Dear

## **ATISN 25025**

## Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on 4 August. You asked the following:

- 1. How much was spent on potted plants, floral arrangements and other decorative fauna by the Welsh Government?
- 2. How much was spent on Union Jack flags (and other Union Jack related decorations) over the last five financial years?
- 3. How much was spent on Y Ddraig Goch (Welsh dragon) flags?
- 4. How much was spent on Senedd Cymru flags?
- 5. How much has been spent on flags of other nationalities, as well as separatist movements and LGBTQ+ related flags? Please could you provide a full list of these flags which are held by the Welsh Government.

Please could this data be broken down into a total sum over the five financial years and also broken down by each financial year.

## Our response

With regard to question 1, Welsh Government has previously received similar requests (our reference 24615 and 24511). The requests were refused on the basis that to respond would exceed the appropriate limit established under the Freedom of Information Act (2000). The appropriate limit position as outlined in the previous response would apply to question 1 (as set out in that response, if you are able to narrow the scope of your request, that may bring within the limit).

With regard to questions 4-5, the limit would be further exceeded given the information requested is not held centrally.

Flags (whether for example that be on buildings, handheld for events or free standing) are not purchased centrally – they may be purchased by individual areas of Welsh Government based on a specific requirement. To locate, extract and retrieve information across the whole of Welsh Government for each year and for any flags that may have been purchased would require multiple searches by business areas to review financial records as well as any associated (and separate) purchase orders.

You may wish to refine your questions by narrowing its scope by being more specific about what type of flora and fauna and/or flag on which you wish to receive information – combined with a narrower time frame and/or with focus on a particular area of Welsh Government (e.g. flags at Cadw Castles or Welsh Government administrative estate).

Please note, any refined request may still require searches to be conducted across Welsh Government as described above (given information is not held centrally).

Any refined request will be treated as a new FOI.

## **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 e-mail: 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

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