

10 December 2025

Dear

## **ATISN 26363 - COVID Correspondence**

### **Information requested**

Thank you for your request which I received on 24 November 2025. You asked for:

- 1) All recorded information pertaining to communications between the Welsh Government and:
  - a) The Most Reverend George Stack (Archbishop of Cardiff)
  - b) The Most Reverend Mark O'Toole (Archbishop of Cardiff and Menevia)
  - c) The Right Reverend Peter Brignall (Bishop of Wrexham)
- 2) During their tenures (time in office)
- 3) Between the dates of 1 January 2020 to 1 January 2023
- 4) To only include communications which discuss:
  - a) The pastoral care of the dying elderly, dying disabled, and dying NHS nursing personnel during the pandemic.
  - b) Discussions and decisions concerning the closure or opening of Catholic churches.

### **Our response**

The information you requested is enclosed:

The Welsh Government holds no recorded information other than what is publicly available in the published minutes of the **Faith Communities Forum** meetings.

Within the requested timeframe, the following is relevant:

- **The Most Reverend George Stack (Archbishop of Cardiff)** attended the Faith Communities Forum on 3 June 2020 and is noted as sending apologies on 1 October 2020.
- Discussions included the **closure and reopening of places of worship**, including Catholic churches.
- **The Right Reverend Peter Brignall (Bishop of Wrexham)** and **The Most Reverend Mark O'Toole** did not attend the Forum within the specified timeframe.

The relevant minutes can be accessed here:

- [Faith Communities Forum: 3 June 2020 | GOV.WALES](#)
- [Faith Communities Forum: 1 October 2020 | GOV.WALES](#)

### **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](mailto: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