16 April 2024

Dear

ATISN 20373

Thank you for your request which I received on 19 March 2024. I have set out at Annex 1 the question you submitted.

From my initial 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.

If the list was reviewed by the Trade and Investment team in Cardiff and our staff in our 21 international offices alone (and if each office/team took just 1 hr to consider the list in order to locate, extract and retrieve any information they may hold) the appropriate limit would almost be reached. If you then add further consideration of what information may be held elsewhere across Welsh Government against all questions and organisations – the limit would be exceeded.

Consideration on narrowing the scope of your request to bring within the limit.

In order to bring your questions to within the appropriate limit you may wish to refine you request, for example:

- reducing the scope to a particular 'category' e.g. procurement information only;
- if seeking a range of information rather than a particular 'category', a smaller time frame in conjunction with a reduced list of organisations may better help identify the specific areas of Welsh Government who may be required to search for any information held);
- official engagements you may wish to clarify if you are seeking information with regard to officials only, Ministers only or both (and whether that is direct engagement in the UK or when overseas (as opposed to engagements where that may have been via a 3rd party);
- commercial partnerships this could cover a range of arrangements please could you provide further clarification on that which you are seeking; and
- "details" is a broad term. In light of the above points, please could you further clarify what you are seeking when using this term.

You may wish to note that all Welsh Government expenditure over £25k including details of who the expenditure is with is published here <u>Welsh Government</u> <u>expenditure over £25,000 | GOV.WALES</u>

Any refined questions will be treated as a new request for information.

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 e-mail: 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

Telephone: 0303 123 1113 Website: <u>www.ico.org.uk</u>

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely

Annex 1

Details of any formal dealings (including procurement contracts, sponsorships, official engagements and commercial partnerships) between the Welsh Government and the following companies since 24 February 2022:

- Alibaba Group Holding Limited
- Allied Mineral Products LLC
- Auchan
- Bacardi
- Barry Callebaut
- Bolero & Company Ltd
- Bonduelle
- Buzzi Unicem
- Camozzi Group
- China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC Group)
- China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC)
- China Petrochemical Corporation (Sinopec Group)
- China Railway Construction Corporation (CRCC)
- China State Construction Engineering Corporation
- CK Birla Group
- COMNAV TECHNOLOGY LTD.
- Dahua Technology
- Danieli
- DMG Mori
- DP World
- eKassir
- ESAB (Elektriska Svetsnings-Aktiebolaget)
- Fluxys
- Great Wall Motor
- Hikvision
- Japan Tobacco International
- Kerui Group
- Knauf
- Leroy Merlin
- Mars Incorporated
- Metro
- Mondelēz International, Inc.
- Nestlé
- OpenWay Group
- P&G (Procter & Gamble)
- PepsiCo
- Philip Morris International
- ROCKWOOL
- Shandong Odes Industry Co., Ltd.
- Şişecam
- SLB (former Schlumberger)
- SPINNER Werkzeugmaschinenfabrik GmbH
- Subway IP LLC
- Unilever
- Weatherford International Ltd.
- Xiaomi Corporation
- Yves Rocher
- Zhejiang Geely Holding Group