

17 July 2023

Dear

**ATISN 18635**

**Information requested.**

Thank you for your request which I received on 21.06.2023.

**You asked.**

- How many hectares of land does the Welsh Government own in particular how many separate areas of land are owned? Together with a breakdown of each development, purchase cost and acre/hectare.
- In addition, how many of the areas of land owned by the Welsh Government have been identified as suitable for housing including the hectare figure.

**Our response**

Welsh Government land is registered at HM Land Registry and as such is available to the public to interrogate. Where known these records would also contain the purchase price. <https://www.gov.uk/search-property-information-land-registry>

Many parcels of land in Welsh Government ownership would have been transferred from other public bodies some of which no longer exist. These transfers would not necessarily record the original cost of purchase.

The Welsh Government holds land for multiple purposes and across several departments which would include roadside verges, woodland, business sites etc. These sites would vary in size from the large employment areas to roadside strips containing service infrastructure. We do not maintain a running record of the total size of all the land holdings. To gain and maintain this information would require significant resource for no obvious gain. We estimate there to be over 20,000 titles registered to Welsh Ministers.

There are 14 sites currently identified as suitable for housing amounting to 437.86 Acres or 177.2 Hectares.

**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