

8 July 2025

Dear

ATISN 24869 - Child Grooming Gangs

Thank you for your request to Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 26 June 2025. You requested the following:

- *All correspondence in relation to the operation, investigation, or response to grooming gangs or group-based child sexual exploitation in Wales between the Welsh Government and:*
 - *Welsh Police Forces*
 - *Welsh local authorities*
 - *Welsh Social Service departments*

Our response

We can confirm that Welsh Government hold information that is captured by your request. However, from my preliminary 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.

In order to provide you with the information that you have requested would require searches of our electronic filing system and mailboxes. Initial searches of our electronic files have retrieved over 2,211 pieces of correspondence of various sizes and complexity when using the key term '*Grooming Gangs*'. Each of these items would need to be manually reviewed to consider whether they are wholly or partially within scope of your request. Consequently, after considering the regulations and applying the timescales for review, I have decided not to provide you with the information you have requested.

You may wish to refine your request by being more specific about what information you particularly wish to obtain and include any dates or period of time relevant to the information required.

If you do refine your request in this way, this will be treated as a new request.

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,