

25 June 2026

Dear

ATISN 27023 - Postgraduate Doctoral Loan Age Restriction

Thank you for your request which I received on 1 June 2026. You asked for:

Information held by the Welsh Government including risk assessments, equality impact assessments and other correspondence relating to the age restriction imposed by Regulation 3(3)(a) of the Education (Postgraduate Doctoral Degree Loans) (Wales) Regulations 2018, which excludes anyone aged 60 or over on the first day of their academic year from eligibility for a Postgraduate Doctoral Loan.

Our response

The Welsh Government consulted on '[Support for doctoral study](#)' between 8 December 2017 and 2 March 2018 and subsequently published a [Summary of Responses](#) in August 2018.

The Welsh Government published an '[Explanatory Memorandum - Regulatory Impact Assessment](#)' on the Senedd Cymru / Welsh Parliament website.

Welsh Government also produced an Equality Impact Assessment which has not been published. However, I have attached a copy for your information.

A [Student Finance Wales Information Notice](#) was also published which clarified the policy.

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