

Dear

ATISN 27536 - WRU Correspondence

Thank you for your request for information on 18 September 2026 concerning communications and meetings between the Welsh Government and the Welsh Rugby Union regarding the restructuring of professional rugby in Wales.

You requested information relating to:

1. Direct ministerial correspondence with the Welsh Rugby Union or representatives acting on its behalf;
2. Ministerial advice, decision reports and briefing papers concerning proposals to restructure men's professional rugby in Wales; and
3. Formal meetings between Welsh Ministers and representatives of the Welsh Rugby Union where restructuring of the professional game was discussed.

I can confirm that the Welsh Government holds information within the scope of your request and is releasing that information with this response. The information has been organised under the three headings set out above.

1. Direct Ministerial Correspondence

The enclosed information includes correspondence between Welsh Government Ministers, Ministerial offices and representatives of the Welsh Rugby Union relating to the future structure of professional rugby in Wales, including correspondence concerning the consultation process and subsequent decisions.

2. Ministerial Briefing Papers

The enclosed information includes relevant ministerial briefing material prepared for meetings with representatives of the Welsh Rugby Union. This material includes briefings on proposals for the future structure of the men's professional game in Wales and related issues.

Welsh Government does not hold any ministerial advice or decision reports within the scope of this request relating to the proposed restructuring of the men's professional game in Wales. Accordingly, no information is being provided under those categories.

3. Formal Meeting Records

The enclosed information includes records of meetings between Welsh Government Ministers and representatives of the Welsh Rugby Union in which the future structure of professional rugby was discussed. This includes:

- i. A meeting note from 8 October 2025 concerning the consultation on the future of professional rugby in Wales.
- ii. A meeting note from 12 August 2026 covering the proposed move to a three-team professional model and associated issues.

Personal data has been redacted where necessary in accordance with the requirements of data protection legislation.

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