

26 October 2026

Dear

Request for information - ATISN 26-0006

Thank you for your request which I received on 10 October 2026.

Your request

You asked for information about the costs of the M4 around Newport Review, including any expenditure on consultancy support, development work, consultation activity and Welsh Government staff time.

Our response

The Welsh Government holds information within the scope of your request.

For context, the M4 around Newport Review examined evidence concerning congestion and resilience on the motorway network around Newport and identified potential measures for further consideration. The Deputy Minister's statement of 6 October 2026 did not approve any specific interventions. No decisions have yet been taken to implement any future measures arising from the review.

Questions 1, 3, 5 and 6

You asked for:

The total cost incurred in developing, researching and preparing the review and associated proposals;

a breakdown of expenditure by supplier;

details of consultancy or professional services contracts commissioned for this work; and

expenditure incurred to date together with any estimated future costs.

The information we hold is set out below.

The total recorded expenditure incurred in relation to the M4 around Newport Review is £143,600.00 (One hundred and forty-three thousand six hundred pounds). A breakdown by supplier is provided below:

Supplier	Description	Cost (£)
Arup	Preparation of the M4 around Newport Review report	£143,600

The published M4 around Newport Review report contains indicative cost estimates for the proposals considered by Arup as part of the review, including the option involving changes to motorway junctions around Newport and other interventions assessed during the review process.

This information is already publicly available at:

[M4 around Newport Review](#)

Accordingly, this information is exempt from disclosure under section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because it is reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means.

Question 2

You asked for the total cost of any public consultation undertaken in relation to the proposals.

No public consultation has been undertaken in relation to future interventions identified through the M4 around Newport Review.

Accordingly, the Welsh Government holds no information recording costs associated with such consultation activity.

Question 4

You asked for the total number of Welsh Government staff hours, or the estimated staff cost, attributable to the consultation and preparation of the proposals.

The Welsh Government does not routinely record staff time against individual policy reviews or projects in a manner that would allow staff hours or staff costs associated specifically with the M4 around Newport Review to be identified. Accordingly, the Welsh Government does not hold recorded information falling within this part of your request.

Next Steps

If you are dissatisfied with our handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to:

Information Rights Unit
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

Email: Freedomofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner's Office. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

However, the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely,