

27 October 2026

Dear

ATISN 26-0032

Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on 30th September 2026. You asked for information about Welsh Government spending records on payments made to Miller Research UK Ltd between January 2023 and April 2026. You asked for

1. Confirmation of the total payments made to Miller Research UK Ltd during this period
2. The number of research projects these payments covered and a list of the projects with title, purpose and total payments
3. The reason it was necessary to commission research externally
4. In particular copies of the research connected with the following payments
 - a. Financial and Digital Inclusion – £187,310.25
 - b. Land Management Reform – £177,628.61

Our response

1. Confirmation of the total payments made to Miller Research UK Ltd during this period

[Welsh Government expenditure over £25,000](#) is published monthly. This shows total payments of £1,319,902 to Miller Research UK Ltd between January 2023 and April 2026.

2. The number of research projects these payments covered and a list of the projects with title, purpose and total payments.

This information is provided below. Payments below are for 16 projects identified as having payments between January 2023 and April 2026 (figures rounded to the nearest pound). However, total payments in the table below are to date (October 2026, rather than April 2026), so total payments in the table below exceed the total payments figure in paragraph 1 above.

It has not been possible to provide a breakdown for an additional £167,860 identified, including payments of under £25k, within the time frame for this request. This information will follow by Friday 13th November.

	Title	Purpose	Total payments	Link to publications and any notes
1	Reform of the school year: perceptions and experiences of the current school calendar	To understand perceptions and experiences of practitioners, parents, and learners of the current school calendar	£82,346	Reform of the school year: perceptions and experiences of the current school calendar
2	Reform of School Year Consultation Analysis	The consultation sought views on whether and how the structure of the school year in Wales should be reformed, including the potential impacts of different options and their effectiveness in meeting the needs of learners, families, the education workforce and other stakeholders	£123,728	Summary of responses - Consultation on the School Year
3	Evaluation of the Welsh Language Communities Housing Plan	To evaluate the Welsh Language Communities Housing Plan	£52,713	Not yet published
4	Review of support for multilingual learners	Review of support for multilingual learners (with English and Welsh as additional languages)	£52,832	Not yet published
5	Research and Survey linked to a Minimum Digital Living Standard (MDLS) for Wales	This specification has two strands of work; the first part seeks to explore the impact of meeting the MDLS on health inequalities for people ages 16 and over living in Wales. The second part looks to provide a national estimate for how many people aged 16 and over living in Wales fall below the MDLS. Through these two strands of work the aim is to use the MDLS as a tool to assess the impact of meeting the MDLS on health inequalities across different population groups and understand from a policy and intervention perspective the baseline for how many people are below the minimum	£187,310	Not yet published

6	Food & Drink Climate Resilience Research	Research on emerging climate risks for the food system aimed at informing Sustainable Futures initiatives	£34,246	Policy-led internal report
7	Scoping study for the evaluation of Welsh Government's Innovation Strategy	To lay the necessary groundwork for a future evaluation of the Innovation Strategy	£84,950	Not yet published
8	Sustainable Farming Scheme - Keeping farmers farming: Summary of responses	Analysis of responses to the Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS) consultation	£122,900	Sustainable Farming Scheme - Keeping farmers farming: Summary of responses
9	Sustainable Farming Scheme proposed optional and collaborative themes: evidence review	Review of existing evidence drawn from similarly themed and focussed interventions in the agricultural sector relevant to the proposed Optional and Collaborative Actions of the Day 1 SFS and the corresponding Purposes of Support	£74,912	Sustainable Farming Scheme proposed optional and collaborative themes: evidence review
10	Summary of responses to the Consultation on Environmental principles, governance and biodiversity targets: White Paper	Summary of consultation responses and findings from focus groups with members of the public	£29,865	Summary of responses to the Consultation on Environmental principles, governance, and biodiversity targets: White Paper
11	Evaluation of INSET (in-service education and training) days in Wales	This report explores how INSET days are structured and timetabled, the content covered and processes through which sessions are planned, the extent to which INSET reflects national and school-level priorities, and how inclusive provision is across staff groups. It also considers perceptions of	£138,925	Evaluation of INSET (in-service education and training) days in Wales

		the impact and effectiveness of INSET and factors that facilitate or act as barriers to its use		
12	Knowledge Transfer, Innovation and Advisory Services (KTIAS) Evaluation - Farming Connect	Evaluation of the Knowledge Transfer, Innovation and Advisory Services (2001-2022) known as Farming Connect. The purpose of the evaluation was to provide an independent assessment of Farming Connect's effectiveness, efficiency and impact within Wales as part of the Welsh Government Rural Communities - Rural Development Programme 2014-2020.	£104,946	Not yet published
13	Evaluation of the Virtual School Model (VSM) pilot funding	Assess and compare the ways in which the VSM funding was used by local authorities participating in the pilot to support children looked after	£130,193	Evaluation of the Virtual School Model (VSM) pilot funding
14	Review of the Healthy Child Wales Programme	Regulations on food for primary learners	£68,025	Review of the Healthy Child Wales Programme
15	Education guidance to support trans learners	Parent/carers engagement	£78,295	Not yet published
16	Evaluation of Trio Sci Cymru	Evaluation of Trio Sci Cymru to assess the delivery of the operation against expected impacts and the processes by which those impacts were achieved	£59,928	Evaluation of Trio Sci Cymru

3. The reason it was necessary to commission research externally

Most of the projects listed above are Government Social Research. We carry out social research in line with the [Government Social Research code of practice](#). Depending on the size and nature of the work, this is either carried out in house or procured under contract, which is normal practice across UK Governments.

4. In particular copies of the research connected with the following payments
- Financial and Digital Inclusion – £187,310.25
 - Land Management Reform – £177,628.61

Work under Financial and Digital Inclusion is listed in the table above as Research and Survey linked to a Minimum Digital Living Standard for Wales. This project is not yet complete.

The payments under Land Management Reform cover two projects - Sustainable Farming Scheme - Keeping farmers farming: Summary of responses; and Sustainable Farming Scheme proposed optional and collaborative themes: evidence review. See table above for links to publications.

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,