

Date: 20 July 2022

Dear

ATISN 16424 Information on Illegal migrants

Thank you for your request received on 23 June 2022. You asked:

1. The amount of illegal migrants with Wales (most recent figures?).
2. The figures for illegal migrants over a 10 year period within Wales.
3. A breakdown of where they are being housed within Wales, each County burgh but also individual figures for Swansea, Cardiff, Newport and Wrexham.
4. How illegal migrants are vetted to see if they pose any risk to the public and what measures are put in place to ensure public safety?
5. Statistic for criminal involvement of illegal migrants in Wales? A breakdown of crime and offences?
6. How illegal migrants are supposed economically (schemes in place) within Wales by The Welsh Government?
7. How the Welsh Government encourages integration within communities of illegal migrants within Wales?
8. The overall vision and plan for illegal migrants in Wales by The Welsh Government?
9. How the Welsh public are involved and made aware of these plans, vision and impact?
10. The overall cost of housing illegal migrants in Wales, both current figures and predicted?

Our response

We considered the response you provided and have established that some of the information you require is held by the Welsh Government.

Questions:

1. The amount of illegal migrants with Wales (most recent figures?).
2. The figures for illegal migrants over a 10 year period within Wales.
3. A breakdown of where they are being housed within Wales, each County burgh but also individual figures for Swansea, Cardiff, Newport and Wrexham.
4. How illegal migrants are vetted to see if they pose any risk to the public and what measures are put in place to ensure public safety?
6. How illegal migrants are supposed economically (schemes in place) within Wales by The Welsh Government?
10. The overall cost of housing illegal migrants in Wales, both current figures and predicted?

Response:

The Home Office is responsible for all matters relating to asylum and immigration including the data on the numbers who are currently in the UK, the breakdown of the areas in which they reside and any vetting processes that needs to take place in terms of safeguarding and

vetting whilst they reside in Home Office dispersal and contingency accommodation or accommodation sites. This also includes the provision and payment of accommodation provided to asylum seekers under section 95 or section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

The provision of support and accommodation under this legislation is not within the devolved powers of the Welsh Government. The Home Office may therefore be able to provide an answer to your request you can find further information on how this can be provided on their [website](#) or submit a request to foirequests@homeoffice.gov.uk

The following link can provide some information regarding the number of asylum seekers in the UK which may help to answer your questions above however more detailed information can only be provided by the Home Office who remain responsible for asylum and immigration matters:

[Asylum and resettlement datasets - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

Question:

5. Statistic for criminal involvement of illegal migrants in Wales? A breakdown of crime and offences?

Response:

The Welsh Government does not hold this information, as with the previous response, you may wish to contact the Home Office or Police Forces in Wales who may hold this information.

Questions

- 7. How the Welsh Government encourages integration within communities of illegal migrants within Wales?
- 8. The overall vision and plan for illegal migrants in Wales by The Welsh Government?
- 9. How the Welsh public are involved and made aware of these plans, vision and impact?

The Welsh Government's Nation of Sanctuary plan sets out the breadth of actions and work we are undertaking to ensure sanctuary seekers can integrate within Welsh Communities and can support them to fulfil their potential where required. You can view how we want sanctuary seekers to integrate within Welsh communities within the plan which can be found [here](#)

The plan was developed through a three month open consultation which commenced on 22 March 2018 and concluded on 25 June 2018. We met and listened to people seeking sanctuary and public services across Wales, both before and during the consultation. The consultation was also open to the public to comment. A copy of the consultation summary of responses can be found [here](#).

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