc: Health Protection; HSSG.TAC</p>

	<p>Subject: RE: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>I can't find a record of us receiving this correspondence. Health Protection colleagues will be aware of previous correspondence from XXX.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
9.	<p>From: XXX On Behalf Of Health Protection Mailbox  Sent: 30 November 2020 14:34  To: XXX HSS - DHP Public Health; XXX HSS - DHP Public Health XXX HSS - Government and Corporate Business Team  Cc: Deputy Director Public Health  Subject: FW: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs</p> <p>XXX/XXX,</p> <p>To see what's circulating below. Not sure if this is the one that XXX mentioned last week or whether it's another.</p> <p>Grateful for your advice.</p>
10	<p>From: XXX HSS - Government and Corporate Business Team  Sent: 30 November 2020 15:04  To: PS FirstMinister; Deputy Director Public Health; XXX TAC – Technical Advisory Cell  Cc: Health Protection; HSSG.TAC  Subject: : URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs - Further correspondence from XXX</p> <p>Hello all,</p> <p>I haven't seen the correspondence below but there has been a number of letters from XXX to various Minister over a period of time – his MS Neil Hamilton last sent some representations on XXX's behalf to the First Minister in November (this month) – and the draft reply from the First Minister's office was:</p> <p>XXX was told in his last letter he received from the former First Minister that Welsh Government would not be engaging further on this matter unless new information or evidence is provided to us.</p> <p>I understand that XXX will therefore not be received any further substantive replies to his correspondence from the FM's office – copying in XXX to confirm that position –</p> <p>XXX, with regard to the latest correspondence from XXX referred to in the email below– addressed to the FM, a number of officials in Welsh Government and other politicians and officials in the UK and devolved governments– was it received and what will the response from the FM be?</p>
11	<p>From: PS FirstMinister  Sent: 30 November 2020 16:05</p>

	<p>To: XXX HSS - Government and Corporate Business Team; Deputy Director Public Health; XXX TAC – Technical Advisory Cell; XXX HSS - DHP Public Health  Cc: Health Protection; HSSG.TAC; PS FirstMinister  Subject: RE: : URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs - Further correspondence from XXXX</p> <p>Thank you, I had the same chaser today and was going to get in touch.</p> <p>As you say below XXXX has been told on numerous occasions that WG would not be responding further to correspondence on this matter unless new information / evidence was provided to us.</p> <p>Having had the chasing email today, I just want to check whether the material he has provided contains any new information / evidence. If it doesn't then I propose the standard reply we issue to vexatious correspondents can be sent.</p> <p>If it does contain new information, then I propose a reply just addressing the new points is issued which can refer to the fact we have previously addressed the other points he makes.</p> <p>Can I ask who would be best placed to see whether the email contains any new information / evidence please? XXX, I know we've spoken previously on this matter, so copying you in too.</p>
12	<p>From: XXX HSS - DHP Public Health  Sent: 01 December 2020 08:23  To: PS FirstMinister; XXX HSS - Government and Corporate Business Team; Deputy Director Public Health; XXX TAC – Technical Advisory Cell  Cc: Health Protection; HSSG.TAC  Subject: RE: : URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs - Further correspondence from XXX</p> <p>I haven't seen this letter or set of documents before, and skimming through the two letters they are very technical in nature and cite a lot of documents, of which I have no knowledge. It is therefore very difficult to say if any new points are being made. We are advised by PHE on EMFs because of the technical nature of the subject, and lawyers might need to see it as well, as I noticed some of the points turn on liability.</p>
13	<p>From: XXX HSS - Government and Corporate Business Team  Sent: 01 December 2020 14:42  To: XXX HSS - DHP Public Health; PS FirstMinister; Deputy Director Public Health; XXX TAC – Technical Advisory Cell  Cc: Health Protection; HSSG.TAC; XXX HSS - DHP Public Health  Subject: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs - Further correspondence from XXX</p> <p>Hello all,</p> <p>I too have looked this correspondence – it consists of a Letter of Notice and a Letter of Concern from XXX (XXX) to a huge number of Ministers, Public Health</p>

