Dear

## Request for information - ATISN 17406

I wrote to you on 20 April regarding your request for information.

## Your request

You asked for:

Copies of the following for New Quay, Aberaeron and Aberystwyth Harbours:-

- A list of SHA Board Members -but more likely to be Harbour Management Committee Members, (including the current Chair along with the 'duty holder').
- Copies of Audits of the LA/SHA by the Welsh Government since 2015, including how the SHA enacts it responsibilities under the Harbours Act 1964 and subsequent legislation. This should include evidence of how the SHA meets its responsibilities as outlined in the Ports Good Governance Guidance 2018...especially Parts 2 and 4.
- 3. Current Port Master Plans for all 3 ports.
- 4. All Harbour Accounts (ideally for the 3 separate ports) covering the time period 2015- 2023.
- 5. Finally, who are the WG auditors for Welsh Ports?

## **Our Response**

I can confirm that we hold some of the information you have requested, however, for questions one and three, I can confirm that we do not hold this information.

For question two, the Welsh Government does not audit Ports and as such they would appoint their own external auditors. None of the ports are owned by Welsh Government and therefore it would be up to the entity to appoint their own auditors.

For question four, Section 42 of the HA 1964 sets out the accounting/reporting responsibilities of a SHA (see also Section 3 of the Ports Good Governance Guidance). SHAs have a statutory obligation to produce annual accounts and reports in line with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (unless their turnover is under £250k, in those cases they still need to produce accounts/reports but they don't have to be in accordance with the CA 2006 requirements) and to provide these to the Welsh Ministers. We also have the following notice on our website Notification to statutory harbour undertakers in Wales [HTML] | GOV.WALES

For your final question, I can confirm that the Welsh Government does not audit Welsh Ports.

## **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: Freedomofinformation@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