

7 September 2026

Dear

ATISN 27350 Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request which I received on 17th August 2026. You asked for:

Copies of any recorded information held by the Welsh Government relating to:

- 1. The “current arrangements” referred to in your email, including the nature, purpose and scope of those arrangements insofar as they relate to Bangor.*
- 2. The organisations, public bodies, elected representatives, stakeholders or other parties involved in those arrangements.*
- 3. Any meetings, correspondence, briefings, agreements, proposals or other recorded information which establish or describe those arrangements.*
- 4. Any recorded information concerning the decision not to accommodate my request for a meeting, including any briefing, recommendation or correspondence relied upon in reaching that decision.*
- 5. Any recorded information identifying who is currently engaging with the Minister or Welsh Government in relation to Bangor's regeneration, economic development, housing or major investment projects, subject of course to any lawful exemptions*

Our response

Question 1

Lead responsibility for town/city centre regeneration in Gwynedd sits with Cyngor Gwynedd under Sioned Williams's team.

Cyngor Gwynedd, alongside a range of stakeholders from the public, private and third sector, developed a Placemaking Plan (2023) for Bangor as part of its regeneration efforts. This plan provides a cohesive framework for tackling the challenges that Bangor faces through a series of innovative and impactful projects.

[**6816 Bangor Placemaking Plan 2023**](#)

The Bangor Strategic Partnership is a collaborative multi-agency group dedicated to the regeneration and economic development of Bangor. The partnership is tasked with delivering against the Bangor Placemaking Plan (2023) and is chaired by Councillor John Wyn Jones. The Partnership should be the first point of contact for regeneration related discussions.

The Welsh Government has established a Town Centre Taskforce to identify practical measures, such as non-domestic rates and planning reforms to support high streets and local businesses across Wales to thrive. There may be future

opportunities for stakeholders involved in the Partnership to feed into the Taskforce's work.

Question 2

Cyngor Gwynedd
Cyngor Dinas Bangor – officials and elected representatives
North Wales Police
Bangor Chamber of Trade
North Wales Housing Association
Bangor University
Grwp Llandrillo Menai
Cwmni Frân Wen
Pontio
Adra
Betsi Cadwaladr Health Board
Bangor Cathedral
Transport for Wales
Welsh Government
Bangor BID (now ceased)

Question 3

Cyngor Gwynedd are responsible for the administration of the Partnership. I have attached the Terms of Reference of the Partnership together with the minutes for the last two meetings. If you require any further information please contact Cyngor Gwynedd directly (adfywio@gwynedd.llyw.cymru).

Question 4



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Diary case advice
Advice template

Details of the invitation

Nick Pritchard, Independent Councillor of Bangor City Council, has requested a meeting to discuss regeneration projects in North Wales and explore how the private sector can support the Welsh Government's ambitions for the region.

Cllr Pritchard is also the Chairman of Bangor City FC and has invited you to a Bangor City match along with the Prif Weinidog and Noel Mooney, Chief Executive of the Football Association of Wales.

Advice

Cyngor Gwynedd, alongside a range of stakeholders from the public, private and third sector, developed a Placemaking Plan (2023) for Bangor as part of its regeneration efforts. This plan provides a cohesive framework for tackling the challenges that Bangor faces through a series of innovative and impactful projects.

The Bangor Strategic Partnership is a collaborative multi-agency group dedicated to the regeneration and economic development of Bangor. The partnership is tasked with delivering against the Bangor Placemaking Plan (2023) and is chaired by Councillor John Wyn Jones. Nick Pritchard is a member of the partnership.

Lead responsibility for town/city centre regeneration in Gwynedd sits with Cyngor Gwynedd under Sioned Williams's team. I believe Nick Pritchard already has a good relationship with her team.

The Welsh Government are establishing a Town Centre Taskforce to identify practical measures, such as non-domestic rates and planning reforms to support high streets and local businesses to thrive. There may be future opportunities for stakeholders such as Nick Pritchard to feed into the Taskforce's work.

REDACTED FOIA S.22 (information intended for future publication) – see Annex 1

We do not consider having a specific meeting with Nick Pritchard as best use of the Cabinet Minister's time given the arrangements already in place.

If the advice is to accept, please confirm the priority:

Urgent

Cleared by: Richard Baker

Question 5

Regarding question 5, 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 that we locate, extract and collate all information across multiple Welsh Government divisions for the timescale given. The information you have requested relates to housing, regeneration, economic development or any major investment projects. It captures all recorded information on any of these subjects and requires us to extract who is engaging in each of these areas.

I would expect that information may be held in the following directorates: **Local Government, Housing, Climate Change and Rural Affairs, and Economy,**

Energy and Transport. I have identified at least nine divisions that may have information currently in scope. These are (but may not be limited to):

- Housing and Regeneration
- Local Government
- Finance and Operations
- Regional Investment and Borders
- Economic Strategy and Green Growth
- Operations, Business and Regions
- International Relations and Trade
- Transport and Digital Connectivity
- Energy

These divisions sit within multiple Welsh Government Director General groups and collectively have responsibility for matters relating to housing policy, regeneration activity, economic development, investment, infrastructure and associated funding programmes.

To determine what information is held, officials would need to undertake searches across a range of records management systems, shared drives, electronic document repositories and email accounts within each of these divisions. The request would require consultation with officials across each business area to identify relevant records, establish custodians of information and conduct searches using appropriate keywords and project references.

Just locating the information on our electronic document management system, and not considering the other searches, I have conducted preliminary searches for files that may be in scope. Keyword searches for Bangor regeneration alone returned 131,469 documents. These would need to be reviewed to see if the information they held is in scope of your request. This is a manual review, and in an exercise we were able to review files in 2-5 minutes per file. Based on the 2 minute figure, that part of the task alone would require 4,000 hours of work.

This is clearly well in excess of the appropriate limit, so the information is withheld. Consequently, I have decided not to provide you with the information you have requested.

I trust, however, that the divisional list above provides you with an indication of which divisions in Welsh Government are likely to be engaging in this matter.

You may wish to refine your request by narrowing its scope by being more specific about what information you particularly wish to obtain, including 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.

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

Annex 1

Section 22 - Information Intended for Future Publication

The withheld information relates to proposed membership of the Taskforce. At the time of the request, the membership arrangements had not been finalised and there was a settled intention that information regarding the composition of the Taskforce would be announced through a formal publication process at a later date. The information was therefore held with a view to future publication.

Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is a qualified exemption and is subject to the public interest test. Whilst there is a public interest in transparency and understanding how decisions are made, there is also a strong public interest in allowing public authorities to manage the orderly publication of information relating to appointments and governance arrangements. Disclosure of unconfirmed information before decisions have been finalised and formally communicated could lead to misunderstanding or confusion regarding the Taskforce's membership.

On balance, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure at this time. The information will be made available through the appropriate publication process once the relevant decisions have been confirmed.