10 November 2026

Dear

ATISN 26-0022

Information requested: Anti-Racist Wales Action Plan (ARWAP) Community Dialogue Research Project

Thank you for your request which I received on 13 October 2026. You asked for:

The recorded information that Welsh Government holds in relation to "Commissioning, expenditure and approval of the Anti-racist Wales Action Plan (ARWAP) Community Dialogue Research Project."

You have asked for recorded information that Welsh Government hold in relation to the Community Dialogue Research Project:

1. Business case and reasons for commissioning
2. Approval and governance
3. Budget, contracts and expenditure
4. Commissioning specification and deliverables
5. Preparation and approval for the published reports
7. Records Management

You are also asking specifically for the following recorded information that Welsh Government hold in relation an individual item that you have selected from the Climate Cymru Black, Asian & Minority Ethic report:

6. Recommendation 4 – provenance and rationale

Our response

The information I am able to provide to you is as follows:

1. Business case and reasons for commissioning

The Welsh Government does not hold a formal business case for the Community Dialogue Research Project.

The following information was provided from the Strategic Evidence Unit within what was at the time called the Rural Affairs Directorate. This information describes where a policy area gap was identified within in the initial Anti-Racist Wales Action Plan (ARWAP). This information was used to inform the decision to proceed with the commissioning of the Community Dialogue Research Project as

an evidence gathering exercise to understand the lived experience views from ethnic minority groups in Wales:

The Welsh Government has made a commitment to become an anti-racist nation. An introduction to an Anti-racist Wales (gov.wales), as well as a Programme for Government commitment 'to implement and fund commitments made in the race equality action plan'. The first iteration of the Anti-Racist Wales Action Plan (ARWAP) did not include Climate Change (CC) or Environment & Rural Affairs (ERA) policy areas. Therefore, our departments need to develop their own action plan – using the methodology laid out in the ARWAP for developing an action plan. However, for CC & ERA we have no understanding of the racism faced by ethnic minority people in our policy sectors, aside from access to the countryside. Environment & Rural Affairs professions are the least diverse in the UK, there is clearly an issue.

Strategic Evidence Unit will work alongside and engage policy teams with the evidence we do have. Supporting the delivery of further evidence commissioning and develop understanding of issues around racism and build our collective capacity on delivering anti-racism action.

2. Approval and governance

The approval to proceed with the commissioning for the Community Dialogue Research Project was cleared by the Director of what at the time was called Rural Affairs by email on 4 August 2023.

3. Budget, contracts and expenditure

The approved budget for the research project was for a total of £24,379. You asked for a summary of the financial information that we hold, and the table below illustrates the full amounts provided to each of the groups for their participation in the Community Dialogue Research Project:

Community Group	Amount Paid
Climate Cymru Black Asian & Ethnic Minority	£4,999
Green Soul	£4,900
KIRAN	£4,500
North Wales Africa Society	£4,999
Romani Cultural & Arts Society	£4,999

The Welsh Government does not hold contracts or grant agreement for the Community Dialogue Research Project.

Successful community groups for this pilot research project were appointed following on from their attendance at an online Virtual Project Briefing Teams Meeting and their ability to agree to the details provided in the Anti-Racist Wales

Action Plan Welsh Government Community Dialogue Funding Guidance Note for Applicants. A copy of this document can be found in the public domain as part of Freedom of Information ATISN 27551 FOI release 27551: Dog-free spaces | GOV.WALES

4. Commissioning specification and deliverables

The Anti-Racist Wales Action Plan Welsh Government Community Dialogue Funding Guidance Note for Applicants can be found in the public domain as part of Freedom of Information ATISN 27551 FOI release 27551: Dog-free spaces | GOV.WALES

This document contains the background to the research and why Welsh Government was intending to commission it. Together with details of the ask and the funding available and expected outputs. The document also provides some outline inspiration and suggestions for dialogue topics for any Community Groups interested in participating in this project. The Funding Guidance Note for Applicants states:

> *Welsh Government is seeking to understand how and where people experience racism in these areas. These are for inspiration and are not definitive and we are able to incorporate other areas if they emerge as priorities for people. That is not to say that conversations should limited to these areas [a list of which is outlined in the Funding Guidance].*

Groups were given autonomy to choose appropriate research methods to engage with members of their own community. The Funding Guidance Note for Applicants states:

> *Funded activity must take place in Wales, and we welcome creative ideas on engagement activity online, face to face or any other formats. Be creative.*

Following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that Welsh Government do not hold the information you are requesting in relation to:

5. Preparation and approval for the published reports

Welsh Government does not hold any recorded details of the preparation of the reports by individual community groups.

The reports were created by the individual community groups and have been published verbatim and are publicly available on the Welsh Government website Anti-racist Wales evidence reports: understanding racism in environment and climate change sector | GOV.WALES

A requirement of being part of this research project was for the reports to be published on the Welsh Government website. Some of the community groups who have their own external websites have published their own reports.

7. **The provenance and rationale of the "Recommendation 4: Create urban farming (allotments) and dog-free areas in local green spaces".**

   Welsh Government do not hold any details on this particular item.

   This wording comes directly from the Climate Cymru Black Asian & Ethnic Minority Community Dialogue Report. Please refer to Freedom of Information ATISN 27588 which provides you with some further details on this specific item you have highlighted FOI release 27588: Anti-Racist Wales Evidence Report: Climate Cymru Black Asian & Minority Ethnic | GOV.WALES

In terms of **6. Records Management,** as far as I am aware, we don't have any documents that were held but are no longer held in relation to the Community Dialogue Research Project. I have been able to provide the information to you where we hold it, which covers your questions - part of 1; 2; part of 3 & 4. I have also explained instances where we do not hold information, which covers your questions - part of 1; part of 3; 5 & 6.

I have pointed to you towards two previous Freedom of Information requests which contain information that is already in the public domain and relates to this request for information. Please view specifically FOI release 27588: Anti-Racist Wales Evidence Report: Climate Cymru Black Asian & Minority Ethnic | GOV.WALES and FOI release 27551: Dog-free spaces | GOV.WALES..

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, 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