

24 November 2022

Dear

ATISN 16804

Thank you for your request which I received on 27 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.

Details of ministers' meetings with external organisations and attendance at engagements are published quarterly in arrears at the following link: <https://gov.wales/ministerial-meetings-and-engagements>. This covers the request up until the end of September 2022. Information covering October to December 2022 will be published in early 2023. I have concluded that the remaining information you requested is exempt under Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), information intended for future publication and a full explanation of the reasoning is attached at Annex A.

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

The Welsh Government acknowledges the public interest in openness and transparency, and as such we publish details of ministerial engagements quarterly. As the next publication date is in the near future, we believe therefore 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-5th-assembly>