

17 September 2026

Dear

ATISN 27455

Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on 20 August. You asked for the information as listed at Annex 1.

Our response

Thank you for your additional questions. The information you seek is not directly related to recorded information under the Freedom of Information Act.

However, I can confirm that there was consultation between Cabinet Office and the Welsh Government at official level, but not Ministerial level prior to the sending of the emergency alert. This is in line with normal practice. As a non-devolved system which is sent by the Cabinet Office, we would not expect co-branding of the alert, nor the consultation to be referred to in a press release.

In terms of the Welsh Government's broader approach, the First Minister was asked about the emergency alerts at the first plenary session of the Senedd on 15 September. You can read the question and his response at paragraphs 34 and 35 of the transcript here: [Plenary 15/09/2026 - Welsh Parliament](#)

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 1

1) Was the first minister, the Welsh ministers, or any other part of the Welsh government consulted by the UK government prior to the sending of the following emergency alerts to people in Wales on 14 August 2026?

<https://www.gov.uk/alerts/14-aug-2026>
<https://www.gov.uk/alerts/14-aug-2026-2>

2) There was prior consultation with the Scottish government and Northern Ireland executive before alerts were sent to people in Scotland and Northern Ireland in January 2025:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-issue-emergency-alert-in-response-to-storm-eowyn>

And the alerts themselves were ‘cobranded’ as being from the UK and Scottish governments, and the UK and NI governments respectively:

<https://www.gov.uk/alerts/23-jan-2025-2>
<https://www.gov.uk/alerts/23-jan-2025>

Whereas the Cabinet Office announcement of 14 August 2026’s alert made no mention of any consultation with the Welsh government, nor indeed did it make any mention of the Welsh government at all:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/emergency-alert-to-be-sent-to-england-and-wales-as-government-steps-up-wildfire-response-with-funding-military-support-and-bbq-ban>

Is the Welsh government content with this?

3a) Does the Welsh government agree that emergency alerts relating to devolved matters like wildfire prevention should always at a minimum be ‘cobranded’ in Wales (ie, make reference to being issued by the Welsh government alongside the UK government)?

3b) Does the Welsh government further agree that it is hard to conceive of an emergency alert that does not in some way relate to a devolved matter, given the Welsh government’s responsibility for, inter alia, the NHS, and fire and rescue services in Wales?

3c) Does the Welsh government also agree that the UK government’s sending of a single English-language alert to the whole of England and Wales - giving the impression that its role in Wales is identical to its role in England - sets a bad precedent?

4) Will the first minister be raising this topic with the prime minister at the earliest opportunity?