



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

28 March 2024

Dear ,

**ATISN 20372 – WhatsApp/Email messages**

Thank you for your request which I received on 19 March 2024. You asked for:

*An email messages ‘dump’ and a WhatsApp messages ‘dump’ for Mark Drakeford, Vaughan Gething and Eluned Morgan for 2020.*

On 21 March I wrote to you to ask you for clarification on the information you requested and you responded on 22 March to confirm you wanted:

*a complete DUMP of all EMAILs I will then do the filtering my self, I put it through my software and pull what I need to see*

Section 8 of the Freedom of Information Act sets out the legal criteria in order for a request to be valid under the Act. The request is valid if it:

- (a) is in writing,*
- (b) states the name of the applicant and an address for correspondence, and*
- (c) describes the information requested.*

Whilst (a) and (b) are satisfied, you have not described the information you are looking for and have said you will filter it yourself. Guidance from the Information Commissioner states:

*Requests that define the information solely by its physical location, such as ‘please provide me with a copy of all the information on your desk’ are not valid. This is because they reveal nothing about the recorded characteristics of the information. They simply define its physical whereabouts at a particular point in time.*

Your request similarly does not reveal anything about the information you are seeking, other than it may or may not be contained in a body of messages; the request simply defines where the information you are seeking may or may not be found. To that end, your request is not valid as it stands, and we will not be processing it any further.

Should you wish to submit a refined request that describes the information you are looking for we will be happy to process it as a new request.

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](mailto: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](http://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.

The request you sent me contains personal information about you - for example, your name and address. The Welsh Government will be the data processor for this information and, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation, it will be processed in order to fulfil our public task and meet our legal obligations under the Act to provide you with a response. We will only use this personal information to deal with your request and any matters which arise as a result of it. We will keep your personal information and all other information relating to your request for three years from the date on which your request is finally closed. Your personal information will then be disposed of securely.

Under data protection legislation, you have the right:

- to be informed of the personal data we hold about you and to access it
- to require us to rectify inaccuracies in that data
- to (in certain circumstances) object to or restrict processing

- for (in certain circumstances) your data to be 'erased'
- to (in certain circumstances) data portability
- to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) who is our independent regulator for data protection

For further information about the information which the Welsh Government holds and its use, or if you wish to exercise your rights under the GDPR, please see contact details below:

Data Protection Officer  
Welsh Government  
Cathays Park  
CARDIFF  
CF10 3NQ  
Email: [DataProtectionOfficer@gov.wales](mailto:DataProtectionOfficer@gov.wales)

The contact details for the Information Commissioner's Office are as above.

Yours sincerely

