

14 November 2024

Dear

ATISN 22026

Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on 17 October. You asked:

1. When was the first sighting of the Ospreys at this particular nest? And when did the nest first appear?
2. Was there ever an official sighting of an osprey nest at Gilestone Farm before the present nest was found, and if yes what did the proof consist of?
3. What DNA testing was undertaken to confirm that Ospreys made the nest naturally or if it is actually a man-made nest? Considering the level of misinformation that was going on in that time, if a DNA test has not taken place, why not?
4. The Ospreys did not return to breed in 2024. How long will the 750m restricted zone around the nest stay in place and what will happen if the Ospreys nest at a site closer to local businesses, or the public highway? Will a new restricted zone be put in place there too?
5. Please release any specific plans, proposals, or funding allocations made by the Welsh Government in relation to the management, protection, or promotion of Ospreys at Gilestone Farm.

Our response

Our responses to your requests are enclosed.

1. No information held however Welsh Government was informed of the presence of ospreys at Gilestone Farm on 8 August 2023.
2. No information held.
3. No information held.
4. The Freedom of Information Act gives a right to access recorded information held by an authority but does not require the authority to create new information to answer a request. We do not hold any recorded information regarding future plans.

5. The Osprey Conservation Plan for Gilestone Farm is in the public domain and available on the Welsh Government website. A link has been included below:-

[Gilestone Farm: osprey conservation plan | GOV.WALES](#)

No funding allocations have been made to any organisations in relation to the to the management, protection, or promotion of Ospreys at Gilestone Farm.

Next steps

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