

3 April 2020

Dear ,

ATISN 13850

Thank you for your request which I received on 7 March about Public Money (Grants or Investments) given to Dairy Partners (Cymru Wales) Ltd, The Creamery, B4333, Aber-Arad, Newcastle Emlyn SA38 9DQ between the period 2012-2019. The information you requested is enclosed.

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.

Yours sincerely

Public Money (Grants or Investments) given to Dairy Partners (Cymru Wales) Ltd, The Creamery, B4333, Aber-Arad, Newcastle Emlyn SA38 9DQ between the period 2012-2019.

(i) Repayable Business Finance (RBF) £780,910

Q1 It is our understanding from your last response that Dairy Partners in the end were not required to pay back the Welsh Government financial loan. Repayable Business Finance (RBF) £780,910.

Q2 Secondly, given the requirements for full-time equivalent jobs to be created - can we ask how long auditing for this continues? Our knowledge of the company is that they are deemed a poor employer with zero-hour contracts adopted. It would be good to clarify that the jobs originally created through Welsh Government funding have actually continued to be permanent full or part-time contract jobs. We suspect that this is not the case.

In response to your request, please see points below;

(i) Repayable Business Finance (RBF) £780,910

Q1. Under the specific terms and conditions of support, Dairy Partners were not required to pay back any monies to the Welsh Government as the award was not made on a financial loan basis. For clarity, funding was applied for and awarded on a non-repayable basis under the Welsh Government's Repayable Business Finance (RBF) scheme which allows awards to be made on a non-repayable basis if specific criteria are met at the time of application. This was the case with regards to Dairy Partners (formerly Dansco Dairy Limited).

Q2. All full time equivalent jobs created and safeguarded as a result of this project were required to be maintained for a minimum of 3 years from the date of the final payment of funding. These jobs were subject to the terms and conditions of the award of funding until 30 March 2019 and we have previously confirmed that an independent third party auditor verified the employment status of jobs created and safeguarded, claimed by the company.