



Eich cyf/your ref
Ein cyf/our ref ATISN 8270

Jade Rough

request-200917a3235955@whatdotheyknow.com

3 April, 2014

Dear Ms Rough

Request for Information – ATISN 8270

I wrote to you on 18 March 2014 regarding your request for information. In relation to business start up funding in Wales you asked:

1. For each year since 2008 how many companies have received funding?
2. What is the total value of the funding each year?
3. How many jobs have been created each year?
4. How is the impact measured (percentage turnover increase)?
5. What do you monitor in order to measure the effectiveness of funding?

I confirm that we hold information relating to your request. However, I have concluded that this information is exempt from disclosure under section 22 - Information intended for future publication. Full reasoning for applying this exemption is detailed at Annex A. This information will be published on the Welsh Government website <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/businessandconomy/?lang=en> by 30 April 2014. If you require a pdf copy of the report when it is published please do not hesitate to contact me.

If you believe that I have not followed the relevant laws, or you are unhappy with this response, you may request an internal review by writing to:

Duncan Hamer
Deputy Director, Entrepreneurship & Delivery
Department for Economy, Science and Transport
Ladywell House, Park Street, Newtown, Powys, SY16 1JB
Duncan.hamer@wales.gsi.gov.uk



When dealing with any concerns, I will follow the principles set out in the Welsh Government's Code of Practice on Complaints which is available on the Internet at www.wales.gov.uk or by post.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. Normally, however, you should pursue the matter through our internal procedure before you complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545 745
Fax: 01625 524 510
Email: casework@ico.gsi.gov.uk

Also, if you think that there has been maladministration in dealing with your request then you may make a complaint to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales who can be contacted at:

Public Services Ombudsman for Wales,
Ffordd yr Hen Gae, Pencoed, Bridgend, CF35 5LJ

Yours sincerely

Arwel Williams
Senior Manager European Projects & Planning

ATISN 8270 - Consideration For and Against Disclosure of Information

Decisions relating to non-disclosure have been taken with due consideration of the exemption identified under Section 22(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

This Section is a qualified (public interest tested) exemption. This means that in order to engage it, I must show that the public interest in withholding the information is greater than the public interest in releasing it. Before I can consider the public interest test however, the Welsh Government's Code of Practice on Access to Information first obliges me to consider the 'substantial harm' test. This means that it has to be shown that substantial harm would occur to the principle the exemption is seeking to protect if the information were released.

Section 22

Section 22 states that (1) information is exempt information if (a) the information is held by the public authority with a view to its publication, by the authority or any other person, at some future date (whether determined or not).

Substantial Harm Test

I consider that such harm would be likely to occur if this information was released at this point in time because it would not provide a complete picture across the financial year. All of the information requested will be published on the Welsh Government website by 30 April 2014.

Public Interest Test

It is recognised that there are public interest arguments in favour of disclosure. There is the general presumption of openness that the FoI Act and the Welsh Government's Code aspire to. Also, if the information were released now, it would provide immediate access to this information. However, all of this information will be published imminently and will provide the public with a full picture up until the end of the financial year. I do not believe it would be in the wider public interest to release incomplete information before this date. I believe therefore that the balance of the public interest falls in favour of withholding the information.