	<p>Officials, Office Holders etc. putting all on notice that if the demands made in the letter are not addressed (in essence halting the roll out of 5G) then unspecified actions to call to account all those wilfully ignoring the public health threat of EMF emissions, will follow.</p> <p>Both letters cite a number of papers and other policy documents which it claims show scientific evidence/concern from a range of organisations that the UK government and other Public Health Bodies are ignoring, it claims that the health and safety hazards of EMFs are being ignored, insufficient research is being done, Public Health Bodies have conflicts of interests, human rights are being violated and takes issue with the advice issued by Public Health England and other organisations. It notes also the two prospective Judicial Reviews being mounted against the UK Government on its decisions around the roll out of 5G.</p> <p>There is also documents which appear to be a minute of XXX observations to Committee on Medical Aspects of Radiation in the Environment (COMARE) – which is an advisory committee run by the Department of Health Social Care.</p> <p>We have stated the policy position of the Welsh Government already to XXX, in previous correspondence. This correspondence seems to me to cover a lot of the ground he has already raised albeit at greater length and with the threat of further action, In terms of answering I think we could say we have noted the demands made by XXX but as telecommunications is a reserved power and not devolved, and there is imminent legal action, we cannot make any further comments.</p>
14	<p>From: XXX TAC – Technical Advisory Cell  Sent: 01 December 2020 14:49  To: XXX HSS - Government and Corporate Business Team XXX HSS-Primary Care &amp; Health Science; XXX HSS - DHP Public Health; PS FirstMinister; Deputy Director Public Health  Cc: Health Protection; HSSG.TAC; XXX HSS - DHP Public Health  Subject: RE: URGENT – Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs - Further correspondence from XXX</p> <p>Thanks XXX, including XXX in copy he is likely unaware of the history here... but I am sure would be very interested and may be able to suggest a line or two.</p>
15	<p>From: PS FirstMinister  Sent: 16 February 2021 14:43  To: XXX HSS - Government and Corporate Business Team; PS FirstMinister  Cc: XXX HSS-Primary Care &amp; Health Science  Subject: RE: Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs - Further correspondence from XXX - Response from FM?</p> <p>Very sorry for the delay in getting back to you. I have to confess a response hasn't issued yet.</p> <p>It will be along the lines of repeating what we have already said - WG takes its advice on this matter from Public Health England and that advice has not changed. We have said in previous correspondence that unless new evidence or</p>

information is provided to us, we will no longer be engaging on the matter.

I'll share this with you when I issue.



# EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE LOGS

Official - **TO/LW/01035/20** Official

Status: Drafting

CORRESPONDENT LETTER DETAILS ASSIGNMENTS ASSOCIATED FILES EMAILS TRACKING COMMENTS HISTORY

History

- 15/12/2020 12:51:06 [Redacted] Reply sent to correspondent
- 15/12/2020 12:51:06 [Redacted] Jacket Updated
- 15/12/2020 12:51:05 [Redacted] Assignment Completed
- 15/12/2020 12:51:01 [Redacted] Assignment Submitted
- 15/12/2020 12:50:58 [Redacted] File added (TO-LW-01035-20 URGENT Letter of Notice Anthropogenic EMFs.msg)
- 02/12/2020 14:40:29 [Redacted] Security group/user ESNR - E&T - Government Business added
- 02/12/2020 14:40:29 [Redacted] Assignment Assigned To ESNR - E&T - Government Business
- 02/12/2020 14:40:29 [Redacted] Assignment Created
- 02/12/2020 14:40:29 [Redacted] Jacket sent for drafting to ESNR - E&T - Government Business
- 02/12/2020 14:40:21 [Redacted] Jacket Updated
- 02/12/2020 14:40:17 [Redacted] Acknowledgement Sent
- 02/12/2020 14:40:15 [Redacted] File added (D:\Users\ [Redacted] \OneDrive - Welsh Government\Profile\Downloads\FW URGENT Letter of Notice Anthropogenic EMFs.msg)
- 02/12/2020 14:40:15 [Redacted] File added (TO-LW-01035-20 - TO template.docx)
- 02/12/2020 14:40:15 [Redacted] Jacket Created

Cross Referenced Jackets

No cross referenced jackets

Previous Reference Numbers

Created: 02/12/2020 14:40:15 by [Redacted] Modified: 15/12/2020 12:51:06 by [Redacted]

