

14 March 2024

Dear

ATISN 20192: Drinking water quality – PFAS (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances)

Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on 9 February 2024. You asked for:

How much forever chemicals are in Welsh reservoirs and come through our taps as a percentage (parts per million). You also asked to know what measures the Senedd are taking to stop or reduce PFAS substances from entering Wales and impacting Welsh people.

Our response

Following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that the information you require is not held by the Welsh Government.

However, you may wish to be aware that the Welsh Government, in conjunction with the Scottish Government and Defra, asked the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) to produce a Regulatory Management Options Assessment (RMOA) report regarding PFAS, which was published in March 2023 and is available online at <https://www.hse.gov.uk/REACH/assets/docs/pfas-rmoa.pdf>. It is a UK-wide report and offers most comprehensive British analysis of PFAS to date and what measures could be put in place to control and manage them.

Furthermore, in March 2023 the Drinking Water Inspectorate (DWI) issued a [letter to water companies](#) setting out their expectations on mitigating PFAS risks. The Welsh Government reviews incidents of PFAS with the DWI and works with the Emerging Threats to Water Quality Group to monitor drinking water quality in Wales.

Finally, we wish to clarify the Senedd's role, which is to create laws, set taxes and oversee the Welsh Government. Further information is publicly available here: <https://senedd.wales/how-we-work/>.

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,