

03 May 2023

Dear

ATISN 17359 Powers over water

Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on 3 April 2023. You asked for:

1. Any correspondence between Welsh Ministers and the Secretary of State for Wales since 2017 on enacting the provisions of section 48(1) of the Wales Act 2017.
2. The conclusions reached by the Joint Governments Review Programme (initiated by the Silk Commission) to examine the implications of aligning the legislative competence for water with the national border of Wales.
3. A list of meetings held between the Welsh Government officials and relevant local communities on Gate 1 of the River Severn to River Thames Transfer (STT) programme (and described in page 21 of <https://www.severntrent.com/content/dam/stw-plc/about-us/gate-1-submission-stt.pdf>)

Our response

The information you requested is enclosed as follows:

1. Any correspondence between Welsh Ministers and the Secretary of State for Wales since 2017 on enacting the provisions of section 48(1) of the Wales Act 2017.
 - a. **Attachment 1** – a letter dated December 2018 from Welsh Minister for Environment to Defra Parliamentary Under-Secretary cc Secretary of State for Wales.
2. The conclusions reached by the Joint Governments Review Programme (initiated by the Silk Commission) to examine the implications of aligning the legislative competence for water with the national border of Wales.
 - a. This information is already **publicly available** on the Senedd Record under Written Question WQ87918: <https://record.senedd.wales/WrittenQuestion/87918>
3. A list of meetings held between the Welsh Government officials and relevant local communities on Gate 1 of the River Severn to River Thames Transfer (STT) programme (and described in page 21 of <https://www.severntrent.com/content/dam/stw-plc/about-us/gate-1-submission-stt.pdf>).
 - a. This information is **not held** by Welsh Government, because no such meetings have taken place.

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