



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

E-mail request

Our ref: ATISN 15734
Date: 30 December 2021

Dear

ATISN 15734

Thank you for your request which I received on 1 December 2021. You asked for the following information:

- Any communications between UK Government and Welsh Government civil servants or ministers relating to Barnett formula consequential funding for Wales regarding HS2 between 2010 and 2016.

I have concluded that it will cost more than the appropriate limit established in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 to consider your request. The appropriate limit specified for central government is £600. When calculating whether or not your request exceeds the appropriate limit, I am allowed to consider the time it is likely to take to establish if we hold the information, locate the information, retrieve the information and extract it. If these tasks are estimated to take more than 24 hours of working time, the limit will have been exceeded.

In using the term 'any communication' and between 2010 and 2016, you have requested information which may be held by different teams or departments across the Welsh Government.

I have conducted a search on ishare (Welsh Government's records repository) using the following search parameters 'HS2' and creation date is after (date) '01/01/2010' and creation date is before (date) '31/12/2016'. The search identified 4747 records.

Assuming a minimum 2 minutes to review each record to establish if it fell within the scope of your request would result in the time limit being exceeded ($2 \times 4747 / 60 = 158$ hrs).

The limit would be further exceeded with the need to review any paper records held for the time period and/or where there is also a need to conduct further electronic searches using other terms such as 'Barnett consequential'.

If you are able to refine your request to describe in more detail the exact information you are seeking (coupled with a narrower time frame), that may bring your question to within the limit. However, please note that similar searches of our electronic records and paper records such as I describe above may again be required (particularly when a request seeks 'any communication').



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Any reformulation will be treated as a new request for information.

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