Grŵp yr Economi, Ynni a Thrafnidiaeth Economy, Energy and Transport Group



Ein cyf/Our ref: ATISN 24554

6 May 2025

Dear ,

Request for Information - ATISN 24554 Brilliant Basics Grant - Llansteffan

Information requested

Thank you for your subsequent request for further information following our original response that was sent to you on the 26th March. You stated that you wish to challenge the use of section 42 to claim Legal Professional Privilege and you asked for the following information:

- who is the "client" claiming the privilege;
- where the claim is based on legal advice privilege or litigation privilege;
- who is the lawyer (or by whom they are employed giving the redacted "advice".

Our response

Your request was passed to me in the capacity of an independent reviewer and I have concluded that:

- The outcome of the internal review is that your complaint is upheld.
- The reason for this decision is that further examination of the meeting notes concluded that there was no justification for withholding the redacted passages on grounds of Legal Professional Privilege. The reason why a different decision has been reached on this occasion is that additional third party consultation was undertaken with Carmarthenshire County Council's legal department.

I am sorry that this investigation has concluded that the original response was erroneous. I am now attaching the full unredacted version of the meeting notes. As



Llywodraeth Cymru / Welsh Government Parc Cathays / Cathays Park CF10 3NQ

FOI.ETCC@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Legal Professional Privilege is no longer applicable to this response, your follow-on questions are no longer relevant. In future, requests of this nature will be immediately passed to the third party for further legal advice to prevent this happening in the future.

Next steps

I have considered your complaint in accordance with the procedure outlined in the <u>Welsh Government's Practical Guide for Making Requests for Information</u> which is available by post on request or via the internet.

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,

Joanne Starkey

Head of Research for Culture, Tourism and Transport Welsh Government