

28 October 2025

Dear

## **ATISN 26239**

Thank you for your request which I received on 9 October. You asked for the following information:

*Number of social housing units the Welsh Government has completed and made available between 1 January 2024 and 1 January 2025.*

### **Our response**

Data on the number of affordable housing units, including social housing units, and who has delivered them, is published annually.

Financial year data for 2023-24 can be found in the [Affordable housing provision](#) statistical release.

Data for financial year 2024-25 will be published 13 November 2025 [on this page](#). Therefore, data for 2024-25 is exempt from disclosure under Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act and is therefore withheld. The reason for applying this exemption is set out in full at Annex A to this letter.

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

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.

Yours sincerely

## **Annex 1**

### **Engagement of section 22(1) (information intended for future publication)**

Information on the total number of social housing units the Welsh Government has completed and made available between 1 January 2024 and 1 January 2025 is considered exempt under section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act. This states:

(1) Information is exempt information if —

- (a) the information is held by the public authority with a view to its publication, by the authority or any other person, at some future date (whether determined or not),
- (b) the information was already held with a view to such publication at the time when the request for information was made, and
- (c) it is reasonable in all the circumstances that the information should be withheld from disclosure until the date referred to in paragraph (a).

I can confirm that conditions under (a) and (b) are satisfied.

For (c), the Welsh Government believes that it is reasonable in all the circumstances that the information should be withheld from disclosure until that time. Publishing the requested information now may not reflect the information that will be published on the website; it could be misleading and not present an accurate picture. For that reason, we believe it is reasonable for the publication schedule to remain so as to ensure the accuracy and integrity of the information in line with the annual reporting of full financial year information.

### **Public Interest Test**

Section 22 is also a public interest tested exemption. This means that in order to withhold information under it, it has to be shown that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs that in releasing it. Whilst Welsh Government acknowledges the general public interest in openness and transparency that release would engender, we believe the release of information at this stage would be confusing and may not present complete overall information compared to that which will be published.

The Welsh Government believes that information currently held should be exempt from disclosure on the basis that more accurate and complete information will be published. Welsh Government is currently preparing final information for publication, including carrying out quality and accuracy checks. The information is at present unverified and may present an inaccurate picture.

### **Public interest arguments in favour of disclosure**

- The general presumption of openness that the FOIA aspires to.

### **Public interest arguments in favour of withholding**

- The intended publication date has been pre-announced and is in the not too distant future;
- Information released through the Freedom of Information Act is released to the world and not just the requester. The information in question is incomplete and is still undergoing quality assurance. The final, published version of the data may be different, making it possible that confusion could arise when comparing the two versions and potentially leading to incorrect conclusions being drawn;
- Disclosure of this information before the publication date may compromise trust in the accuracy of official information.

### **Balance of public interest test**

On the basis of the above we conclude, that on balance, the public interest arguments are in favour of withholding the data at this time. The public interest in this data will be met with the publication on 13 November 2025.