



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Our ref: ATISN 24362
Date: 26 February 2025

Dear ,

ATISN 24362

Thank you for your request which I received on 10 February 2025. You asked for the following information:

1. *What was the total cost to Welsh Government of preparing the Senedd Cymru (Electoral Candidate Lists) Bill?*
2. *How much did the Welsh Government spend procuring advice/consultancy services from external organisations to prepare the Senedd Cymru (Electoral Candidate Lists) Bill?*
3. *How much did the Welsh Government spend consulting on the Senedd Cymru (Electoral Candidate Lists) Bill?*

Our response

Some of the information you requested is provided below. However, not all of the information you have requested is held by the Welsh Government.

The cost of external legal advice that the Welsh Government received in relation to the Senedd Cymru (Electoral Candidate Lists) Bill is £38,100. This was incurred prior to introduction of the Bill. I can confirm that no other external services were commissioned for the Bill by the Welsh Government.

Any costs incurred in respect of Welsh Government Civil Servants time spent working on the Bill cannot be provided. The reason for this is that the Welsh Government does not record time spent by officials against specific activities. I am therefore unable to provide a breakdown of the cost of work on the Bill separate from the Senedd Reform programme as a whole. The allocation for the Senedd Reform programme overall was £2.2m in 2023-24 and £1.2m in 2024-2025.



For information, requests for similar information have been made previously and these can be accessed from the Welsh Government website:

- [FOI release 21943](#) - Details of costs for the external legal advice received for the Senedd Cymru (Electoral Candidate Lists) Bill
- [FOI release 20006](#) - Information relating to the Senedd Cymru (Electoral Candidate Lists) Bill
- [FOI release 19377](#) - A list of all internal and external stakeholders who were consulted during the drafting process for the Senedd Cymru (Electoral Candidate Lists) Bill

There are also relevant written questions which can be accessed from the Welsh Parliament website:

- [WQ94153](#) - Tabled on 23/09/2024 - Will the Cabinet Secretary provide a full breakdown of the total cost to the Welsh Government of the Senedd Cymru (Electoral Candidate Lists) Bill, to date?
- [WQ92507](#) - Tabled on 18/04/2024 - What costs have been incurred by the Welsh Government in relation to external legal advice in respect of the Senedd Cymru (Electoral Candidate Lists) Bill both prior to its introduction and since?

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