



Our ref: ATISN 12322

Date: 31 May 2018

Dear ,

Request for Information – ATISN reference No. 13222

Thank you for your request which was received by the Welsh Government on 12 May 2018. You asked for the following information:

- *Has the Welsh Government any Policies regarding the Investigation of Reported Serious Fraud? If yes, please provide a copy.*
- *Is there for instance a requirement that such Investigations begin within a reasonable period, say twenty-five years, or prior to the passing of all witnesses?*
- *Do such Policies change in any way when Government premises and senior Government Officials are, allegedly of course, involved?*

The current Welsh Government Counter Fraud and Corruption Policy is attached as a pdf below.



Fraud Policy.pdf

<< Doc 1 >>

There is no set period for an investigation to commence. Any fraud or corruption allegation brought to our attention is taken seriously by the Welsh Government and investigated without delay. The Welsh Government's Head of Counter Fraud is a former senior police officer with considerable experience investigating serious fraud who liaises regularly with all four Welsh Police Forces in order to ensure the prompt investigation of matters of concern.

The policies for the investigation of allegations are applied consistently regardless of what, or who, they relate to and investigations are undertaken with the same levels of diligence, discretion, speed and thoroughness. Depending on their seriousness, any allegations relating to Government premises or senior Government Officials would be, in each case, discussed with the most appropriate specialised law enforcement agency such as the Specialised Police Fraud or Economic Crime Units, Serious Fraud Office, or National Crime Agency.

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: 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