



9 January 2020

Dear,

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

ATISN 13650 – EU Funded Projects

Further to my acknowledgement letter sent to you on 19 December regarding your request where you asked:

Could I have a copy of all the EU funded projects that have come about in Wales since 1974?

From our preliminary assessment we estimate that it will cost more than the appropriate limit set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 to answer your request. The appropriate limit specified for central government is £600. This represents the estimated cost of it taking over 24 hours of time to determine whether we hold the information and to thereafter locate, retrieve and extract it.

To provide you with the information that you have requested would require a review of electronic and paper records. Welsh Government records officially went electronic in 2011. Prior to 2011 paper records were used. Any request for information that is held in hard copy will take significantly more time to locate, retrieve and extract. Hard copy records will need to be physically reviewed and copied to provide you with the information you request.

Please note that in order to comply with legislation such as the Public Records Act 1958 & 1967, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (EU) 2016/679, the Data Protection Act 2018 and the Law Enforcement Directive (LED) 2016 the Welsh Government operates a Retention and Disposal Schedule. The Retention and Disposal Schedule specifies how long the different types of data and records created by the Welsh Government are held before being destroyed. A copy of which is available at:

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-04/Retention%20%20Disposal%20Schedule.pdf>

Under our Retention and Disposal Schedule, records for European funded programmes and projects prior to the 2007-2013 funding period will have been destroyed.

In addition, your request for a copy of all EU funded projects does not specify what type of information relating to the projects you are seeking.

You may wish to refine your request by narrowing its scope by being more specific



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about what information you particularly wish to obtain, including any dates or period of time relevant to the information required.

For example:

- Specify electronic records to minimise the resources necessary to provide the information requested.
- Specify records from the 2007-2013 and 2014-2020 funding rounds.
- Specify what type of information on the projects you require (e.g. a list of projects, project descriptions, targets, budget, evaluation reports).

If you do refine your request in this way, this will be treated as a new request.

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, 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.