

20/05/2026

Dear

## **ATISN 26965 – Tourism Information**

### **Information requested**

Thank you for your request which I received on 13/05/2026. You asked for:

Information from the last twenty years regarding second home ownership, density of holiday let properties, and the number of tourists preferably tied to county level granularity.

### **Our response**

The information you requested is already available publicly, details on how to find it are included in **Annex A**.

I have decided that **information described in the enclosed list** is exempt from disclosure under section(s) **21** of the **Freedom of Information Act** of the **Environmental Information Regulations** and is therefore withheld. The reasons for applying these exemptions are set out in full at Annex A to this letter.

### **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.

Yours sincerely

## Annex A

The information you have requested is already available publicly. Below I will detail how you can access this information yourself.

### Data Requested

You asked for Information from the last twenty years regarding second home ownership, density of holiday let properties, and the number of tourists preferably tied to county level granularity.

### Second Home Ownership

The most current data regarding second home ownership is available at Stats.Wales which you can find [here](#). Following the instructions on the website you will be able to create your own table. You will want to use the **Row** filter to include only **H8 – Total Chargeable Second Homes**. You can then select breakdowns by Local Authority and year. Current data only goes back to 2017/18 however and to the best of our knowledge does not predate this.

### Density of Holiday Let Properties

No definitive dataset exists to cover this however the most authoritative data can be found at Visit Britain's [Website](#), scroll down and find the button labelled **Short Term Rentals Dashboard (Source: Lighthouse)**. This is a PowerBI dashboard that will allow you to filter by year and for Wales and will give the most up to date picture of the number of properties currently being advertised in Wales.

### Number of Tourists

This data can be found in two sources; the **Great Britain Tourist Survey** and the **International Passenger Survey**.

**The Great Britain Tourist Survey** (GBTS) data can be found [here](#). This survey covers domestic (UK) visitors only and does not cover international visits. Please note this survey has multiple publications, with the last full year report currently available being for 2024. The report contains estimates of visitor numbers for day visitors and overnight stayers. Please be aware that GBTS 2022 onwards has been subject to methodological change and so it is not advised to make comparisons with older outputs, full details can be found on the relevant publications, and older outputs are viewable at the link above.

The **International Passenger Survey** is published by the ONS, the most up to date publications in relation to this are available at Visit Britain and can be found [here](#). There is a downloadable pivot table and a PowerBI dashboard which you can use.