

20 July 2026

Dear

ATISN 27182 - Public Toilets

Thank you for your request to Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 06 July 2026 relating to Public Toilets. You requested the following:

For the period 1 January 2019 to the most recent date held, broken down by each local authority in Wales.

1. *Public toilet provision and closures*
 - a) *The number of public toilets closed, decommissioned or withdrawn from public use in each local authority*
 - b) *Any Welsh Government datasets, monitoring returns or reports recording or analysing public toilet provision or closures.*
2. *Disabled toilet provision*
 - a) *For each local authority: the number of accessible/disabled toilets, Changing Places toilets, and baby changing facilities (where recorded).*
 - b) *The number of accessible/disabled toilets and Changing Places toilets closed or withdrawn from public use.*
 - c) *Any Welsh Government guidance or policy documents issued relating to minimum standards for public toilet provision, accessible toilets, or Changing Places facilities.*
3. *Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 – Local Toilets Strategies*
 - a) *Copies or links to all local toilets strategies published under Part 8 of the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017.*
 - b) *Any Welsh Government monitoring, evaluation or compliance reports relating to these strategies.*
 - c) *Any assessments or reviews considering whether local toilet provision meets community needs, including disabled people, and the impact of toilet closures.*
4. *Equality Act 2010 and disability compliance*
 - a) *Please provide any documents (including equality impact assessments, policy papers, internal reviews or legal advice summaries) which consider how public toilet provision and toilet closures comply with:
The Public Sector Equality Duty (Equality Act 2010, s.149).
The Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011.
The duty to make reasonable adjustments for disabled people (Equality Act 2010, ss.20–21).
Any other equality or disability related statutory duties.*
 - b) *Please also provide any analysis of the impact of reduced toilet provision on disabled people and other protected groups, including consideration of indirect discrimination, reasonable adjustments, and cumulative disadvantage.*

5. Well being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and human rights

- a) Any assessments or documents evaluating toilet provision or closures against duties under the Well being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.*
- b) Any analysis considering whether toilet provision engages rights under the Human Rights Act 1998 (including Articles 8 and 14 ECHR).*

6. Policy position and justification

- a) A statement of the Welsh Government's current policy position on how present toilet provision and recorded closures comply with the Equality Act 2010, the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017, the Well being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Human Rights Act 1998.*
- b) Any documents setting out the Government's reasoning or justification for concluding that current provision does not unlawfully discriminate against or disproportionately disadvantage disabled people or other protected groups.*

Our Response

We can confirm that Welsh Government holds information that is captured by your request. However, we would like to advise that local authorities are entirely responsible for decision making on provision, maintenance and closure of public toilets. They are also entirely responsible for the statutory actions that they must undertake for drafting, assessing the need for toilets of their populations, consulting on and publishing their local toilet strategies. Some of your questions should therefore be addressed to each local authority separately. However, 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 you with the information that you have requested would require searches of our electronic filing system. Our initial searches of electronic files has identified at least 5,000 documents of various sizes and complexity that may relate to your request. Each of these documents would need to be manually reviewed to consider whether they are wholly or partially within scope of your request. If each review takes at least 20 seconds, this would take approximately 92 hours.

Following considering the regulations and applying the timescales for review, we have decided not to provide you with the information you have requested as it exceeds the appropriate limit as set out in the regulations.

Your request is asking for information spanning from 1 January 2019 you may wish to refine your request by being more specific about the time frame and what specific information you particularly wish to obtain – this should include any dates or specific 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.

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,