Grŵp Economi, Ynni a Thrafnidiaeth Economy, Energy & Transport Group

Ein cyf/Our ref: ATISN 20888



25 October 2024

Dear ,

Request for Information - ATISN 20888 - Internal review

Thank you for your emails of 26 and 27 September 2024 requesting an internal review of the Welsh Government's response to the above request for information.

I agreed to conduct this internal review, as an independent senior civil servant with no involvement in the handling of the response to your request.

My reading of your request for an internal review is that you accepted the grounds for withholding information, but that you would have expected some information to be released (with any necessary redactions under section 43(2) – commercial interests – of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the Act")) and that you would have expected a commitment to future sharing of the information withheld under section 35(1)(a) – formulation of government policy – of the Act. I have therefore focused my review on these two matters.

My review, which included consideration of Information Commissioner's Office guidance and information provided by colleagues, has found the following:

- I have received confirmation that there is no information held which would remain unredacted following the application of the two exemptions cited in the response to your request.
- In respect of information withheld under section 35(1)(a), I have not been able to identify any requirement for the Welsh Government to commit to future sharing of information withheld. I note, however, that the response you received makes clear: "The Welsh Government endeavours to ensure it is as



Llywodraeth Cymru / Welsh Government Parc Cathays / Cathays Park CF10 3NQ

FOI.ETCC@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

transparent as possible, in particular through the media, publication of documents, Ministerial Written Statements and public statements in the Senedd."

I therefore uphold the original decision.

Next steps

You 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

As we have previously advised, the request you sent contains personal information about you - for example, your name and email 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

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Warner
Deputy Director – Transport Strategy and Policy
Welsh Government