

22 March 2024

Dear _____,

ATISN 20261 – Overseas Projects

Thank you for your request which I received on 23 February. In your email, you asked:

Q. Apart from the £4 million tree planting project in Uganda, what other overseas projects are the Welsh Government funding and what are the costs of these projects?

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. In order to provide you with the information that you have requested we would need to commission data searches across the six main Welsh Government Groups. Each Group would then need to commission responses to list budgets that fund overseas projects and identify what those projects are. The Group would also need to identify how these projects are funded and run various reports across our finance systems.

Taking the Economy, Treasury and Constitution (ETC) Group as an example, the Group co-ordinator would need to seek information from 15 budget co-ordinators within the ETC Group. It would take each budget co-ordinator a minimum 20 minutes to collect and review the data and run various reports on our finance systems. The Group co-ordinator would spend a minimum of 2 hours collating and reviewing the information received from the 15 budget co-ordinators.

Calculation

20 mins x 15 budget co-ordinators = 5 hrs + 2 hrs Group co-ordinator time = 7 hrs x 6 Groups = 42 Hours.

This estimate is based on the collection of information for 2023-24 financial year only. 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

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