



Ref: ATISN 24864

21 July 2025

Dear ,

ATISN 24864 – Audit of Group-Based Child Sexual Exploitation

Thank you for your request to Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 25 June 2025 relating to the review/audit by Baroness Casey into abuse carried out by grooming gangs in England and Wales.

You have requested the following:

- 1. I would like you to tell me about the data the Welsh Assembly has withheld from the Baroness Casey Report into the grooming gang both past and present. Why was it not submitted to the Casey Report?*
- 2. Can you state if there was any policy followed for doing so?*

Our Response

Welsh Government does not hold the information requested.

Baroness Casey published her audit report on group-based sexual exploitation of children on 16th June.

On page 52, the report states, “We also sought data from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and the Government of Wales on how many cases of child sexual abuse or exploitation they see in health services but have only been able to obtain data from Sexual Assault Referral Centres (England).” This was incorrect as health data had not been requested by the audit team from Welsh Government. This was raised with the audit team.

On 20th June, Baroness Casey wrote to the First Minister to apologise for the error, confirming that how many cases of child sexual abuse or exploitation seen in health was not requested from Welsh Government by the audit team and providing assurance that the report would be amended. We have received confirmation that the report has now been amended.

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,