

Dear

**Request for Internal Review of ATISN 27304 - Discretionary Assistance Fund
(Emergency Assistance Payments)**

I am writing to inform you of the outcome of the internal review of ATISN 27304. The review examined the decision of 4 September 2026 to withhold the document *The Discretionary Assistance Fund - Guidance for Decision Makers* from publication under sections s29(1)(b) and s31(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act.

Following a review of the evidence, I have concluded that the exemptions applied were appropriately engaged. However, it is my belief that the cited exemptions were applied too broadly, and do not apply to the entirety of the document. Sections of the guidance contain information on the purpose of the fund, a description of how the fund operates, and information on eligibility and exclusions. This information is already available to the public at [Discretionary Assistance Fund \(DAF\) | GOV.WALES](#), and is not exempt from disclosure under s29(1)(b) and s31(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act as you were previously informed. We apologise for this miscommunication.

Considering this non-exempt information is already accessible to the public, I have upheld the decision to withhold the *Guidance for Decision Makers* document from publication.

Your email raised a number of wider points with regard to the Discretionary Assistance Fund. While consideration of these points is beyond the scope of this internal review, they have been shared with the relevant policy team for awareness.

Next steps

I have considered your complaint in accordance with the procedure outlined in the Welsh Government's Practical Guide for Making Requests for Information which is available by post on request or via the internet.

If you remain dissatisfied with this response you 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.

Yours sincerely

Deputy Director, Welsh Government