Date: 16 November 2026

Dear

**ATISN 26-0090**

Thank you for your recent requests for information and further clarification.

We have progressed your request on the basis of a refinement to:

*(my interest is in) direct engagement between Cavendish or Deryn and the Welsh Government, rather than every internal reference to the consultancies or their clients. Refocus: Recorded meetings involving Cavendish or Deryn representatives and Welsh Government ministers, senior civil servants or special advisers. This could be limited to ministerial diary entries, meeting invitations and existing meeting logs (excluding the wider correspondence, briefing papers and internal records originally requested).*

*The time period being 18-months.*

**Ministerial meetings**
I can confirm that no meetings have taken place. You may be interested in details of Ministerial meetings which have taken place and which are routinely published here: welsh government Ministerial meetings - Google Search

**SpAd meetings**
I can confirm that no meetings have taken place.

**Senior Civil Service meetings (only)**
For this part of your request, I have concluded that to respond would exceed the appropriate limit set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. The appropriate limit for central government is £600, which equates to 24 hours of staff time.

In determining whether a request exceeds this limit, we may take into account the estimated time required to establish whether the information is held, and to locate, retrieve and extract it.We can confirm that members of the Senior Civil Service (SCS) should not routinely meet with public affairs organisations, however, such information about SCS meetings is not held centrally. As your request covers an 18-month period, responding would require over 150 individual SCS members to review their diary entries, meeting invitations and any other meeting information they may hold for that period to identify relevant information.

This exercise would be particularly resource-intensive because diary entries and meeting records may not always clearly identify the organisations involved. For example, an organisation may have participated in a wider meeting or working group without being identified as the primary organisation in the meeting title or diary entry.

Consequently, individual records would need to be reviewed to determine whether they fall within the scope of your request.

You may therefore wish to refine your request to bring it within the appropriate limit. For example, you could narrow the scope to meetings relating to a particular portfolio, policy or subject area, rather than seeking details of all possible engagement. Narrowing the 18-month timeframe may also help to reduce the searches required.

If you choose to submit a refined request, it will be treated as a new request. To help us identify the relevant information as efficiently as possible, please make the scope as specific and focused as you can.

**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 e-mail: 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
4th Floor
No. 3 Circle Square
5 Hawkshaw Street
Manchester
M1 7BL
Website: www.ico.org.uk

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely