

20 January 2026

Dear

ATISN 26517

Thank you for your request which I received on 18 December 2025. You asked for the following information:

- 1. How many NDA Non-disclosure agreements has the Welsh Government used/signed in the last 10 years.*
- 2. Can the information please be provided by year (for example “2025 – 5”)*

Our response

I have decided that the information described above is exempt from disclosure under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act and is therefore withheld. The reason for applying this exemption is set out in full at Annex A to this letter.

You may however wish to note a previous FOI disclosure on this matter which can be found here [FOI release 20257: Non-Disclosure Agreements | 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 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

Annex A

I have reached the conclusion that it will cost more than the appropriate limit established in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 to consider your request. The appropriate limit specified for central government is £600. When calculating whether or not your request exceeds appropriate limit, I am allowed to consider the time it is likely to take to establish if we hold the information, locate the information, retrieve the information, and extract it. If these tasks are estimated to take more than 24 hours of working time, the limit will have been exceeded.

You have requested information over a 10-year period which will have involved many different teams, different departments across the Welsh Government and involving current and former staff, all of whose records would have to be consulted, where available. The broad phrasing where you cite "NDA non-disclosure agreements" criteria, makes the search very difficult and very time consuming to deal with. An electronic search for the information within the parameters you have given will return many records, most of which will not be relevant to your request, if at all. An initial scoping exercise was undertaken by a member of staff on our Welsh Government database, iShare. This is the corporate repository for the majority of information created and received by Welsh Government Officials in the course of their duties that must be retained for business or historical purposes.

A simple search on iShare using the words "NDA" alone identified 36,104 documents and "non-disclosure agreements" 17,520 documents.

At an estimate of taking 30 seconds to investigate each document to see if it contains any relevant information and to then extract it would take in excess of 24 hrs for this exercise alone. (Additional time to undertake other iShare searches including email correspondence for relevant staff members will also be taken into consideration.) Because this exceeds the appropriate limit established in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, I have decided not to process this request. You may wish to refine your request by narrowing its scope by being more specific about what information you particularly wish to obtain, including 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, please be as specific and focused as possible.