

31 March 2025

Dear

ATISN 24541: Accommodation for Illegal Immigrants

Thank you for your request received on 17 March 2025. You asked:

1/The number of hotels in Wales currently used to accommodate illegal immigrants

2/The number of other accommodation types used to house illegal immigrants.

3/A breakdown by county of the number of hotels and accommodation within each.

4/The daily or weekly cost of all the accommodation, food, heating and staff to run these dwellings.

5/The total reimbursement from first date of use) for any damages incurred within any of the accommodation.

6/ The number of hotels in the pipeline to house illegal immigrants.

Our Response

We received your response to our letter asking you to clarify your request for information on 27th March 2025. Your response stated:

In the UK, an "illegal immigrant" is often referred to as an "unauthorised migrant" and refers to someone who enters or stays in the country without the necessary immigration permission.

In the UK, "illegal immigrants" (or those without legal status) are not permitted to access jobs, housing, benefits, or most free public services, and face potential detention and removal by authorities.

We considered the response you provided and have established that the information you require is not held by the Welsh Government. The Welsh Government is not responsible for accommodating asylum seekers who have arrived in the UK without prior immigration permission. The Home Office is responsible for this accommodation and your information request would be better sent to that department for consideration.

The Home Office is responsible for the provision and payment of accommodation provided to asylum seekers under sections 98, 95 or section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999. The provision of accommodation under this legislation is not within the devolved powers of the Welsh Government. The Home Office may therefore be able to provide an answer to your request you can find further information on how this can be provided on their [website](#) or submit a request to foirequests@homeoffice.gov.uk

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