

20 March 2026

Dear

## **ATISN 26744 – Notification of Health Risks**

Thank you for your request submitted on 22 February, which I received on the 23 February.

Your request asked for:

If we hold any recorded information (including emails or briefings) showing that you notified, informed, or briefed local authorities, health bodies, or water companies about possible health risks associated with solar developments in Anglesey.

### **Our response**

I can confirm that the following bodies were consulted during the application process, but only in relation to 2 Developments of National Significance and specifically the Parc Solar, Traffwill and Alaw Mon Solar Farm. Although I must point out that the issue about possible health risks would not have been specifically addressed, but notified the parties of the application and where representation could have been submitted, due to any potential concerns the bodies consulted may have had, if any.

- Isle of Anglesey County Council
- Dwr Cymru
- North West Fire and Rescue Service

The information caught by your request constitutes environmental information and has been considered for disclosure under the Environmental Information Regulations (“EIRs”). I have found three documents falling within the scope of your request but have decided some of the information is exempt from disclosure under Regulation 13 of the EIRs. The reason for applying this exemption is set out in full at Annex 1 to this letter.

You should also note any other solar farm developments of 10MW or less would have been considered by the local planning authority, in this case the Isle of Anglesey Council. Developments above a certain threshold do not fall within the remit of the Welsh Government, such as the proposed Maen Hir Solar Farm this is a matter for the UK Governments’ Secretary of State.

### **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](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.

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

Any information released under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or Environmental Information Regulations 2004 will be listed in the Welsh Government's Disclosure Log (at <https://gov.wales/about/open-government/freedom-of-information/responses/?lang=en>).

Yours sincerely,

### **Regulation 13– Personal data**

Regulation 13(1) together with the conditions in Regulation 13(2)(a)(i) and 13(2)(a)(ii) provides an absolute exemption if disclosure of the personal data would breach any of the data protection principles.

‘Personal data’ is defined in sections 3(2) and (3) of the Data Protection Act 2018 (‘the DPA 2018’) and means any information relating to an identified or identifiable living individual. An identifiable living individual is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of the individual.

We have concluded that, in this instance, the information requested contains third party personal data.

Under Regulation 13(1) of the EIRs, personal data is exempt from release if disclosure would breach one of the data protection principles set out in Article 5 of the GDPR. We consider the principle being most relevant in this instance as being the first. This states that personal data must be:

*“processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subject”*  
The lawful basis that is most relevant in relation to a request for information under the FOIA is Article 6(1)(f). This states:

*“processing is necessary for the purposes of the legitimate interests pursued by the controller or by a third party except where such interests are overridden by the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject which require protection of personal data, in particular where the data subject is a child”.*

In considering the application of Article 6(1)(f) in the context of a request for information under FOIA it is necessary to consider the following three-part test:

- **The Legitimate interest test:** Whether a legitimate interest is being pursued in the request for information;
- **The Necessity test:** Whether disclosure of the information/confirmation or denial that it is held is necessary to meet the legitimate interest in question;
- **The Balancing test:** Whether the above interests override the interests, fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject.

#### **1. Legitimate interests**

We have been unable to identify a legitimate interest the requester may have in accessing the personal data of those individuals mentioned in the notification of the application to the interested parties.

## **2. Necessity test**

We do not believe it is necessary to release the personal data for the information to be understood.

## **3. Balancing test**

As we don't believe there is neither a legitimate interest nor is it necessary to release the personal data, we are of the view that disclosure would breach the GDPRs and, as such, should be withheld under Reg 13.