

15/04/2026

Dear

ATISN 26801

Information requested

Thank you for your request which we received on 16/03/26. You asked for the following information regarding the rounds 1, 2 and 3 of the Ynni Cymru capital grant scheme:

1. A full list of all successful applicants, including:
 - Organisation name
 - Project name or description
 - Location of the project
 - Amount of funding awarded
 - Year of award
2. The total number of applications received in each round and the number of successful projects.
3. Any scoring matrices, evaluation frameworks, or assessment criteria used to assess applications.
4. Copies of any ministerial briefings, internal reports, or summaries produced regarding the allocation of Ynni Cymru capital grants.
5. Any correspondence (including emails, meeting minutes, or briefing notes) between Welsh Government officials and external organisations regarding the design, administration, or allocation of Ynni Cymru funding, including but not limited to:
 - Community Energy Wales
 - Ynni Teg
 - the Welsh Government Energy Service
6. Any conflict-of-interest declarations, governance arrangements, or due-diligence assessments used when awarding grants under the scheme.
7. Any internal or external evaluation reports reviewing the outcomes or impact of the Ynni Cymru Grant Capital Scheme.

Our response

1. Successful applicants for round 1 are listed in Document 1 which is provided separately, and a list of successful applicants for round 2 was shared in response to ATISN 26331. Round 3 of the Ynni Cymru scheme has not opened to applicants as of the date of this FOI, and therefore we hold no information as detailed in this request for round 3. Please also refer to the recently published maps which display all successful applicants [Ynni Cymru: capital grants awarded | GOV.WALES](#).
2. Year 1 total number of applications: 112.
Year 1 successful applicants: 32
Year 2 total number of applications: 116
Year 2 successful applicants: 48

Round 3 of the Ynni Cymru scheme was not open on the date of this inquiry and we do not currently hold any information on applications.

3. In response to ATISN 26331 we provided a summary of the assessment criteria, and this is relevant and correct for year 1 and 2. As year 3 has not opened for applications we do not have this information to share. However the following link provides guidance to applicants: [Ynni Cymru capital grant funding programme 2026 to 2027: guidance | GOV.WALES](#).
4. We have shared MA/RE/1878/25, which refers to round 2 of Ynni Cymru, in response to ATISN 26331. The attached ministerial advice MA/KSNWT/6104/24 refers to the allocation of funds for round 1, and MA/RE/2700/25 refers to the allocation of funds for round 3
5. Please see annex 1 below which details a response to this specific request. We would also note that the only external organisations involved in the design, administration and implementation of the Ynni Cymru scheme are Local Partnerships and Welsh Government Energy Service.
6. The Ynni Cymru team in Local Partnerships and Welsh Government Energy Service require all staff to declare any conflicts of interest with respect to their employment. As a result, staff with any declared conflicts are excluded from involvement in the capital grant scheme. Local Partnerships and Welsh Government Energy Service staff are reminded of this obligation as part of the training provided to all assessors as part of the scheme. Welsh Government, Ynni Cymru and WGES work closely together and from the outset of the capital grant scheme have met weekly to both develop the scheme and to administer the scheme. There are clear roles and responsibilities to all parties with respect to the administration of the scheme, with Ynni Cymru Local Partnership Team responsible for the overall administration of the scheme, and for all grant awards to the SMEs and broader community organisations, with WGES responsible for grant awards to community energy organisations and groups and to public sector bodies. As part of our due diligence work, credit status checks of SME applicants are carried out. Welsh Government staff directly involved in the scheme are also asked to declare any conflict of interest, which is reported to the Deputy Director of Energy.
7. We do not hold any internal or external evaluation reports reviewing the outcomes or impact of the Ynni Cymru Grant Capital Scheme. The scheme has delivered two full years and as it proceeds with launching a third year, an independent evaluation will be considered in due course.

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

Annex 1

In the first instance, we are of the view that the information you want us to search for is environmental information and as such I have considered your request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs). 'Environmental information' is defined in the Regulations as (inter alia) 'information on measures (including administrative measures), such as policies, legislation, plans, programmes, environmental agreements, and activities affecting or likely to affect the state of the elements of the environment, such as air and atmosphere, water, soil, land, landscape and natural sites, and also factors such as substances, energy, noise, radiation or waste likely to affect the state of the elements of the environment above'.

We have established that sharing any correspondences between Welsh Government and external bodies regarding the design, administration or allocation of Ynni Cymru funding is exempt under Reg 12(4)(b) of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs).

Under the EIRs, there is no appropriate costs limit above which public authorities are not required to deal with requests for information. However, Reg 12(4)(b), manifestly unreasonable request, can apply if the cost or burden of dealing with a request is too great.

Public Interest Test

Reg 12(4)(b) is subject to the public interest test. The Welsh Government recognises the general public interest in openness and transparency and that releasing the information would help the public gain a better understanding of the projects in question and decisions made regarding this subject. The Welsh Government also recognises the public has an interest in how their money is to be, or has been, used to ensure Government gets the best value from the public purse.

A substantial volume of the information requested is stored on our Electronic Document and Records Management System, known as iShare, and within Outlook e-mail accounts for individual officials. iShare is the corporate repository for the majority of information created and received by Welsh Government officials in the course of their duties that must be retained for business or historical purposes. Further information about iShare can be found under Section 7 of our Information and Records Management policy, which is available on the Welsh Government website.

An iShare search for 'Ynni Cymru' called up 582,393 results, and each file/document would have to be opened to ascertain its relevance to the request. As a sampling exercise it took approximately 8 minutes to look at 100 documents.

Therefore, we believe that public interest lies in favour of refusing this part of your request as it would place a substantial and unreasonable burden on Welsh Government resources. As part of these considerations, we have applied the statutory presumption in favour of disclosure under Reg12(2) of the Regulations, but our view is that the significant burden that this request would impose outweighs the public interest in releasing this information. Your request is therefore refused under Reg 12(4)(b) – manifestly unreasonable, of the EIRs, for the reasons outlined above.