



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

11 January 2021

via email:

Dear

ATISN15777 Home Education Policy – cooperation with the UK

Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on 13 December 2021. You asked for Copies of agenda, minutes and communications with UK Government Dept of Education regarding home education law, policy and guidance since 1 September 2021.

Our response

A copy of the information you have requested is enclosed (enclosure 1 and enclosure 2).

I have decided that some of the information is exempt from disclosure under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act and is therefore withheld. The reasons for applying these exemptions are that they contain personal information relating to officials within the Welsh Government and UK Government Department for Education (DfE). As release of the information would not be legitimate under Article 6(1)(f), and as no other condition of Article 6 is deemed to apply, release of the information would not be lawful within the meaning of the first data protection principle. It has therefore been withheld under section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act.. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and not subject to the public interest test. Enclosure 3 sets out the rationale for using this exemption.

In relation to your specific request I would add that we have provided you with copies of email correspondence between the Welsh Government and DfE which occurred between the timeframe of 1 September 2021 to date. In addition, officials of both Governments met (via Teams) on 9 September and 18 November 2021, these meetings were informal introductory and fact finding meetings and had no formal agenda, nor were they recorded. It is not unusual for such discussions to occur, particularly as policy develops, to ensure that we share experience and learning across UK Government's and ensure that any cross border issues (between the shared England/Wales border) which may arise, are accounted for.

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,