



Ein cyf/Our ref ATISN 18687

2 August 2023

Dear ,

### **Request for Information – ATISN 18687**

Thank you for your request for information dated 5 July. You have asked for the following information regarding 20mph speed limit rollout:

1. How many meetings did Welsh Government officials have with local authorities on the 20mph rollout, prior to the public announcement?
2. How many meetings did Lee Waters have with local authorities on the 20mph scheme, prior to the public announcement?
3. How many meetings have Welsh Government officials had with local authorities on the 20mph rollout, post public announcement?
4. How many meetings has Lee Waters had with local authorities on the 20mph rollout, post public announcement?
5. How many meetings has Lee Waters attended in relation to the upcoming 20mph scheme? (stakeholder meetings, official Ministerial meetings, etc.)
6. How many meetings has Lee Waters attended within the Llanelli constituency in relation to the upcoming 20mph scheme?

### **Our response**

From my preliminary assessment I estimate that it will cost more than the appropriate limit set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 to answer your request. The appropriate limit specified for central government is £600. This represents the estimated cost of it taking over 24 hours of time to determine whether we hold the information and to thereafter locate, retrieve and extract it.

Welsh Government keeps no central list of meetings attended, so in order to provide you with the information that you have requested would require officials in at least 3 policy divisions, as well as ministerial private offices to look through diaries and filed briefings to locate and extract the information you require. Because you have asked for information both before and after the public announcement (however public announcement is defined), this request actually asks for all such information on meetings since the start of Welsh Government. Although most such meetings will

have been recent, we cannot preclude, without searching, the possibility that there were earlier meetings on the subject, dating back many years.

In a sample exercise, attempting to find meetings in scope on our electronic filing system, I found 15,687 documents referring to 20mph meetings. Many of these referred to the same meetings, and an attempt to reduce this number indicated that there were between 5 and 30 documents for each meeting. Taking the upper bound of 30 documents, I estimate that I would still need to review 523 documents to complete just this part of the file search for relevant meetings. Based on five minutes to locate and read documents in a file to establish whether the meeting is in the scope of your request, this part of the search alone would take in excess of 43 hours work. This would be necessary to answer any part of your request, but would not complete the search for any part.

Consequently, I have decided not to provide you with the information you have requested.

You may wish to refine your request by narrowing its scope by being more specific about what information you particularly wish to obtain, including any dates or period of time relevant to the information required. If you do refine your request in this way, this will be treated as a new request.

### **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