



Elena Hughes

Email: request-997022-98f0c6ba@whatdotheyknow.com

24 July 2023

Dear Elena Hughes,

ATISN 18668 – Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) into Wales

Thank you for your request which I received on 30 June 2023. You asked for:

- Q1. *A breakdown of the countries that Wales gets the most investment from.*
- Q2. *What the Welsh Government is doing to attract more FDI.*
- Q3. *What the UK Government is doing to attract more FDI to Wales.*

Response

Most of the information that you have requested is available online.

- A1. The most recent data from the Office for National Statistics outlining the number of foreign-owned companies operating in Wales, broken down by country, is available on the Welsh Government website. This data shows, for example, that the USA is the largest donor market with 320 US-owned companies operating in Wales, employing almost 39,000 people.
- A2. The Welsh Government's Economic Mission and International Strategy outline the methods used to attract FDI to Wales. These documents set out how we promote the economic sectors where Wales has world class capabilities, including cyber security, compound semiconductors, fintech, life sciences and renewable energy. In addition, information about Wales' capabilities in the sectors described above can be found on our Trade & Invest website.

As well as a dedicated Invest team based in Wales, we have staff based in 21 offices outside of Wales who all have a common remit to attract inward investment. The sector focus and the methods that they use are published on the Welsh Government's website.



Links to additional information on the above can be found in **Annex A**.

- A3. The Welsh Government does not hold this information. It can be requested from the UK Government's Department for Business and Trade by contacting FOI@trade.gov.uk.

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 e-mail: 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
Telephone: 0303 123 1113
Website: www.ico.org.uk

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

Yours sincerely

Louise McShane
International Relations and Trade

Annex A – Links to Further Information

- Foreign Owned Companies in Wales – [Ad-hoc statistical requests: 3 and 14 July 2023 | GOV.WALES](#) (Tab 1)
- Economic Mission - [Our Economic Resilience & Reconstruction Mission \(gov.wales\)](#)
- International Strategy - [International Strategy for Wales | GOV.WALES](#)
- International Offices Remit - [International Action Plans - Overseas Office Remit \(gov.wales\)](#)
- Trade & Invest Wales - [This is Business. | Trade & Investment | Wales \(tradeandinvest.wales\)](#)