Dear

### **ATISN 23251**

Thank you for your request which I received on 13 January 2025. You asked for the following information:

- The total number of trips abroad undertaken by Welsh Government Ministers as part of official Welsh Government business during the calendar year 2024.
- The total expenditure incurred by the Welsh Government on Ministerial travel abroad during 2024, including personal expenses where available.
- A list of countries visited by Welsh Government Ministers on official business during 2024, along with the names of the Ministers who visited each country.

#### Our response

This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Information accessible to the applicant by other means. Further details on this exemption are provided at Annex 1.

Information for January to March 2024 is available here Ministerial Code information publication: 6th Senedd | GOV.WALES

The remaining information will be published after the end of the current financial year.

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 3NO

or e-mail: <u>Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales</u>

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: www.ico.org.uk

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

# Section 21 – Information accessible to the applicant by other means

The exemption states:

- (1) Information which is reasonably accessible to the applicant otherwise than under section 1 is exempt information.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1)
  - (a) information may be reasonably accessible to the applicant even though it is accessible only on payment; and
  - (b) information is to be taken to be reasonably accessible to the applicant if it is information which the public authority or any other person is obliged by or under any enactment to communicate (otherwise than by making the information available for inspection) to members of the public on request, whether free of charge or on payment.
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (1), information which is held by a public authority and does not fall within subsection (2)(b) is not to be regarded as reasonably accessible to the applicant merely because the information is available from the public authority itself on request, unless the information is made available in accordance with the authority's publication scheme and any payment required is specified in, or determined in accordance with, the scheme.

## **Public interest test**

Section 21 is an absolute exemption, there is no need to consider the public interest balance.