

Dear ,

Complaint in respect of ATISN 19567 – Overseas Offices Costs

I have now completed an internal review following your complaint about the response to your Freedom of Information request to us regarding the costs of Welsh Government Overseas Offices.

I have considered the complaint and the use of Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act in this instance.

I have found that the response to you correctly applied the use of Section 21 because information that you were seeking has been made available. However, it did not supply you with all the information that you requested.

I also found that our correspondence with you could have been clearer setting out the information you sought.

The information that we currently have available on the costs of the overseas offices was made available in a previous Freedom of Information request and we publish our responses online. In the response to you, we provided a link to this previous response. I am reattaching this link - [FOI release 20087: Overseas Offices | GOV.WALES](#)

Within that response, the following information has been previously provided:

The total annual cost of operating Welsh Government offices overseas is shown in the table below for the financial years requested. This includes office rent, FCDO platform charges, spend against activity budgets, staff salaries and on-costs.

Financial Year	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Total Cost	£4,658,331	£5,515,312	£4,475,335	£4,642,819	£5,530,306.

However, your request sought information up until the last financial year 2023-24 and the initial response to you did not set this out. I would like to apologise for this. This information is not currently available but will be shortly and I will ensure that my team send this to you in due course.

I have considered your complaint in accordance with the procedure outlined in the Welsh Government's Practical Guide for Making Requests for Information which is available by post on request or via the internet at: [Requesting information from the Welsh Government \[HTML\] | GOV.WALES](#)

If you remain dissatisfied with this response you 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.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Gwatkin

Director – International Relations & Trade
Welsh Government