

16 September 2022

Dear

ATISN 16455 Refugees and Immigrants – Final Response

Thank you for your request which I received on 7 July. I apologise for the delay in providing your final response for this request.

You asked the following questions:

- 1) how much has been paid and have spent on since ownership and the amount of return on Cardiff airport and St Athan airport plus any returns they had from it, including dividends and all taxes and duties they have received directly from them.
- 2) how many illegal immigrants (the one who arrived by boat) they are housing here and the costs THEY are covering from them.
- 3) can I request the number of Ukrainian refugees are funded in Wales directly.
- 4) the amount that has been donated and or spent on supporting Ukraine and a breakdown of where the money has gone.
- 5) how much they spent on buying a Farm in the Brecon Beacons for a festival site.

On 20 July, I provided an acknowledgement letter along with a request for clarification on one part of your request. I received confirmation on 28 July via email that the use of the word “they” within questions 2 and 5 is in reference to the Welsh Government. This has helped to clarify your request and provide a response and information. On 4 August a further email was sent to you to request further clarification to your question on St Athans Airport. In light of no further response to our email, our response is set out based on our understanding of your question.

Our response is set out within this letter as below:

Question

- 1) how much has been paid and have spent on since ownership and the amount of return on Cardiff airport and St Athen airport plus any returns they had from it, including dividends and all taxes and duties they have received directly from them

Response

Cardiff Airport

I confirm we hold the information requested. I have concluded, however, that it is exempt from disclosure under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, information otherwise available. The information is available at - [Evidence paper from Welsh Government regarding Cardiff Airport - PAPAC6-04-21 P1.pdf \(senedd.wales\)](#) and

<https://business.senedd.wales/documents/s126597/PAPAC6-09-22%20P1%20-%20Letter%20from%20WG%20to%20Chair%20on%20Cardiff%20Airport.pdf>

You may wish to note one variant between the 2021 and 2022 papers above, the £42.6m Rescue and Restructure grant investment drawn down / paid out to the airport rose from £13m to £19m by the end of 31 March 2022, in line with the airports scheduled draw down for the grant.

St Athans Airport

St Athan (Bro Tathan) was purchased from MOD in 2003 and is not an airport . It is a 1200-acre business park owned directly by the Welsh Government part of which has access to the government owned runway and airfield. The airfield is operated on behalf of the Welsh Government by Cardiff International Airport Limited (CIAL) to generate employment in the Maintenance Repair and Overhaul (MRO) Aerospace sector. These are mainly aerospace engineers that are employed by the tenants on site for example eCube Ltd and Caerdav Ltd.

Given that it's not an airport, but a government owned business park we do not recognise the information requested so we are unable to provide any further information.

Question

2) how many illegal immigrants (the one who arrived by boat) they are housing here and the cost THEY are covering from them

Response

The Home Office is responsible for all matters relating to asylum and immigration including the data on the numbers who are currently in the UK, the breakdown of the areas in which they reside This also includes the provision and payment of accommodation provided to asylum seekers under section 95 or section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

The provision of support and accommodation under this legislation is not within the devolved powers of the Welsh Government. The Home Office may therefore be able to provide an answer to your request you can find further information on how this can be provided on their [website](#) or submit a request to foirequests@homeoffice.gov.uk

The following link can provide some information regarding the number of asylum seekers in the UK which may help to answer your questions above however more detailed information can only be provided by the Home Office who remain responsible for asylum and immigration matters:

[Asylum and resettlement datasets - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/asylum-and-resettlement-datasets)

Question

3) can I request the number of Ukrainian refugees are funded in Wales directly.

Response

Information on the number of arrivals is available via the UK Government's website.
[Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme: Visa data by country, upper and lower tier local authority - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

As at 13 September, there have been 5,534 arrivals into Wales.

Question

4) the amount that has been donated and or spent on supporting Ukraine and a breakdown of where the money has gone

Response

On 1 March, the First Minister [announced](#) a £4m donation to the Disasters Emergency Committee towards their general appeal for Ukraine.

Question

5) how much they spent on buying a Farm in the Brecon Beacons for a festival site.

Response

The property was purchased by the Welsh Government for £4.25m (no VAT to be charged) which was below the market value independently certified by our consultant surveyors, Knight Frank, at £4.325m

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