

13 August 2026

Dear

ATISN 27226

Thank you for your requests which I received on 17 July. You asked for the information included at Annex 1.

As outlined in our letter to you of 28 July, we have identified some duplication between part 4 of this request and part 4 of your previous request of 12 July (ATISN 27210 [FOI release 27210: Senedd reform | GOV.WALES](#)). In light of this, we will only be considering the new elements of this request.

We will be responding to your subsequent request (ATISN 27261) separately by 21 August.

Our response

Our responses to your requests can be found in Annex 1.

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 e-mail: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above (ATISN 27226).

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

Website: www.ico.org.uk

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

Part 1

You asked for:

For the period May 2026 to the date of this request (17 July):

1. Any final (non-draft) impact assessments, equality impact assessments, or cost assessments relating to changes to voter eligibility criteria for Senedd or local government elections.
2. The total Welsh Government expenditure to date on work relating to voter eligibility or franchise changes.
3. A list of external organisations consulted in connection with voter eligibility or franchise changes.

Response

1-3. We have reviewed our records and can confirm that Welsh Government does not hold the information requested.

Part 2

You asked for:

For the period 1 May 2026 to the date of this request (17 July):

1. The dates, and agenda item titles, of any Cabinet or Cabinet committee meetings at which the electoral or constitutional reform programme was formally considered. (requesting the dates and item titles only, not the content of discussions.)
2. Copies of any published or final (non-draft) strategy, delivery plan, or programme document for the electoral or constitutional reform work.

Response

1. A review of our records has identified the following information within the scope of your request:

- Cabinet Meeting 22 June 2026
Oral Update – Commission on the Constitution

2. We have reviewed our records and can confirm that Welsh Government does not hold the information requested.

Part 3

You asked for:

1. The total Welsh Government expenditure to date on constitutional and electoral reform, broken down by strand - including (but not limited to) Senedd reform, Single Transferable Vote for local elections, the Innovating Democracy Advisory Group, the Senedd Electoral Reform Delivery Board, and any work on voter eligibility or franchise.
2. The equivalent total expenditure figures for each of the previous two financial years, to enable comparison.

Response

1. The information you have requested for financial year 2026-27 in relation to Constitutional reform, Senedd Reform and the Innovating Democracy Advisory Group is exempt under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000) – Information Accessible to the Applicant by other means – information can be found here:

[FOI release 27168: Expenditure | GOV.WALES](#)

In relation to Single Transferable Vote for local elections, work on voter eligibility or franchise and wider electoral reform, the Welsh Government does not hold the information requested.

As outlined in our response to your previous request (ATISN 27210 [FOI release 27210: Senedd reform | GOV.WALES](#)), the Welsh Government does not hold the information requested on the expenditure attributable to the Senedd Electoral Reform Delivery Board and its work.

2. You asked for equivalent total expenditure figures for each of the previous two financial years (2025-26 and 2024-25).

In relation to Single Transferable Vote for local elections, work on voter eligibility or franchise and wider electoral reform, the Welsh Government does not hold the information requested for 2025-26 or 2024-25.

As outlined in our response to your previous request (ATISN 27210), the Welsh Government does not hold the information requested on the expenditure attributable to the Senedd Electoral Reform Delivery Board and its work for 2025-26 or 2024-25.

Financial Year 2025-26

The information you have requested for 2025-26 in relation to Constitutional reform, Senedd Reform and the Innovating Democracy Advisory Group is exempt under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000) – Information Accessible to the Applicant by other means – information accessible to the applicant by other means – information can be found here: [FOI release 27168: Expenditure | GOV.WALES](#).

Financial Year 2024-25

A review of our records has identified information within the scope of your request. The following tables provide a detailed breakdown of the spend for 2024-25 for the Main Expenditure Lines for Constitutional Reform and Senedd Reform.

