13 November 2026

Dear

ATISN 26-0052: Sanctuary Seekers Support Service, Contract C142/2021/2022, Lot 2, supplementary FOI questions

Information requested

Thank you for your request, which we received on 19 October 2026. You asked for supplementary information following your previous request, ATISN 27439, about the Sanctuary Seekers Support Service, Contract C142/2021/2022, Lot 2. You asked:

7. Competition and procurement strategy
Please provide, where held:

1. The Procurement Strategy Risk Assessment referred to in Annex 5.
2. Any recorded market assessment or market-engagement report used to determine whether sufficient potential suppliers existed.
3. Any recorded consideration of whether the procurement timetable, contract scope or service requirements might restrict competition.
4. Any recorded decision to proceed with a single tender rather than extend, amend or re-advertise the opportunity.
5. Any recorded assessment of whether requirements for existing expertise, geographical provision or service delivery could disadvantage other potential suppliers.

8. Assessment of the £1.065 million contract price
Please provide:

1. Any cost model, financial assessment or recorded calculation used to establish the proposed annual budget of £355,000.
2. Any recorded comparison between the cost of the previous Asylum Rights Programme and the expanded or revised requirements of the new service.
3. The published price-scoring methodology used for Lot 2.
4. Any recorded assessment explaining the award of the full 20 commercial marks to the sole bidder.
5. Any independent financial or value-for-money assessment undertaken before the award recommendation was approved.

9. Technical evaluation and clarification process
Please provide:

1. The individual evaluators' technical scoring sheets and recorded comments.
2. The clarification questions issued to WRC and the responses received.
3. The recorded reasons for the final moderated scores, particularly the 18 out of 30 awarded for service delivery and the 18 out of 30 awarded for engagement and communication.
4. Any records showing whether weaknesses identified during evaluation resulted in contractual conditions, improvement requirements or further assurances.

10. Additional Welsh Government funding and potential overlap
Please provide:

1. The annual amount awarded to WRC under the relevant Homelessness Prevention Grant arrangements for financial years 2021–22 to 2024–25.
2. Any recorded decision concerning whether this grant-funded activity would be combined with the Sanctuary Seekers Support Service contract.

3. Any resulting variation, amendment or change-control approval affecting the contract.
4. Any recorded assessment of potential overlap between activities funded under the separate arrangements.
5. Any recorded financial controls intended to prevent the same activity or expenditure being claimed under more than one funding stream.

11. Contract performance and accountability

Please provide:

1. The interim evaluation report scheduled for September 2024, or any final version produced in its place.
2. A summary of recorded annual performance against the principal service targets for 2022–23, 2023–24 and 2024–25.
3. The actual amounts paid under contract C142/2021/2022 Lot 2, broken down by financial year.
4. Any formal contract-performance notices, remedial action plans or significant performance concerns recorded by Welsh Government during the initial contract period.
5. The recorded decision confirming whether the two-year extension option was exercised after March 2025, including the approved value and revised expiry date.

12. Participation in funding-policy development

For the period 1 January 2020 to 3 November 2021, please provide any recorded:

1. Membership or participation by WRC representatives in Welsh Government working groups specifically responsible for developing the replacement Equality and Inclusion Programme or Sanctuary Seekers Support Service.
2. Contributions by WRC to draft service requirements or procurement criteria outside the published consultation process.
3. Assessments of whether existing service providers' involvement in programme development created any need for procurement-related safeguards.

Our response

From our assessment we estimate that it will cost more than the appropriate limit set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 to answer your request.

For the purpose of assessing the cost of compliance, we have aggregated your supplementary request, ATISN 26-0052, with your earlier request, ATISN 27439, to which we have already responded. Both requests seek the same or similar information about the Sanctuary Seekers Support Service, Contract C142/2021/2022, Lot 2, and were received within a period of 60 consecutive working days. Regulation 5 of the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 permits the costs of complying with requests to be aggregated in these circumstances.

In accordance with regulation 5, we have taken the estimated permitted costs associated with both requests into account when assessing the cost of complying with ATISN 26-0052. This does not alter the response already issued under ATISN 27439. We estimate that the combined cost of complying with these requests would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit for the Welsh Government is £600. At the prescribed rate of £25 per hour, this is equivalent to 24 hours of staff time.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 provides that a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request where it estimates that the cost of doing so would exceed the appropriate limit. In making this estimate, we have considered only the time reasonably required to determine whether the information is held and to locate, retrieve and extract the relevant information. We have excluded time relating to the consideration of exemptions, consultation with third parties, redaction, drafting, clearance and administration.

Our estimate of the time spent determining whether information was held and locating, retrieving and extracting information for ATISN 27439 is 22 hours. We estimate that a further 25 hours would be required to undertake the additional work needed to answer your supplementary request, ATISN 26-0052. This gives a combined estimate of 47 hours. The refusal below applies to ATISN 26-0052; it does not change the response already issued to ATISN 27439. Any internal review of that earlier response is being considered separately and no time spent handling an internal review is included in this estimate.

These estimates were prepared with the officials responsible for the relevant procurement and contract-management records. They reflect how the records are actually held and the number and format of records expected to require examination. The activities have been counted once only and are limited to determining whether information is held and locating, retrieving and extracting relevant information.

The information is not held in a single consolidated record. To respond to the request in full, officials would need to identify and examine historic procurement, tender-evaluation, clarification, contract-management, grant and performance-monitoring records held across a number of locations. This would include reviewing individual quarterly monitoring reports covering 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25, extracting information relevant to the service's performance measures, and undertaking further searches for records concerning the mid-term evaluation and the remaining questions.

The breakdown below sets out the estimated additional work for ATISN 26-0052, followed by the 22-hour retrospective estimate for ATISN 27439 and the combined total:

Activity	**Estimated time**
Identify and locate relevant historic procurement and contract records, and establish which records are held	5 hours
Review those records and extract information responsive to the procurement questions	4 hours
Identify and locate historic contract-management and performance-monitoring records	4 hours
Review monitoring reports for 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 and extract relevant performance information	6 hours
Locate and review records concerning the mid-term evaluation and establish what further information is held	2 hours
Search other relevant records to establish whether information responsive to the remaining questions is held	4 hours
Subtotal: ATISN 26-0052	**25 hours**
ATISN 27439: retrospective estimate of time spent determining whether information was held and locating, retrieving and extracting it	22 hours
Combined total: ATISN 26-0052 and ATISN 27439	**47 hours**

We estimate that the permitted activities required to respond to ATISN 26-0052 would take approximately 25 hours. At the prescribed rate of £25 per hour, the estimated cost is £625, which exceeds the £600 appropriate limit.

In addition, because ATISN 26-0052 and ATISN 27439 were submitted by the same applicant within 60 consecutive working days and seek the same or similar information

about the Sanctuary Seekers Support Service contract, regulation 5 permits us to aggregate the estimated permitted costs. The combined estimate is 47 hours, equivalent to £1,175.

We are therefore relying on section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and are not providing the information requested in ATISN 26-0052 in its current form. This decision does not alter the response already issued under ATISN 27439

Advice and assistance

To refine your request, rather than asking for a broad range of documents that you think might hold what it is you are looking for, we would suggest that you focus on the specific information you want. It may be helpful if you were to set out what it is you are looking for, what it is you want to understand or find out about, what is the question you want an answer to? If you have a clear idea of what recorded information you believe would provide you with what you require, just ask for that information.

If you do refine your request in this way, this will be treated as a new request.

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
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 internal review process.

Yours sincerely