



Wales Office | Swyddfa Cymru

Office of the Secretary of State for Wales
Gwydyr House
Whitehall
London SW1A 2ER

Steve Wood
By e-mail: S.Wood@ljmu.ac.uk

Swyddfa Ysgrifennydd Gwladol Cymru
Tŷ Gwydir
Whitehall
Llundain SW1A 2ER

Our ref: 06/FOI/80

19 June 2006

Dear Mr Wood,

I write further to my letter of 26 May informing you that additional time was required to fully consider the public interest test for your request. I am writing to confirm that the Wales Office has now fully considered the public interest for your request, namely:

1. The number of requests received by the Wales Office from Members of Parliament from January 2005 to present date, broken down by month
2. Brief details of each request received from MPs (e.g. title/summary)
3. Guidance produced by the Wales Office specifically in relation to the handling of Freedom of Information Act requests from MPs
4. The number of page views for the Wales Office website homepage, broken down by month January 2005- December 2005.

All the material held by Wales Office has been considered in line with the Act. A copy of the information to be released is at Annex 1 & 2, enclosed with this letter. The data on Annex 2 simply shows the number of page hits, and will not necessarily reflect the number of people visiting the site for information.

Under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Departments do not have to release information which is reasonably accessible by other means. The Wales Office does not hold any guidance specifically relating to measures for handling FOI requests submitted by MP's. However, the Cabinet Office has provided central guidance to Departments which you can be view on:

http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/propriety_and_ethics/civil_service/pq_guidance.asp

If you are unhappy with the decision made in relation to your request, you may ask for an internal review. You should contact Alan Cogbill, Director of the Wales Office at the above address if you wish to complain.



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If you are not content with the outcome of any internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Joyce Oyeghe
Fol Officer Wales Office

Requests received from MP's at the Wales Office January 2005 to 19 May 2006, by Month

Subject Title/Summary

- * Re-organisation of Infantry Regiments
- * Affordable Housing
- * Re-organisation of Infantry Regiments x 4 letters
- * Firefighters Pension Scheme

Total, January 2005, 7

- * Re-organisation of Infantry Regiments x 2 letters
- * Private Member's Bill: Smoking in Public Places (Wales) Bill
- * Support for PMs' Bill for NAW to legislate on smokefree public places
- * Ban on Smoking in Public Places

Total, February 2005, 5

- * Honour Nomination x 2 letters
- * A Welsh Battalion in Wales
- * Annual Welsh Day Debate 2005
- * Office of National Statistics
- * BMA Wales Smoking Petition
- * Carmarthen Coracle NETMENS Association x 2 letters
- * Smoking Legislation
- * Registration of Births through the medium of Welsh

Total, March 2005, 10

- * Firelink
- * Complaint letter from tenant relating to rent price and ownership of their flat
- * Airbus A350
- * Provision of Care for people with Dementia

Total, April 2005, 4

Please note that a General Election has been called for 5 May 2005 by the Prime Minister at midday 5 April 2005

- * Better Governance for Wales - White Paper
- * Nomination for an Award
- * Council Tax Rebates for Pensioner Couples in Wales

Total, May 2005, 3

- * Older People's Commissioner, Draft Bill
- * Nomination for an Award
- * Natural Environment and Rural Communities Bill
- * Traffic Problems in Felinheli area linked to work on the Menai Bridge

Requests received from MP's at the Wales Office January 2005 to 19 May 2006, by Month

Subject Title/Summary

Total, June 2005, 4

- * Job Loss Announcements
- * Charities Bill
- * Galileo Project x 2 letters

Total, July 2005, 4

- * Nomination for an Award x 2 letters
- * Camcal
- * Open Cast Mining Schemes
- * Morriston Cemetery, Swansea
- * NHS Prescriptions in Wales

Total, August 2005, 6

- * Miner's Compensation
- * Possible Exhibition of a display from Aberystwyth Arts Centre

