

10 January 2025

Dear

ATISN 23219 – Welsh Government funding for Reading Well Scheme

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 22 December 2024. You have requested the following:

In relation to The Reading Agency "Reading Well" scheme, whereby Welsh Government has funded every library authority in Wales to deliver the scheme bilingually in Welsh and English.

Please provide the total cost of the roll-out of these reading lists including:

- a. The initial cost to deliver*
- b. The annual cost to keep the books fresh (i.e. to replace used or missing books or cover new additions)*

Our Response

The Welsh Government has contributed to the Reading Well scheme. This funding has supported books on specific topics each year and marketing and promotional activities. Public libraries may procure additional sets of the titles, and are responsible for the maintenance as part of their collection development activities:

Year	Topic	Funding (£)
2018/19	Dementia	349,999.98
2019/20	Mental Health	349,712.98
2020/21	Children	366,000
2021/22	Teen (Young People)	366,928.00

In the year 2023/24, £380,000 was granted to update the dementia booklist.

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,