Official - **TO/LW/11332/21** Official

Status: Drafting

CORRESPONDENT LETTER DETAILS ASSIGNMENTS ASSOCIATED FILES EMAILS TRACKING COMMENTS HISTORY

History

- 22/09/2021 10:07:41 [Redacted] Reply sent to correspondent
- 22/09/2021 10:07:41 [Redacted] Jacket Updated
- 22/09/2021 10:07:39 [Redacted] Assignment Completed
- 22/09/2021 10:06:59 [Redacted] File added (FW TOLW/1133221 TO Correspondence Due 05102021 Concerns over 5g ScannedMail linked to TOLW0103520.msg)
- 22/09/2021 09:59:10 [Redacted] Assignment Submitted
- 14/09/2021 13:33:44 [Redacted] Security group/user ESNR - DeputyMCC - Gov Business Unit added
- 14/09/2021 13:33:44 [Redacted] Assignment Assigned To ESNR - DeputyMCC - Gov Business Unit
- 14/09/2021 13:33:44 [Redacted] Assignment Created
- 14/09/2021 13:33:44 [Redacted] Jacket sent for drafting to ESNR - DeputyMCC-Gov Business Unit
- 14/09/2021 13:31:43 [Redacted] Jacket Updated
- 14/09/2021 13:31:39 [Redacted] Acknowledgement Sent
- 14/09/2021 13:31:36 [Redacted] File added (RE URGENT Letter of Notice Anthropogenic EMFs1.msg)
- 14/09/2021 13:31:35 [Redacted] File added (RE URGENT Letter of Notice Anthropogenic EMFs.msg)
- 14/09/2021 13:31:35 [Redacted] Jacket Created

Cross Referenced Jackets

Ref	Subject	Organisation	Division	Letter Date	Received
TO/LW/01035/20	URGENT - Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs		ESNR - Economy Government Business	02/12/2020	02/12/2020

Previous Reference Numbers

Created: 14/09/2021 13:31:35 by [Redacted] Modified: 22/09/2021 10:07:41 by [Redacted]

Reference	Correspondent's Name	Title of Correspondence	Due Date	Issued/ Submitted	Comments
<b>w/c 21-12-20</b>					
TO-LW-01035-20	XXXX	Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs	23/12/2020	15/12/2020	Completed
<b>w/c 04-10-21</b>					
TO-LW-11332-21	XXXX	Letter of Notice: Anthropogenic EMFs - linked to TO-LW-01035-20	05/10/2021	22/09/2021	Completed

## **ATISN 15590 - Application of EIR exception**

The Environmental Information Regulations provide a right for anyone to ask a public authority to make requested information available to the wider public. As the release of requested information is to the world, not just the requester, public authorities need to consider the effects of making the information freely available to everybody. Any personal interest the requester has for accessing the information cannot override those wider considerations.

We have decided to withhold the following information:

- All personal data caught by your request.

### **Engagement of Regulation 13, personal data of the Environmental Information Regulations (EIRs)**

The Welsh Government believes that the personal data of Welsh Government officials should be exempt from disclosure.

Regulation 13 of the EIRs sets out an exception from the right to know if the information requested is personal information protected by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA). Personal data is defined in the GDPR as:

“any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person (‘data subject’); an identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person”

We have concluded that, in this instance, the information in relation to names and personal e-mail addresses of officials amounts to personal data. Under Regulation 13 of the EIRs, personal data is exempt from release if disclosure would breach one of the data protection principles set out in Article 5 of the GDPR. We consider the principle being most relevant in this instance as being the first. This states that personal data must be:

“processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subject”

Guidance from the Information Commissioner’s Office (Personal information (section 40 and regulation 13) v 1.3) states (at p11):

- The starting point is to consider whether it would be fair to the data subject to disclose their personal data. The key considerations in assessing this are set out in the section on Fairness below.
- If disclosure would not be fair, then the information is exempt from disclosure.

This approach was endorsed by the Court of Appeal in the case of *Deborah Clark v the Information Commissioner and East Hertfordshire District Council* where it was held:

“The first data protection principle entails a consideration of whether it would be fair to disclose the personal data in all the circumstances. The Commissioner determined that it would not be fair to disclose the requested information and thus the first data protection principle would be breached. There was no need in the present case therefore to consider whether any other Schedule 2 condition or conditions could be met because even if such conditions could be established, it would still not be possible to disclose the personal data without breaching the DPA” (paragraph 63).

In this instance, the personal data is included in all of the information caught by your request.

The Welsh Government officials, many of whom are junior officials operating generic mailboxes, would not expect their names or contact details to be released in this context nor would they have any expectation that this information would be made public. Thus, we believe release of this information would be unfair and so breach the first data protection principle.

For that reason, the information is being withheld under Regulation 13 of the EIRs. This is an absolute exemption and not subject to the public interest test.