



Our ref: ATISN 20282  
Date: 14 June 2024

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

**ATISN 20282 (internal review)**

Further to our disclosure to you under our reference ATISN 20282, on 16 April 2024 you submitted a request for an internal review.

Your complaint has been referred to me for an internal review which will be conducted in accordance with the procedure outlined in [Requesting information from the Welsh Government](#).

In your request for a review, you argue that in this case there is a strong element of public interest in favour of releasing the information given that the person under investigation (the then Economy Minister Vaughan Gething) was one of two candidates to become First Minister and has subsequently become FM; and that he had received substantial donations to his leadership campaign from a convicted criminal.

You also assert a Section 36 of the FOIA, has not prevented the publication of Ministerial Code investigations previously.

Following my review of this case, I have not upheld your complaint.

I have reviewed the handling of your original request and am content that the Welsh Government's original decision not to release the information you asked for should be upheld. I have attached the exemptions at Annex 1 again for reference.

I agree that the decision for maintaining the exemptions at this time, outweighs the longer term public interest in disclosure.

In conclusion, it is my considered view that the correct exemptions have been applied in this case.

If you remain dissatisfied with this response, you 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

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Website: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

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 e-mail: [Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales](mailto:Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales)

Alternatively, you have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

Gareth Owen  
Head of HR Policy and Complaints Advice Team