

Dear

ATISN 27162 – Homelessness Accommodation

Thank you for your request which I received on 30 June. You asked about:

1. National datasets and data architecture (2018–present)

- Description of **all national datasets** held by Welsh Government that record, monitor, or aggregate information on the use of hotels, bed-and-breakfasts, or similar commercial accommodation for homeless households.
- For each dataset, please specify:
 - whether any fields record **provider names**, hotel chains, or identifiers that would allow Travelodge Hotels Ltd to be distinguished;
 - whether Welsh Government has ever conducted analysis, extraction, or reporting relating to **specific hotel providers** (including Travelodge);
 - whether Welsh Government has ever received **local authority returns** that include hotel-provider names.
- If Welsh Government holds **no centrally identifiable information** relating to Travelodge Hotels Ltd, please confirm this explicitly.

2. National-level governance, oversight, and monitoring (2018–present)

- Provide any documents, briefings, internal reports, policy papers, or guidance that describe Welsh Government's **oversight responsibilities**, monitoring arrangements, or governance structures relating to the use of hotels for temporary accommodation of homeless households.
- Any documents that discuss:
 - risks, dependencies, or pressures associated with hotel-based temporary accommodation;
 - the role of large hotel chains (including Travelodge) in the homelessness-accommodation ecosystem;
 - any strategic considerations, concerns, or evaluations relating to reliance on commercial hotel providers.

3. National-level correspondence or engagement (2018–present)

Provide any correspondence, meeting notes, or communications held by Welsh Government (from 1 January 2018 to present) that mention:

- “Travelodge”; “Travelodge Hotels Ltd”; “GoldenTree”; or any other reference to Travelodge in the context of homelessness accommodation.

This includes internal communications within Welsh Government, communications with local authorities, communications with hotel providers or their representatives.

4. National-level financial oversight (2018–present)

Provide any documents that describe how Welsh Government:

- monitors, evaluates, or oversees **total national expenditure** on hotel-based temporary accommodation;
- assesses value-for-money, fairness, or sustainability of hotel-based provision;
- considers the impact of hotel-based accommodation on individuals experiencing homelessness.

5. Justice, fairness, and equality considerations (2018–present)

In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty and Welsh specific duties, provide any assessments, analyses, or internal discussions held by Welsh Government that consider:

- fairness, justice, or equality impacts of hotel-based temporary accommodation;
- the position of individuals who are homeless, digitally excluded, or unable to navigate multi-authority systems;
- whether reliance on hotel chains creates structural disadvantages for certain groups.

This request is grounded in widely recognised principles of public administration, including: fairness to the least advantaged, rule-of-law accountability, and systems-thinking approaches to governance.

Our response

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 the information you have requested, it would be necessary to undertake extensive searches across multiple cross-government teams, datasets, documents and correspondence held in our Electronic Document and Records Management System known as iShare, since 2018.

The estimated time to complete the searches and review work for Questions 1, 2, 4 and 5 is between 22 and 32 hours, with Question 3 requiring an additional minimum of 18 hours and 28 minutes due to the volume of correspondence and documents that would need to be manually reviewed. Consequently, I have decided not to provide you with the information you have requested.

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. For example, you may wish to limit the request to a few particular documents or categories of information focussing on a specific aspect of the subject matter, and being more specific about the time frame as your current request spans an 8-year period. 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