

14 December 2018

Dear ,

**ATISN 12775 - Disabled Students' Allowances non-medical helpers**

Thank you for your request which we received on 16 November. You asked for:

**1. Anonymised DSA-QAG conflict of interest declarations collated by Welsh Government.**

Following a search of our paper and electronic records, we have established that the information you have requested is not held by the Welsh Government.

**2. Copies of the minutes of the meetings where it was agreed that "Non-Medical Helpers should not normally be provided by an organisation with which the student has a financial interest because this could be perceived as a conflict of interest."**

Following a search of our paper and electronic records, we have established that the information you have requested is not held by the Welsh Government.

**3. Clarification on whether members of staff, such as employees, temporary workers, office holders, and directors at Non-Medical Helper providers and DSA Assessment Centres are prohibited from receiving NMH support from their own establishment.**

Student Finance Wales is responsible for determining eligibility for DSA support, including non-medical help. The Welsh Government policy states that a student should not receive DSA funded support from an organisation in which the student has a financial interest due to the potential conflict of interest. If the student is a member of staff, office holder or director at a non-medical help provider or assessment centre but does not hold a financial interest in that company, they may be able to receive NMH support from that company.

**4. Clarification on whether a member of staff who has a financial interest in a Non-Medical Helper provider can use this company if a conflict of interest form has been registered with DSA-QAG.**

The Welsh Government does not require NMH providers to register with DSA-QAG.

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