

18 June 2026

Dear

## **Outcome of an Internal Review - ATISN 26927 – Blue Badge Scheme in Wales Eligibility**

Thank you for your request for an Internal Review of the Welsh Government's response dated 28 May 2026. I have now completed the review in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

It may be helpful to clarify at the outset that the FOIA provides a right of access to recorded information held by a public authority. It does not require public authorities to:

- Provide explanations or justifications;
- Answer questions, where the answer is not already held as recorded information;
- create new information, or
- Offer opinions on policy matters.

I acknowledge that the original response sought to provide additional contextual information to assist you; however, this was offered outside the statutory requirements of the Freedom of Information Act. For the purposes of this internal review, I have focused solely on the request for recorded information and whether this was appropriately addressed in the initial response.

### **Your request**

1. Please confirm the statutory or policy basis for setting the Welsh threshold at 12 points rather than 10
2. Whether any Equality Impact Assessment was undertaken when this divergence from England was introduced or maintained
3. Whether the Welsh Government has assessed the practical impact on disabled people who cannot safely or independently plan or follow a journey but fall below the 12-point threshold
4. Whether the Welsh Government intends to review this policy in light of fairness, consistency, and the Public Sector Equality Duty

### **Our response**

1. The original response appropriately signposted relevant publicly available information. Additional recorded information identified during this review is the *Blue Badge Consultation Outcome Paper - Ministerial Task and Finish paper (Appendix 1)*
2. The original response correctly confirmed that we held no recorded information as no updated Equality Impact Assessment was undertaken following changes made in England. No further recorded information is held

3. Relevant contextual explanation was provided; however, for completeness, the following recorded information is now included:
  - *Blue Badge Review Group Report (2013)* - specifically page 2-3 point iii. (**Appendix 2**)
  - *Blue Badge Eligibility and UK Welfare Reform* (**Appendix 3**)

Some information in both above documents has been redacted under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as it constitutes personal data of third parties and its disclosure would breach data protection legislation (exemption arguments are detailed in Annex 1)

4. The response should have made it clear that we hold no recorded information that would answer this question as there is currently no intention to review the eligibility.

I apologise that the original response did not include all relevant information, and that this omission led to your request for an internal review. I trust that the information now provided, which should have been disclosed at the outset, fully addresses your request.

### **Next steps**

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

Alison Thomas  
**Deputy Director of Transport, Strategy and Planning**

**Enclosures:**  
Annex 1  
Appendix 1–3