



Our ref: ATISN 12712

14 November 2018

Dear ,

**ATISN 12712: Local Government Funding**

Thank you for your request which I received on 18 October 2018. An acknowledgment was issued to you on the same day.

You asked for the following information and I have provided my response to each of the requests you submitted, as follows:

**1. Minutes of the meeting referenced by the Minister where the formula was agreed.**

The meeting referenced by the Cabinet Secretary for Finance was the Finance Sub Group (FSG) meeting. This Group meets 2 to 3 times a year. The latest meeting took place on 27 September 2018. The minutes for this meeting will not be published until after the next meeting of the FSG on 23 January 2019, at which they will be agreed by the members. Please see attached link for minutes of previous meetings:

<https://gov.wales/topics/localgovernment/finandfunding/finance-sub-group/meetings/?lang=en>

**2. A list of attendees from that meeting.**

Please see attached list of attendees at Annexe A.

**3. A list of the leaders of North Wales local authorities who were present at the meeting.**

Please see attached list of attendees at Annexe A which includes the North Wales local authority leaders present.

**4. A list of the leaders of North Wales local authorities who were supportive of the formula.**

This information is not collected. The FSG signed off the formula changes and the work programme for the work of the distribution sub group in relevant meetings.

**5. Details of the expert group mentioned by the Minister.**

The expert group mentioned by the Minister is the Distribution Sub Group (DSG). The DSG is a technical working group under the Finance Sub Group (FSG) of the Partnership Council for Wales. It exists to consider matters relating to the distribution of the annual local government revenue settlement. The DSG report at the following link provides further details of the group, and minutes and papers of previous meetings can be found by clicking on the “Distribution Sub Group meeting index” link on the right:

<https://gov.wales/topics/localgovernment/finandfunding/dsg1/item/?lang=en>

The Local Government distribution formula is designed to reflect both relative need and relative funding. It represents the most effective distributional mechanism available as it is able to respond to changing data provided by local authorities on relative need.

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](mailto: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 own internal review process.

Yours sincerely

## **Annexe A**

### **Attendees at Finance Sub Group meeting – 27<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

#### **Welsh Government**

Alun Davies AM, Cabinet Secretary for Local Government and Public Services –  
Chair

Mark Drakeford AM, Cabinet Secretary for Finance

#### **Welsh Local Government Association**

Cllr Andrew Morgan, WLGA Presiding Officer (Rhondda Cynon Taff)

Cllr Aaron Shotton, Deputy Leader of the WLGA (Flintshire) (Leader of Flintshire  
County Council, North Wales)

Cllr Peter Fox OBE (Monmouthshire)

Cllr Marc Pritchard (Wrexham) (Leader of Wrexham County Borough Council, North  
Wales)

Cllr Dyfrig Siencyn (Gwynedd) (Leader of Gwynedd Council, North Wales)

Cllr Mark Whitcutt (Newport)

Cllr Huw David WLGA Deputy Presiding Officers (Bridgend)

#### **Welsh Government Officials**

Rachel Maycock – Special Adviser

Reg Kilpatrick – Director, Local Government

Judith Cole – Deputy Director, Local Government Finance & Workforce Partnerships

Debra Carter – Deputy Director, Local Government Strategic Finance

Simon Edwards – Local Government Finance & Workforce Partnerships

#### **Welsh Local Government Association Officials**

Steve Thomas CBE – Chief Executive, WLGA

Nigel Aurelius – SWT Representative

John Rae – Director of Resources, WLGA

#### **Police and Crime Commissioners**

Rt Hon Alun Michael – South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner