

3 October 2022

Dear

**FOI ATISN 16634 Elective Home Education (linked to previous FOI 16549)**

Thank you for clarifying your previous request which we received on 6 September 2022. You asked for:

*1. Details of all consultation activities (online or in-person) undertaken by Welsh Government between 01/01/2018 and 03/08/2022 in consulting home educating families and other stakeholders on the matter of proposed legislation changes to elective home education (EHE).*

*For online consultations, to provide consultation reference, title and date.*

*You refer to the following online consultations:*

- WG35754 Home Education – Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities and a Handbook for Home Educators. Date of issue: 29 July 2019 Action required: Responses by 21 October 2019*
- WG39220 - The Children Act 2004 Education Database (Wales) Regulations 2020; & The Education (Information about Children in Independent Schools) (Wales) Regulations 2020 Date of issue: 30 January 2020 Action required: Responses by 22 April 2020*

*For in person consultations, to provide details to include date, location, title (subject), agenda, questions asked to attendees/discussion topics, number of attendees and descriptors of attendees (e.g. home educators, WG/LA staff etc.).*

*You refer to the following in-person consultations:*

- Builth Wells on 6.12.18*
- South Wales Cardiff City Stadium Friday 11th October 2019 10.00 - 13.00pm*
- North Wales Venue Cymru, Llandudno Friday 18th October 2019 10.00 - 13.00pm*
- Mid and West Wales Liberty Stadium, Swansea Monday 21st October 2019 10.00 - 13.00pm*

*You refer to the following planned in-person consultations which, according to Freedom of Information Request ATISN 016557, were cancelled:*

- North Wales Venue - Venue Cymru, Llandudno 06.03.2020*
- South Wales - Orbit Business Centre, Merthyr Tydfil 26.03.2020*
- Mid and West Wales Liberty Stadium, Swansea Monday 13.03.2020*

Certain aspects of this information is exempt under s21/Information available by other means of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please find the links to the online consultations:

WG35754 [consultation-document-home-education.pdf \(gov.wales\)](#)

WG39220 [Local authority education databases | GOV.WALES](#)

Children's version: [consultation-for-young-people.pdf \(gov.wales\)](#)

In person events were as follows:

***Builth Wells 6<sup>th</sup> December 2018***

Agenda is attached.

Discussion topics included development opportunities, exam invigilator training, exam registration, Welsh language, and the parent support handbook.

There were 44 attendees in total: 20 Local Authority officers, 3 Welsh Government officials, 1 representative from the office of the Children's Commissioner; and 20 parents.

***Cardiff City Stadium 11<sup>th</sup> October 2019, Llandudno 18<sup>th</sup> October 2019 and Swansea 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019***

Discussion topics included legal responsibilities and rights, identifying children not known to local authorities, the requirement to demonstrate an efficient and suitable education

We do not hold the breakdown of attendees per event. There were a total of 72 attendees across all 3 events. This included 9 children. We are unable to provide this breakdown per event, as this may lead to identification.

*2. To provide a list of any cancelled consultation events to include date/venue/subject/agenda for each event and the reason why the event was cancelled.*

*From Freedom of Information Request ATISN 016557, I understand the following events were cancelled:*

- North Wales Venue - Venue Cymru, Llandudno 06.03.2020*
- South Wales - Orbit Business Centre, Merthyr Tydfil 26.03.2020*
- Mid and West Wales Liberty Stadium, Swansea Monday 13.03.2020*

The in-person events at the following venues were cancelled due to Covid -19 Pandemic:

Llandudno 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Swansea 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Merthyr Tydfil 26<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

3. To inform if any of the cancelled events referred to in Q2 were rescheduled for a later date.

The events referred to in Q2 were not rescheduled, however the online consultation remained open until 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2020.

### **Our response**

The information you requested is enclosed above.

### **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