

23 March 2026

Dear

Complaint in respect of ATISN 26678 Request for environmental information under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 - Request for information

Following my email of 5th March 2026 I have conducted an internal review as requested and write with the outcome.

I have reviewed the original request (set out below) and the response provided.

1. Critical assessments provided by Natural Resources Wales to Welsh Government

Please provide all recorded briefings, submissions, advice notes or correspondence supplied by Natural Resources Wales to Welsh Government Ministers or senior officials which:

- a. Assess or evaluate Natural Resources Wales' effectiveness or capacity to act as the environmental regulator*
- b. Identify limitations, risks or weaknesses in regulatory enforcement, compliance or prosecution*
- c. Refer to concerns about persistent environmental deterioration linked to regulatory under-performance*

2. Welsh Government responses to those assessments

For each document disclosed under point 1 above, please provide the corresponding recorded Welsh Government response, including:

- a. Written replies or correspondence sent to Natural Resources Wales*
- b. Ministerial or official decisions, directions or instructions issued in response*
- c. Any recorded acceptance, rejection or modification of the issues raised by Natural Resources Wales*

To inform my review I met with the official who drafted the response to understand more about the calculations used to determine the time required to process your request. I also considered the nearly 13 year time period over which you have requested this information, the breadth of the request and the volume of potential items that would need to be identified as well as the need for personal data to be redacted adding further processing time.

Having considered all of the above I am satisfied that the calculation used was sound and that the appropriate limit as set out by the Freedom of Information Act (2000) will be

exceeded. On this basis I uphold the original decision to refuse the environmental information requested if the request for information is manifestly unreasonable as permitted by Regulation 12 (4)(b) of the EIR Regulations.

I note that you have narrowed the timeframe for the request to 1st January 2022 to present. This request is being considered separately.

I have considered your complaint in accordance with the procedure outlined in the Welsh Government's Practical Guide for Making Requests for Information which is available by post on request or via the internet at: [Requesting information from the Welsh Government \[HTML\] | GOV.WALES](#)

If you remain dissatisfied with this response you 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.

Yours sincerely.

Deputy Director, Marine and Biodiversity