



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

## E-mail request

Our ref: ATISN 14837

Date: 2 March 2021

Dear

### ATISN 14837

Thank you for your request which I received on 2 February 2021. With regard to the Senior Independent Panel Member campaign, you asked for the following information:

- How many BME people were involved in the sifting process?
- How many were selected for interview vs total numbers of non BME?
- How many of those BME candidates selected were then appointed?
- Were there any BME people on the panel?

In terms of how many BME people were involved in the sifting process, panel members' names were included in the Information for Candidates pack, which was published as part of the advert. I can confirm that one panel member was from a Black, Asian, minority ethnic background. You will have already seen this information, but for ease of reference, please see the link below:

<https://cymru-wales.tal.net/vx/mobile-0/appcentre-3/brand-2/candidate/so/pm/1/pl/8/opp/6837-Senior-Independent-Panel-Members-for-Public-Appointments-in-Wales/en-GB>;

Following the sift, due to unforeseen circumstances, one panel member, Lawrence Conway, had to step down. Lakshmi Narain, Welsh Revenue Authority Board member, was invited to take his place. Therefore, ultimately, there were two panel members from Black, Asian, minority ethnic backgrounds.

In terms of your second question, 23 candidates were selected for interview, of which 3 were from a Black, Asian, minority ethnic background.

Under Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act, I am unable to confirm how many BME candidates selected were subsequently appointed as this is information intended for future publication. The Deputy Minister & Chief Whip, Jane Hutt MS will make a written announcement about the appointments as soon as the relevant checks have been completed. I would be happy to share that announcement with you once published.

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:



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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