



Date issued: 14 December 2017

Airline Subsidy

I am writing in response to your request for information below dated 30 November 2017 in which you requested information regarding the amount spent on subsidising the Cardiff Anglesey air route.

For ease of reference, I have reproduced your question below and set out our corresponding response.

Under the Freedom of Information Act, would you please inform me of the amount of money, spent annually, subsidising the Cardiff to Anglesey air route.

We hold some information regarding the costs associated with the air service between Cardiff and Anglesey from 2007-08 to 2012-13 which is set out in a memorandum on the air link which we published in January 2014. This memorandum is available on the Wales Audit Office website at: <https://www.audit.wales/publication/intra-wales-%E2%80%93-cardiff-anglesey-%E2%80%93-air-service-memorandum-public-accounts-committee> Accordingly this information is reasonably accessible to you by other means and is exempt from disclosure under section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. You may also be interested in a previous National Assembly Public Accounts Committee inquiry which followed on from publication of our memorandum, details of which are available here:

<http://www.senedd.assembly.wales/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?lId=8697>

We are aware that a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) response provided by the Welsh Government in August 2016 contains some information regarding the annual spend on this air link by the Welsh Government in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16, together with passenger numbers. We brought this information to the attention of the Public Accounts Committee to inform a further evidence session it held with the Welsh Government in November 2016, the transcript of which is available at:

<http://senedd.assembly.wales/documents/s56233/14%20November%202016.pdf>. The

FOIA response is publically available on the Welsh Government website at:

<http://gov.wales/docs/decisions/2016/transport/160901atisn10665ltr.pdf> and again, as

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

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, please write to Martin Peters, Law and Ethics Manager, by email to martin.peters@audit.wales or by post to 24 Cathedral Road, Cardiff, CF11 9LJ.

I must also refer you to section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act under which you may apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether or not your request has been dealt with in accordance with the Act. The Information Commissioner's contact details are:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF
email : casework@ico.gsi.gov.uk
Tel: 01625 545745
Fax: 01625 524510

You should note, however, that the Information Commissioner would normally expect you to have exhausted our internal complaints procedures before dealing with such an application. Further guidance may be found on the Information Commissioner's website: <https://ico.org.uk/>

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely