

12 December 2025

Dear

ATISN 26376

Thank you for your request which I received on 14 November. You asked for the following:

For the period 1 January 2020 to the present:

1. Meetings and Engagements

A list of all meetings (virtual or in-person) between:

*Welsh Government Ministers, Special Advisers or senior communications officers
and*

Senior staff from BBC Wales or BBC Nations.

For each engagement, please provide:

- *date*
- *attendees*
- *purpose/subject*
- *any agendas, minutes, briefing packs or notes (where held).*

2. Correspondence

All correspondence (emails, letters, WhatsApp messages, SMS or Teams chats where recorded) between Welsh Government Ministers, Special Advisers or senior officials and senior BBC Wales staff referring to:

- *impartiality*
- *political balance*
- *news coverage relating to political parties*
- *election coverage (Senedd 2021, UK General Election, upcoming 2026 Senedd election)*
- *strategic engagement or relationship-management with BBC Wales.*

3. Policies or Guidance

Any internal Welsh Government policy, guidance, memorandum of understanding, protocol or briefing document that outlines how Ministers or officials should engage with BBC Wales or other public service broadcasters.

Our response

I have reached the conclusion that it will cost more than the appropriate limit established in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 to consider your request. The appropriate limit specified for central government is £600. When calculating whether or not your request exceeds appropriate limit, I am allowed to consider the time it is likely to take to establish if we hold the information, locate the information, retrieve the information and extract it. If these tasks are estimated to take more than 24 hours of working time, the limit will have been exceeded.

I have based this on the fact that the request covers a five-year period, during which time many areas of the Welsh Government will have had substantial interactions with BBC

Wales, from press queries, meetings, briefings and discussions around broadcasting policy and economic development, among other things. Searching and extracting the relevant information from inboxes and diaries from staff and Ministers past and present during this period would therefore exceed the cost limit.

You may wish to refine your request by narrowing its scope and defining a narrower time frame (describing in more detail the exact information you are seeking and avoiding broad terms such as “any” or “all”). Please note that any narrowed scope may still require a similar exercise to be carried out to locate, extract and retrieve any information held – this would be treated as a new request for information

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