

8 April 2024

Dear

ATISN 20334 – Freedom of Information

Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on 11 March 2024. You asked:

- Why there is no "Full impact assessment being published" on the Senedd Reform Bill for the Welsh people to read.

Our response

A series of impact assessments related to the Senedd Cymru (Members and Elections) Bill have previously been published in full, and are available via the link below:

<https://www.gov.wales/senedd-cymru-members-and-elections-bill-impact-assessments>

However, you may have been specifically inquiring as to why a full Public Sector Impact Assessment of the Bill has not been published. I note that your query included a screenshot of the following text: "A full impact assessment on the Bill's impact on the Public Sector has not been conducted. However, the Integrated Impact Assessment has considered in detail the Bill's potential implications for the public sector. A summary of these considerations are provided in the paragraphs below."

You may therefore find the following information helpful. To meet the Welsh Government's legislative responsibilities, the completion of a limited number of separate, full impact assessments in association with a Bill is mandatory. For the majority of impact assessments, a decision on whether they are required is based on an initial assessment of a Bill's potential impact on that subject matter, which is undertaken by officials through the Integrated Impact Assessment framework.

In the case of the Senedd Cymru (Members and Elections) Bill, officials determined that a separate full public sector impact assessment was not required, as the Bill's substantive impacts would predominantly be for only a limited number of public sector bodies, with the cost implications for such bodies set out in the Bill's Regulatory Impact Assessment (published as part of the Bill's Explanatory Memorandum [pri-ld16037-em-e.pdf \(senedd.wales\)](#)).

Although a separate full public sector impact assessment was not undertaken, the Integrated Impact Assessment itself considered in detail the Bill's potential implications for the public sector. This consideration is set out under the subsections 'Size,' 'Boundaries' and 'Voting Systems' after section **4.2 Public Sector including local government and other public bodies** at <https://www.gov.wales/senedd-cymru-members-and-elections-bill-integrated-impact-assessment-html#132853>.

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: 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.

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

Yours sincerely