

26 January 2022

Dear

**ATISN 15755 - Black Lives Matter**

**Information requested**

Thank you for your request which I received on 13 December 2021.

And for your clarification of this request following my email of 6 January 2022.

Due to this clarification we are now able to provide a response by 4 February 2022, rather than 6 February 2022 as you were originally notified.

You asked for:

1. Copies of all correspondence between the assembly, the minister and assembly officers between Black Lives Matter and the assembly.
2. I would appreciate a copy of your policy document sent to educators.
3. Evidence of the due diligence that you carried out between BLM and any other organisations you derived policy from.

Please find below the answers to your questions in the order you sent your request.

**1. Copies of all correspondence between the assembly, the minister and assembly officers between black lives matter and the assembly.**

On November 4 2020 during Welsh Parliament Plenary - Fifth Senedd, a petition was put to the Senedd calling for the teaching of Black history to be made compulsory in the curriculum.

This petition gained 20,000 signatures in two days and closed with a total of 34,736 signatures.

The transcript and outcome are here:

<https://petitions.senedd.wales/petitions/200034>.

On December 14 2020, the then Deputy Minister and Chief Whip Jane Hutt MS launched the Black Lives Matter Cymru Manifesto. Many of the recommendations made in the manifesto have been considered within the Race Equality Action Plan.

The Race Equality Action Plan has been developed within the context of Black Lives Matter movement.

Key stakeholders, including Black Lives Matter Cymru, have been instrumental in the co-construction of the Action Plan.

Black Lives Matter representatives from various areas across Wales, also attend the Wales Race Forum to provide expert policy advice to the Welsh Government in relation to the protected characteristic of race and ethnicity.

This is an advisory and consultative role rather than a decision-making one.

No information is held specifically on the issue of Black Lives Matter.

## **2. I would appreciate a copy of your policy document sent to educators.**

We are unable to provide a response as you have not identified exactly what policy document you are referring too, or what specific information you are seeking.

I can however confirm that the draft Race Equality Action Plan, and the Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Communities, Contributions, and Cynefin in the New Curriculum Working Group: final report, have been circulated widely to key stakeholders.

They are available here:

[Race Equality Action Plan: An Anti-racist Wales | GOV.WALES](#)

[Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Communities, Contributions and Cynefin in the New Curriculum Working Group: final report | GOV.WALES](#)

## **3. Evidence of the due diligence that you carried out between BLM and any other organisations you derived policy from.**

Welsh Government has not directly funded the activity of any organisation that can be identified as “Black Lives Matter”.

Our understanding is that Black Lives Matter is a global movement of individuals, formed around protests against racially motivated violence, including police brutality, and that it has no centralised organisation.

We understand Black Lives Matter Cymru to be part of this broad movement as a group of individuals working to oppose racially motivated violence.

On 28 October 2020, we funded Race Council Cymru to undertake direct engagement with Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities across Wales to enable the sharing of lived experience with the Welsh Government.

£5,000 was awarded to Race Council Cymru to undertake research on the views of those within this broad movement across Wales and feed this research into the development of the Race Equality Action Plan for Wales.

### **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](mailto: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