

5 January 2023

Dear

ATISN 16933 Funding for bus services

Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on 5 December 2022. You asked for details of how much each of the 22 local authorities in Wales received in funding to delivery bus services in the financial years:

2018-19;

2019-20;

2020-21;

2021-22; and

2022-23.

Our response

Local authorities receive a settlement each year to fund their services. This is un-hypothecated and as such it is for local authorities and their elected councils to determine how they fund each of their service areas. The settlement is determined using a formula to calculate the relative split of funding between the 22 authorities in Wales, which also takes into account their ability to raise funding from council tax. Background information on this can be found in the Green Book, the last published was for 2020-21 [Local government revenue and capital settlement: background information for standard spending assessments \(Green book\) 2020 to 2021 | GOV.WALES](https://gov.wales/gov/wales/2020-21-local-government-revenue-and-capital-settlement-background-information-for-standard-spending-assessments-green-book-2020-to-2021).

Other than the main settlement funding for local authority's determined each year, there are individual grants awarded for specified purposes (see the data presented in the table at the end of this letter. However, please be aware that one grant (Bus Services Support Grant (BSSG)) given by the Welsh Government is paid to three lead authorities representing north Wales (Flintshire), south east Wales (Monmouthshire) and south west Wales (Swansea): who would then share out that funding across their local authorities according to their local agreement. Powys and Ceredigion receive individual BSSG awards. This funding mechanism was duplicated for the bus support funding provided by Welsh Government in response to the impact of the COVID pandemic on the bus network and operators fare income.

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, quoting the ATISN reference number above, at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

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

Welsh Government Funding for bus services: via local authorities (£000's)

| LA | 2022/23 | 2021/22 | 2020/21 | 2019/20 | 2018/19 |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Anglesey | £0 | £0 | £352 | £0 | £0 |
| Blaenau Gwent | £191 | £0 | £421 | £0 | £0 |
| Bridgend | £0 | £0 | £1,176 | £0 | £0 |
| Caerphilly | £0 | £0 | £1,561 | £290 | £0 |
| Cardiff | £0 | £0 | £4,968 | £0 | £0 |
| Carmarthenshire | £0 | £0 | £1,791 | £347 | £461 |
| Ceredigion | £763 | £2,466 | £2,602 | £1,305 | £1,766 |
| Conwy | £0 | £0 | £1,495 | £0 | £0 |
| Denbighshire | £0 | £0 | £702 | £0 | £0 |
| Flintshire | £6,150 | £20,399 | £14,571 | £6,526 | £6,793 |
| Gwynedd | £0 | £0 | £1,282 | £408 | £578 |
| Merthyr Tydfil | £0 | £0 | £894 | £0 | £0 |
| Monmouthshire | £23,687 | £33,727 | £26,035 | £11,496 | £11,240 |
| Neath Port Talbot | £0 | £0 | £1,091 | £0 | £0 |
| Newport | £0 | £0 | £1,117 | £0 | £0 |
| Pembrokeshire | £138 | £0 | £1,143 | £117 | £0 |
| Powys | £1,184 | £3,608 | £4,994 | £1,705 | £1,554 |
| Rhonda Cynon Taf | £0 | £0 | £3,037 | £0 | £0 |
| Swansea | £9,597 | £15,236 | £12,915 | £5,086 | £5,090 |
| Torfaen | £0 | £0 | £1,359 | £0 | £0 |
| Vale of Glamorgan | £0 | £0 | £1,548 | £796 | £701 |
| Wrexham | £0 | £0 | £1,128 | £0 | £0 |
| | £41,710 | £75,436 | £86,182 | £28,076 | £28,183 |