



# Cyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru Countryside Council for Wales

**CADEIRYDD/CHAIRMAN: MORGAN PARRY**

Anfonwch eich ateb at/Please reply to:

Donna Muirhead- Cyfeiriad Isod/Address Below

Llinell Union/Direct Line: 01248 387219 Ffacs/Fax: 01248 385500

E-bost/Email: d.muirhead@ccw.gov.uk

**PRIF WEITHREDWR/CHIEF EXECUTIVE: ROGER THOMAS**

Ein cyf/Our ref: ATI000825

Eich cyf/Your ref:

19 June 2012

Dear Claire Russell Griffiths,

## **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION - Grant aid for awareness raising for the proposed Marine Conservation Zones**

I am writing in respect of your recent enquiry for information (ATI000825) held by the Countryside Council for Wales under the provisions of the Environmental Information Regulations (2004).

You requested CCW to provide information in relation to;

- How much funding has been granted to raise awareness of the proposed MCZ in Wales.
- How much each organisation has been granted.
- A list of each organisation / charity with amount that was granted.
- A list of total funding each organisation has received and dates when granted.
- A summary of reasons to grant the money to each of the organisations on each occasion.
- Details of any conditions stated as reasons for providing the funding if applicable in each case.

### ***Summary of relevant grants***

One organisation, the Marine Conservation Society (MCS), has been given a CCW grant to carry out public awareness raising in relation to highly protected marine sites.

A total of £40,000 was provided in grant aid to MCS between 2009 and 2011. The official start date of the project was 01/04/2009 and the official end date was 31/03/2011.

### ***The purpose of the grant***

The purpose of the grant was to raise awareness of the marine biodiversity of Welsh waters, and the need for and benefits of designating highly protected sites to help conserve biodiversity and support ecosystem recovery and resilience. A further purpose was to encourage public interaction with the site selection process.

MCS attended events, developed relevant displays and leaflets and provided presentations for various interest groups, with a focus on raising awareness in the wider public.



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Prif Swyddfa/Headquarters

MAES-Y-FFYNNON, PENRHOSGARNEDD, BANGOR LL57 2DW FFÔN/TEL: 01248 385500 FFACS/FAX: 01248 355782

<http://www.ccw.gov.uk>



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## ***Background and rationale for awarding the grant***

CCW has consistently advised the Welsh Government of the need to create some highly protected sites within the Welsh network of marine protected areas. At the time of awarding the grant CCW was also aware that there was a low level of awareness of, and understanding about, the Welsh marine environment generally as well as, more specifically, the purpose of and intention to create some highly protected sites. However, CCW did not have the resources to carry out much wider public awareness raising itself, hence the decision to fund the grant application from MCS.

CCW worked with MCS on the scope of the project to ensure that the project they carried out with CCW grant aid was specifically tailored to wider awareness raising work CCW wished to see delivered, and was not part of, or linked to, any MCS marine campaigns or work. CCW approved all material produced by the project to ensure it was accurate and contained the messages CCW wished to promote, i.e. messages that were consistent with CCW's advice on these matters to the Welsh Government.

The grant began before Welsh Government's current MCZ Project Wales commenced and concluded a year before the current Government consultation on highly protected MCZs was launched.

## ***Conditions***

It was a condition of the grant that funds were only to be used for the specific purpose of the grant and were not to be used to promote MCS's 'Your Seas Your Voice' UK campaign. However, this did not restrict MCS from activities to promote 'Your Seas Your Voice' in Wales with the support of non CCW funds.

We now consider that we have complied with your request. However, if you are dissatisfied with our response you are entitled to pursue this matter through our appeals and complaints procedure, a copy of which is attached.

Yours sincerely

Donna Muirhead  
Access to Information Officer



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- Enc 1. Conditions of use of the information provided  
2. Appeals and Complaints Procedure

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However, you may reproduce brief extracts for purposes of non-commercial research, for private study, and for news reporting and reviews, without requiring formal consent.

### Appeals

If you are not happy with our refusal to release information and wish to appeal, you should write to Adrian Williams, Director of Planning & Resources, (Countryside Council for Wales, Maes y Ffynnon, Penrhosgarnedd, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2DW) who will consider your appeal (unless he was involved in the original decision to refuse information, in which case another director will consider the appeal). Explain your appeal and mention any letters you have already sent us.

If you are still not satisfied you have a right of appeal to:

[Information Commissioner's Office](#), Wycliffe House, Water Lane

Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone: 01625545700 or e-mail: [mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk)

### Complaints Procedure

If you wish to make a complaint about the way your request was handled by CCW, use our formal [Complaints Procedure](#) Write to Adrian Williams, Director of Planning & Resources, (Countryside Council for Wales, Maes y Ffynnon, Penrhosgarnedd, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2DW). He will investigate



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your complaint thoroughly and reply within two weeks of receiving your letter.

If you are still not happy, write to Roger Thomas, Chief Executive (Countryside Council for Wales, Maes y Ffynnon, Penrhosgarnedd, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2DW). Explain your complaint and mention any letters you have already sent us.

Public Service Ombudsman for Wales  
1 Ffordd yr Hen Gae, Pencoed CF35 5LJ  
0845 601 0987 [ask@ombudsman-wales.org.uk](mailto:ask@ombudsman-wales.org.uk) [www.ombudsman-wales.org.uk](http://www.ombudsman-wales.org.uk)



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