

1 November 2022

Dear

ATISN 16770

Thank you for your request which I received on 19 October 2022. You asked for the following information:

A list of Welsh Government Ministerial visits to North Wales since the start of the sixth Senedd term in May 2022.

For each individual visit, please detail the Minister's name/cabinet role and the local authority area.

If further information is permitted within the cost/time allocation, please provide the location of the visit (either the specific venue or the village/town/city). If not, please provide the Minister's name/cabinet role and the local authority area as above.

Ministerial meetings and engagement information up to the end of September 2022 is published at the following link [Ministerial meetings and engagements | GOV.WALES](#)

In relation to information from the end of September to date, I have concluded that the information you requested is exempt under Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), information intended for future publication. Information for September onwards will be published, in line with the Ministerial Code, at the link above with the next tranche of information in January 2023.

Section 22 is a publicly tested exemption and I have set out my arguments for non-disclosure at Annex 1 to this letter.

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

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

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Website: www.ico.org.uk

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely

Annex 1

Section 22: Information intended for future publication.

The Welsh Government believes that Section 22 is applied in relation to the requested information. Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act is subject to the public interest test. This means that in order to withhold information under its provisions, any personal interest of the requester notwithstanding, it has to be shown that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs that in releasing it.

Public interest arguments in favour of disclosure

The general presumption of openness and transparency, which the Freedom of Information Act aspires to.

Public interest arguments against disclosure

This information is published as part of a requirement in the Ministerial code. This information is published quarterly in arrears, so the next tranche of information for September 2022 – December 2022 will be published during January 2023.

The Welsh Government acknowledges the public interest in openness and transparency, and it is a long-standing requirement that details of Ministerial meetings and engagements are published in line with the Ministerial code.

Therefore, we believe the public interest would be better served in the information being published at the appropriate time. To that end, I believe the information should be withheld under s22 of the Act, until it is published in due course at the following link:

<https://gov.wales/ministerial-code-information-publication-6th-assembly>