

The Official Languages Bill

01/11/12

Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information, received on 04 October, in which you asked,

Could I have a copy of the assessment carried out on the cost of passing amendment 9 to the Official Languages Bill, moved in the name of Aled Roberts?

Rhodri Glyn Thomas refers to this in his comments in the following story: <http://www.golwg360.com/newyddion/cymru/87588-pasio-bil-ieithoedd-y-cynulliad-yn-ddigwyddiad-hanesyddol>

The following is the information that was used in assessing the cost of passing amendment 9 to the Official Languages Bill. (For information – The number of words that need to be translated in every Record is approximately 37,000).

Figures for translating the Record within 5 days

The cost is estimated using the current rate of £50 per 1,000 words translated using machine translation with post-editing.

- The cost of translating plenary proceedings from English into Welsh therefore would be $£50 \times 37 = £1,850$.
- The cost of translating 66 Records per annum would be £122,100.

Figures for overnight translation of the Record

We do not have a rate available for translating using machine translation with post-editing work overnight. Therefore we used the current rate payable for

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Caerdydd
CF99 1NA

Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

text translation within 24 hours of £93 per 1,000 words. This rate is part of the Assembly's translation call off contract.

- The cost of translating each Record within a 24 hour period would be $93 \times 37 = £3,441$.
- The cost of translating 66 Records per annum would be £227,106. Therefore, the cost of publishing simultaneously is an additional £105,006 (£227,106 - £122,100)

You refer in your email to a figure of £600k. The Commissioner with responsibility for the Welsh Language, Rhodri Glyn Thomas AM, first mentioned this figure as an approximate cost for translating contributions to committee proceedings from English to Welsh in a letter to Bethan Jenkins AM which was published on [12 June](#). These services were discussed during the debate on Aled Roberts' amendment on 3 October. A link to the relevant section of the Record is available [here](#).

Your request has been considered according to the principles set out in the Code of Practice on Public Access to Information. The code is published on our website at http://www.assemblywales.org/abthome/about_us-commission_assembly_administration/abt-foi/abt-foi-cop-pub.htm

If you have any questions regarding this response please contact me. If you feel you have cause for complaint, please follow the guidance at the end of this letter.

Yours sincerely

Alison Rutherford
Access to Information Coordinator
National Assembly for Wales

[Cause for concern or complaint with your FOI response?](#)

If you believe that I have not applied the Code correctly or have not followed the relevant laws, you may make a formal complaint to the Chief Executive and Clerk at the National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay. Details of the Assembly's complaints principles are set out in the Code of Practice on

Complaints available on the Internet at <http://www.assemblywales.org/conhome/con-complaint.htm>. Please advise me if you wish to receive a printed copy.

If you are not content with the outcome of the 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

Alison Rutherford
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