

11 May 2026

Dear

ATISN 26942 – Wanless Review

Thank you for your request to Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 04 May 2026. You requested the following:

1. References to the Wanless Review in policy development

Any internal briefing papers, policy documents, or ministerial submissions produced between January 2003 and the most recent available recorded information (preferably up to December 2024) which include reference to, or discussion of, the Wanless Review for Wales (2003) in the context of Welsh health policy.

2. Implementation and delivery considerations

Any internal documents produced within the same period which discuss the implementation, delivery, or practical application of recommendations associated with the Wanless Review, including any identified challenges, constraints, or limitations.

3. Later strategy development

Any internal briefing papers, submissions, or analytical documents produced between January 2015 and the most recent available recorded information (preferably up to December 2024) which reference the Wanless Review in relation to the development of later strategies, including A Healthier Wales (2018) or subsequent policy frameworks.

Our Response

We can confirm that Welsh Government holds information that is captured by your request. However, 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.

In order to provide you with the information that you have requested would require searches of our electronic filing system. Our initial searches of electronic files have identified 3,553 documents of various sizes and complexity that may relate to your request. Each of these documents would need to be manually reviewed to consider whether they are wholly or partially within scope of your request. Assuming that each review takes at least 30 seconds, this would take at least 26.6 hours.

Following considering the regulations and applying the timescales for review, we have decided not to provide you with the information you have requested as it exceeds the appropriate limit as set out in the regulations.

Your request is asking for information spanning more than 20 years and may wish to refine your request by being more specific about the time frame and what specific information you particularly wish to obtain – this should include any dates or period of time relevant to the

information required. If you do refine your request in this way, this will be treated as a new request.

Alternatively, the Welsh Government website already includes some of the documents identified, these can be found via this link: [Health and social care | Topic | GOV.WALES](#).

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,