



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

04/01/2021

Dear

## **ATISN 14710 – Provision of laptops**

### **Information requested**

Thank you for your request which I received on 04/01/2021. You asked for;

- The sum of money given to Flintshire County Council Education Services to purchase laptops to support learning from home due to COVID-19;
- When the sum of money was given;
- How the money was distributed to schools;
- Which children were prioritised; and
- Whether the schools had to supply evidence of their purchases.

### **Our response**

We hold no recorded information that is caught by this request. However, I have provided some additional information in response to your questions below:

1. The sum of money given to Flintshire County Council Education Services to purchase laptops for children to learn at home because of COVID-19.

No funding was directly provided to Flintshire County Council to purchase laptops in response to COVID19. However a national initiative, administered centrally by the Welsh Government, was established to support digitally excluded learners. Further information around the support provided can be found [here](#).

2. When this sum of money was given.

Not applicable, however the initiative to ensure all digitally excluded learners were able to access remote learning was available to local authorities between April 2020 and June 2020.

3. Guidance on how the money was to be distributed to schools.

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Parc Cathays / Cathays Park  
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Not applicable as the initiative was administered by the Welsh Government and no funding was distributed to schools.

4. Guidance on which children were priorities in terms of receiving a laptop.

The guidance provided to local authorities focused on ensuring all learners could access remote learning and therefore the initiative focused on learners who were digitally excluded. A digitally excluded learner is defined as 'a learner who does not have access to an appropriate internet connected device to engage in online learning activities from home'.

5. Whether schools have had to supplying evidence of their purchases.

Not applicable as the initiative was administered nationally by the Welsh Government. Should you require any further information in relation to the support and approach undertaken by Flintshire Council, I would recommend contacting the EdTech Delivery Lead for the local authority, Vicky Barlow ([vicky.barlow@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:vicky.barlow@flintshire.gov.uk)) or Aled Griffith ([aled.griffith@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:aled.griffith@flintshire.gov.uk)).

### **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](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,