Total, September 2005, 2

- * Convergence Objective, Successor to Objective 1, 2007-13 - West Wales and the Valleys Area
- * High Energy Price letter from Amcor Pet Company
- * Pembrokeshire and Derwen NHS Trust; financial problems
- * Firelink
- * Welsh Police Forces
- * Vibration White Finger
- * Health Improvement Bill
- * Christie Tyler Receivership

Total, October 2005, 8

- * Salvage Workers
- * Council Tax Rebating in Wales
- * Cardiff Royal Infirmary Site Redevelopment
- * Charities Act 1993
- * Honours Nomination
- * Cockle Gathering

Total, November 2005, 6

- * Cheese-Packing Plant in Felinfach
- * Withybush Hospital
- * Honours Nomination
- * Christie Tyler, Bridgend

Requests received from MP's at the Wales Office January 2005 to 19 May 2006, by Month

Subject Title/Summary

* Pension Protection Fund

Total, December 2005, 5

TOTAL 2005, 65

Requests received from MP's at the Wales Office January 2005 to 19 May 2006, by Month
Subject Title/Summary

- * Welsh Language
- * Government of Wales Bill
- * Blaenau Ffestiniog Renewal Area
- * Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust
- * National Lottery Bill
- * Arriva Trains
- * Israel's Business Opportunities
- * Want2Work program Training element

Total, January 2006, 8

- * Stock Transfer of Council Housing
- * Police Restructuring x 5 letters
- * New Deal x 2 letters
- * Location of Proposed MOD Defence Training Academy

- * Water Affordability
- * Nuclear Energy

- * England's Children's Commissioner

- * First Great Western Timetable
- * Merger of Four Police Authorities in Wales

- * Stock Transfer of Council Housing
- * Location of Proposed MOD Defence Training Academy

Total, February 2006, 16

- * St David's Day Debate
- * Visteon Car Components Factory, Swansea
- * ISERBS
- * Youth Projects funding in England and Wales
- * Recommendation for Honours

Requests received from MP's at the Wales Office January 2005 to 19 May 2006, by Month

Subject Title/Summary

Total, March 2006, 7

- * Waste Management in Ceredigion
- * LDV Vans Trophy Final at Millenium Stadium,

- * Airbus
- * Parliamentary Answer 9/03/06 (PQ 55708)- Public speeches
- * Wales Development Agency
- * Visteon's Swansea car parts plant
- * Solar Power and Electrical Conversion Technology
- * MOD Llangennech
- * Road Safety in Wales
- * New Committee on Radiation Effects (EDM 1464)
- * Public Funded Mediation in Wales
- * Tidal Power in the Severn Estuary

Total, April 2006, 10

- * Brockworth By-Pass
- * CHANT (Community Hospitals Acting Nationally Together)
- * Manufacturing jobs in Cardiff
- * Sixth Form, Bishop Hedley Catholic School
- * Unemployment Statistics
- * Future of Policing in North Wales
- * Single Payment Scheme

Total, to 19 May 2006, 7

TOTAL January 2006 to 19 May 2006 , 48

Result of number website viewing between Jan 05 to Dec 2005:

These are - for our English language site, www.walesoffice.gov.uk -

Jan 2005: 40808
Feb 2005: 35104
Mar 2005: 43459
Apr 2005: 48160
May 2005: 46341
Jun 2005: 50750
Jul 2005: 48395
Aug 2005: 46722
Sep 2005: 53148
Oct 2005: 56489
Nov 2005: 47392
Dec 2005: 51433

and, for our Welsh language site, www.swyddfa.cymru.gov.uk -

Jan 2005: 4707
Feb 2005: 4579
Mar 2005: 6012
Apr 2005: 6650
May 2005: 6999
Jun 2005: 7470
Jul 2005: 7802
Aug 2005: 8574
Sep 2005: 8925
Oct 2005: 9828
Nov 2005: 9915
Dec 2005: 10971