



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: ATISN 27198

4 August 2026

Dear ,

Request for Information - ATISN 27198

Thank you for your request for information dated 09 July.

Information requested

1. The total amount of Welsh Government funding awarded to the Treorchy to Treherbert Active Travel Route to date, broken down by financial year, funding programme and purpose, including feasibility, design, consultation, land acquisition, construction preparation and construction.
2. Copies of all Active Travel Fund applications, funding bids or grant submissions received from Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council in relation to the scheme.
3. Copies of all appraisal documents held by the Welsh Government relating to the scheme, including:
 - (a) any WelTAG Stage 1, Stage 2 or Stage 3 reports;
 - (b) any Strategic Outline Case, Outline Business Case or Full Business Case (or equivalent appraisal documents); and
 - (c) any economic appraisal, value-for-money assessment or equivalent analysis held by the Welsh Government.
4. Copies of all grant award letters, funding offer letters and any conditions attached to those awards.
5. Copies of any Welsh Government assessment of the scheme, including assessments of projected demand, anticipated benefits, affordability, deliverability and value for money.



Llywodraeth Cymru /
Welsh Government
Parc Cathays / Cathays
Park
CF10 3NQ

FOI.ETCC@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

6. Copies of any transport modelling, traffic modelling, active travel modelling or demand forecasting held by the Welsh Government in support of the scheme.
7. Copies of any Equality Impact Assessment, Welsh Language Impact Assessment, Well-being of Future Generations assessment, Integrated Impact Assessment or any other impact assessment held by the Welsh Government in relation to the scheme.
8. Copies of correspondence, emails and meeting notes between the Welsh Government and Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council relating to the appraisal, funding approval or grant conditions of the scheme, covering the period 1 January 2024 to the date of this request.
9. Details of any conditions, milestones or performance requirements that must be met before further funding, including construction funding, is approved.
10. Copies of any ministerial submissions, advice to Welsh Ministers, Cabinet Minister briefing papers, decision records or recommendations concerning the funding or approval of Phases 2 and 3 of the scheme.
11. Copies of any monitoring reports, evaluation reports or progress reports received by the Welsh Government in relation to the scheme.
12. Copies of any project risk register, risk log, project risk assessment, assurance report or similar document held by the Welsh Government concerning risks to the funding, delivery or operation of the scheme.

Our Response

After searching our records, I can confirm that the Welsh Government does hold some of the information you have requested, however we do not hold the majority of information. Some of this may be held by Transport for Wales who managed the Active Travel Fund (ATF) on behalf of Welsh Government, and Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council (RCTCBC).

Question 1: The total amount of Welsh Government funding awarded to the Treorchy to Treherbert Active Travel Route to date, broken down by financial year is as follows, which was allocated to RCTCBC as part of a larger 'core' ATF funding.

ATF Year	Allocated	Spend	Comments
2022-23	£100,000	£102,638	Design Development of a new active travel route between Treorchy and Treherbert via Ynyswen.
2023-24	£70,000	£78,443	Next stage of design development of a new active travel route between Treorchy and Treherbert via Ynyswen.

2024-25	£120,000	£120,000	Progress design of a new active travel route between Treorchy and Treherbert via Ynyswen.
2025-26	£162,000	£185,964	Progress design of Phase 1 of the Treorchy to Treherbert active travel route between Treherbert train station and Ynyswen Industrial Estate.

Question 4: Copies of all grant award letters, funding offer letters and any conditions attached to those awards are attached. Please note that the funding for this scheme is part of the 'core' ATF funding within the grant letters. Please note that all personal data has been removed from the letters e.g. signatories/email address **under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000**. The reasons for applying this exemption can be seen annex A below.

Question 10: Information on ministerial approvals and decisions can be found through the published Ministerial Decision Reports available at: [Decision reports | 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: Freedomofinformation@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

ANNEX A

Freedom of Information Act 2000: Section 40(2)

Engagement of Section 40(2) – personal data

The Welsh Government believes the personal data contained in the information being released with this request should be exempt from disclosure

Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), together with the conditions in section 40(3)(a)(i) or 40(3)(b), provides an absolute exemption if disclosure of the personal data would breach any of the data protection principles.

‘Personal data’ is defined in sections 3(2) and (3) of the Data Protection Act 2018 (‘the DPA 2018’) and means any information relating to an identified or identifiable living individual. An identifiable living individual is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of the individual.

We have concluded that, in this instance, some of the information contained within the documents caught by your request contains third party personal data.

Under Section 40(2) of the FOIA, personal data is exempt from release if disclosure would breach one of the data protection principles set out in Article 5 of the UK GDPR. We consider the principle being most relevant in this instance as being the first. This states that personal data must be:

“processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subject”

The lawful basis that is most relevant in relation to a request for information under the FOIA is Article 6(1)(f) of the UK GDPR. This states:

“processing is necessary for the purposes of the legitimate interests pursued by the controller or by a third party except where such interests are overridden by the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject which require protection of personal data, in particular where the data subject is a child”.
In considering the application of Article 6(1)(f) in the context of a request for information under FOIA it is necessary to consider the following three-part test:

The Legitimate interest test: Whether a legitimate interest is being pursued in the request for information;

The Necessity test: Whether disclosure of the information/confirmation or denial that it is held is necessary to meet the legitimate interest in question;

The Balancing test: Whether the above interests override the interests, fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject.

Our consideration of these tests is set out below:

1. Legitimate Interest Test

The Welsh Government recognises there is a legitimate interest in being able to identify the officials involved in any communication in order to follow the flow of that communication and to understand the views and positions expressed by each person. We do not believe, however, there is any legitimate reason why the personal data would need to be released in order to follow and understand those communications. The views expressed in the emails are those of the Welsh Government and of external organisations. As such it is irrelevant as to who made those comments. The Welsh Government cannot identify any other legitimate interest in you or the public receiving the personal data captured by your request.

2. Is disclosure necessary?

The Welsh Government is of the view that it is not necessary to disclose the personal information caught by your request. It is straight forward, even when withholding the personal data, to follow the emails and to identify the views expressed by each individual. As such we do not believe it is necessary to disclose the personal data to allow the conversations to be followed.

3. The Balancing Test

As it has been concluded that there is no necessity to disclose the personal data of another individual, the fundamental rights and freedoms of the affected third party prevail in this instance and releasing the information cannot be justified under Article 6(1)(f).

Conclusion

To conclude, as release of the information would not be legitimate under Article 6(1)(f), and as no other condition of Article 6 is deemed to apply, release of the information would not be lawful within the meaning of the first data protection principle. It has therefore been withheld under section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and not subject to the public interest test.