25 November 2026

Dear

ATISN 26-0142 – Statutory gambling levy funding in Wales

Thank you for your request to Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 29 October, relating to the statutory gambling levy funding in Wales.

You requested the following:

1. The total amount of statutory gambling levy funding the Welsh Government has received or been allocated.

2. How that funding has been divided between treatment and support, prevention, and any other purposes (for example administration or research), with the amount for each.

3. For each organisation awarded levy funding: its name, the purpose of the award, the amount, the award period, and whether the award is for treatment, prevention or both.

4. Any decisions or plans for allocating levy funding in 2027-28.

Our Response

1. & 2. Welsh Government holds information that you have requested, however information for requests related to points 1 and 2 is withheld under Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The reason for applying this exemption is set out in full under Annex A to this letter.

3. The Welsh Government is responsible for prevention and treatment spending in Wales, with the exact split between prevention and treatment determined by Welsh Ministers. In relation to research, 20% of levy funding is provided for research to UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) for the establishment of a bespoke Research Programme on Gambling, and to the Gambling Commission to direct further research in line with the licensing objectives. This agreed consistent approach on research across Great Britain is considered beneficial.

   For each organisation awarded levy funding in relation to prevention and treatment, details of the name, the purpose of the award, the amount, the award period, and whether the award is for treatment, prevention or both is provided below:

Prevention:

- Public Health Wales (PHW) prevention coordinator costs – £267,605.10 (2025/2026) and £1,450,466 (2026/2027). Funding for future years to be decided.
  The purpose of this funding is to reduce gambling related harm by coordinating prevention, raising awareness and supporting collaboration across services and communities.

- PHW Grant Scheme – approx. £1.4 million in total (exact funding amounts per financial year to be determined).
  Funding provided to PHW to undertake a voluntary sector grant scheme for gambling prevention activities in Wales. The two-year grant scheme will span financial years 2026/2027, 2027/2028 and 2028/2029.

Treatment:

- NHS Performance & Improvement treatment (NHSP&I) coordinator costs – £300,000 (2025/2026) and £550,000 (2026/2027). Funding for future years to be decided.
  The purpose of this funding is to reduce gambling related harm by coordinating treatment services and help people affected by gambling harms in Wales to access timely, coordinated treatment and support.

- Silvercloud – £43,000 (2026/2027) funding secured for this financial year and subsequent years.
  Online, self-guided support using cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) techniques.

- Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) Gambling Helpline Service – up to £300,000 available per financial year with funding provision ongoing.
  Confidential helpline providing early intervention and treatment referrals.

- BCUHB Specialist Gambling Harm Treatment Service – up to £1,000,000 available per financial year with funding provision ongoing.
  Specialist treatment service providing psychological interventions for gambling-related harm.

Prevention and Treatment:

- Local Health Board funding – annual allocation of £102,000 per Health Board (£714,000 in total) has been made available to health boards in the current financial year (2026/27) and for the coming three financial years (2027/28, 2028/29 and 2029/30), until 31 March 2030.
  The purpose of this funding is to support the building of local capacity to assess and prevent gambling harms, strengthen treatment links and partnerships, and support evidence-based action tailored to community needs and inequalities.

4. Details have been provided above for Ministerial decisions taken for spends for gambling levy funding in financial year 2027/28. Work is also underway through our prevention and treatment coordinators to develop the full prevention and treatment pathway. Recommendations will be submitted to Welsh Ministers for

consideration and agreement with funding allocations and implementation plans to be confirmed following ministerial decisions.

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
4th Floor
No. 3 Circle Square
5 Hawkshaw Street
Manchester
M1 7BL

Telephone: 0303 123 1113
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,

Annex A

Section 22 – Information Intended for Future Publication

Section 22 states that *Information is exempt information if* –
a) The information is held by the public authority with a view to its publication, by the authority or any other person, at some future date (whether determined or not)
b) The information was already held with a view to such publication at the time the request for information was made, and
c) It is reasonable in all the circumstances that the information should be withheld from disclosure until the date referred to in paragraph a).

I am of the opinion that subsections (a) and (b) above are met because the information is held with a view to its publication. This information will be published on the Statutory gambling levy - GOV.UK.

With regards to part (c), I have given consideration as to whether it would be 'reasonable in all the circumstances' that the information should be withheld from disclosure until the proposed publication date. I am of the opinion that releasing the information at this time would cause disruption to the Welsh Government's intentions in relation to its publication arrangements. Thus, I am content that the exemption is engaged.

Section 22 is a public interest exemption. This means that, in order to withhold information, I must show that the public interest in withholding is greater than the public interest in releasing it. In terms of the public interest, it is recognised that there is public interest in there being openness and transparency within Government.