

24 November 2025

Dear

ATISN 26312

Thank you for your request which I received on 28 October 2025. You asked for:

- All correspondence between the First Minister and the Permanent Secretary on the issue of pre-election access talks for opposition parties.
- The minutes of all cabinet meetings at which the issue of access talks has been discussed.
- All correspondence between previous First Ministers and Permanent Secretaries on the issue of access talks prior to each of the previous Senedd elections.

Our response

To clarify, we do not hold any formal letters between the Permanent Secretary and the First Minister on this specific issue. Furthermore, in response to your inquiry about formal letters between previous First Ministers and Permanent Secretaries on the topic of access talks, I must inform you that we do not possess any such formal correspondence.

For your convenience, you can access published Cabinet minutes via the following link: [Cabinet meetings | GOV.WALES](#)

It is pertinent to note that access talks were discussed during bilateral meetings between the First Minister and the Permanent Secretary on 14 February, 20 June, and 15 July. However, no formal letters or correspondence resulted from these discussions.

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 e-mail: 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

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

Yours sincerely