

5 February 2026

Dear

ATISN 26555 – Community First Programme, Higher Shotton, Flintshire

Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on 9 January 2026. You asked for:

- Copies of grant agreements, monitoring and compliance records, audit and assurance records, records relating to any complaints which related to the Communities First Programme being delivered by Flintshire County Council between 2009 and 2015. Specifically records relating to Higher Shotton.
- Copies of Welsh Government guidance in force at the time concerning staff, agents of the local authority and how complaint / allegations were to be handled.

Our response

From my preliminary assessment I estimate that it will cost more than the appropriate limit set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 to answer your request. The appropriate limit specified for central government is £600. This represents the estimated cost of it taking over 24 hours of time to determine whether we hold the information and to thereafter locate, retrieve and extract it.

An electronic search of the Welsh Government's internal system for the information within the parameters you have given will return many records, some of which will not be relevant to your request, if at all.

For example, a preliminary electronic search of documents relating to your criteria, limited to Higher Shotton, and between the dates provided identified the maximum of 5,000 results.

At an estimate of taking 2 minutes to investigate each document to determine if it contains any relevant information to your request and to then extract, would take at over 166 hours. Consequently, I have decided not to provide you with the information you have requested.

You may wish to refine your request by narrowing its scope by being more specific about what information you particularly wish to obtain. It may help if you draft a more refined request if you think about what it is you want to know, the questions you want answers

to, and focus your request on that information rather than focusing on where you think the information may be held. Any refined request will be treated as a new request.

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