

Name Change and Staffing Numbers

20 November 2018



Request for Information.

Thank you for your request received on 24 October in which you asked:

- 1. Have any studies been undertaken as the cost of the rebranding the National Assembly of Wales to Welsh Parliament in terms of signage, stationary, literature, etc?*
- 2. What is the overall estimated cost of the rebranding the National Assembly of Wales to Welsh Parliament in terms of signage, stationary, literature, etc?*
- 3. How many staff are presently employed by the National Assembly of Wales either via direct contracts or agency contracts.*
- 4. What is the total expenditure on Wages for the total number of staff employed by the National Assembly of Wales either via direct contracts or agency contracts.*
- 5. How many staff are presently employed by the 60 Assembly Members at the National Assembly of Wales either via direct contracts or agency contracts.*
- 6. What is - presently - the total expenditure on Wages for the total number of staff employed by the 60 Assembly Members at the National Assembly of Wales either via direct contracts or agency contracts.*

Please see our response below:

1. The [consultation document](#) published in December 2016 provides some information about potential financial implications. As this information is already published, this part of your request is subject to section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) which exempts information that is already reasonably accessible by other means i.e. already published on our website. Some information on the estimated additional costs has been published as part of the Assembly Commission's [Budget](#) for 2019-20.

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2. In a letter from the Llywydd to all [Assembly Members](#), the Llywydd set out her intention that the name change introduced in the Bill should be the monolingual name “Senedd”. This proposal will be subject to detailed consideration by the Assembly during the passage of the Bill. A detailed estimate of the costs associated with legislating to rename the Assembly as Senedd will be published alongside the Bill, when it’s introduced early next year as required by the Assembly’s Standing Orders. This document is intended for future publication and is exempt from disclosure under section 22 of FOIA.
All of the Bill’s documentation will be published on the [Assembly Reform programme webpage](#). You may also wish to sign up to receive email updates on the Assembly Reform programme and you will be automatically notified of the Bill’s introduction (as well as all updates in relation to Assembly reform).
3. The 2017-18 [annual report](#) (page 116) provides you with this information, broken down into the categories of employed, seconded and agency staff. As this information is already published, this part of your request is subject to section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) which exempts information that is already reasonably accessible by other means i.e. already published on our website.
4. Again, this information is published on page 124 of the annual report. A table specifies the staff salaries and related costs. As this information is already published, this part of your request is subject to section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) which exempts information that is already reasonably accessible by other means i.e. already published on our website.
5. As at the end of September 2018, 253 Assembly Member Support Staff were employed.
6. Page 146 of the annual report provides you with this information, broken down into three categories: permanent, temporary and agency, and seconded staff. As this information is already published, this part of your request is subject to section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) which exempts information that is already reasonably accessible by other means i.e. already published on our website.

Yours sincerely,

**Freedom of Information Manager
National Assembly for Wales**

Your request has been considered according to the principles set out in the [Code of Practice on Public Access to Information](#). If you have any questions regarding this response please contact me. If you feel you have cause for complaint, please follow the guidance below.

Cause for concern or complaint with your FOI response?

If you are dissatisfied with the Assembly's handling of your request, you can request an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Freedom of Information Manager at:

Information-request@assembly.wales or in writing to

The National Assembly for Wales

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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

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