Constitutional Reform budget 2024-25	
Staff costs	688,817.00
Travel and subsistence	585.00
Other administrative costs	0.00
Innovating Democracy Advisory Group - fees	365.63
Innovating Democracy Advisory Group - travel and subsistence	742.85
Innovating Democracy Advisory Group - meeting costs	0.00
Innovating Democracy Advisory Group - reports, engagement and comms	4,056.00
Crown Estate Expert Panel travel and subsistence	0.00
Senedd reform research	0.00
Justice Research Programme	0.00
Research, engagement and comms	14,204.00
Staff costs for Welsh Government posts engaged in policy devolution (devolution of justice, railways, and Crown Estate) and intergovernmental relations	110,670.00
Total	819,440.48

Senedd Reform budget 2024-25	
Senedd Reform team costs	1,774,996.00
Senedd Reform non-staff costs	21,542.00
Total	1,796,538.00

Part 4

You asked for:

For the period 1 May 2026 to the date of this request (17 July). This request excludes any ministerial meetings already published in the Welsh Government's quarterly ministerial meeting returns.

1. A list of all engagements - meetings, calls, or roundtables - between Welsh Government officials or special advisers and the Electoral Reform Society (or Unlock Democracy, or comparable reform organisations) concerning Senedd or local government electoral reform, giving for each the date, organisations represented, and agenda item title.
2. A list, by title, author and date, of any written submissions, position papers, draft proposals, or briefing documents received by the Welsh Government

from the Electoral Reform Society or comparable external organisations in connection with electoral reform. (requesting the list and bibliographic details, not the Welsh Government's own analysis of them.)

3. Copies of any such submissions or papers received from external organisations, where these were produced by the external organisation itself (as opposed to Welsh Government deliberative material).
4. Details of any funding, grant, or commission awarded to the Electoral Reform Society or comparable organisation in connection with electoral or constitutional reform, including value and purpose.

As outlined in our letter to you of 28 July, due to duplication between this request and your request of 12 July (ATISN 27210), we agreed to consider:

For the period 13 July 2026 to 17 July 2026, excluding any ministerial meetings already published in the Welsh Government's quarterly ministerial meeting returns:

1. A list of all engagements — meetings, calls, or roundtables — between Welsh Government officials or special advisers and the Electoral Reform Society (or Unlock Democracy, or comparable reform organisations) concerning Senedd or local government electoral reform, giving for each the date, organisations represented, and agenda item title.
2. A list, by title, author and date, of any written submissions, position papers, draft proposals, or briefing documents received by the Welsh Government from the Electoral Reform Society or comparable external organisations in connection with electoral reform. (I am requesting the list and bibliographic details, not the Welsh Government's own analysis of them.)
3. Copies of any such submissions or papers received from external organisations, where these were produced by the external organisation itself (as opposed to Welsh Government deliberative material).
4. Details of any funding, grant, or commission awarded to the Electoral Reform Society or comparable organisation in connection with electoral or constitutional reform, including value and purpose.

For the period 1 May 2026 to 17 July 2026, excluding any ministerial meetings already published in the Welsh Government's quarterly ministerial meeting returns:

1. A list of all engagements (as requested in part 4, q 1 of ATISN 27210 expanded to include calls and roundtables).
2. Documents list (as requested in part 4, q 2 of ATISN 27210 expanded to include draft proposals).
3. Copies of any such submissions or papers received from external organisations, where these were produced by the external organisation itself (as opposed to Welsh Government deliberative material).

Response for the period 13 July 2026 to 17 July 2026

1-4. Following a review of our records, we can confirm that the Welsh Government does not hold information within the scope of what we agreed to consider.

Response for the period 1 May 2026 to 17 July 2026

1. Following a review of our records, we can confirm that the Welsh Government holds information within the scope of your request:

- On 7 July 2026, a Welsh Government official attended a roundtable organised by Unlock Democracy for an agenda item entitled “International experience of automatic voter registration”.
- Organisations represented were: Members of Parliament, My Life My Say, Black Equity Organisation, High Commission of Canada in the UK, National Union of Students (NUS), University of East Anglia, Generation Rent. MHCLG, Electoral Commission and House of Commons staff.

2-3. Following a review of our records, I can confirm that the Welsh Government does not hold information within the scope of the request we agreed to consider.

Please refer to our response to your previous request (ATISN 27210) for consideration of the duplicated material you requested.