



23 March, 2018

Dear ,

### Request for Information – ATISN 12139

Thank you for your recent email dated 4 March, 2018 in relation to funding for Conygar Ltd.

I can confirm that the Freedom of Information Act (FoI) provides a right to ask for recorded information held at the time a request is made. It does not require an authority such as the Welsh Government to provide views or opinions where those views are not already recorded. This is confirmed by the Information Commissioner's guidance 'The Guide to Freedom of Information', page 7:

*"The Act does not cover information that is in someone's head. If a member of the public asks for information, you only have to provide information you already have in recorded form. You do not have to create new information or find the answer to a question from staff who may happen to know it."*

On that basis, although you have addressed your questions to the Freedom of Information Officer, the Act does not oblige us to 'explain' or 'confirm' whether discussions have been held (etc.) except insofar as such information is held in recorded form at the time the request was made. For the purposes of your questions, I can confirm that mainly it is not.

In relation to the remaining queries in your email, I can advise as follows:

Fishguard is limited by depth, length of quay and condition of quay for large cruise ships. In order to create a significant cruise industry in the area upgrades are essential therefore the Welsh Government needed to test the integrity of the Fishguard berth in order for us to further develop our cruise product. Conygar Ltd was already undertaking an environmental study for their own Fishguard project which included bore holes to the sea bed. As their equipment was already in place it was more cost effective for Welsh Government to request that they undertake the extra bore holes necessary for our purposes to test the integrity of the Fishguard berth. No written request was received from Conygar Ltd for the grant for a feasibility study on the



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integrity of the berth at Fishguard. The funding was instigated by the Welsh Government as we needed to test the integrity of the Fishguard berth in order for us to further develop our cruise product.

Regarding the FoI response you mention responded to by Cruise Wales, this in fact was responded to by Suzanne Thomas, she is employed by the Welsh Government to lead the successful promotion & development of Wales as a major cruise destination, her job title is Head of Cruise Wales.

I trust that the above provides clarity with regards to the funding provided to Conygar Ltd.

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 [FreedomOfInformationOfficer@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:FreedomOfInformationOfficer@wales.gsi.gov.uk).

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