



## Refreshments and food costs

16 June 2022

### Request for Information.

Thank you for your request received on 18 May in which you asked:

*I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act of 2002. The full request form is attached to this email with further details.*

*The information I'm requesting is as follows:*

- Records of the details of the annual (and if possible specific details, dates, items, receipts) amount of funds dedicated to both refreshment, and food costs for Welsh Parliament and associated buildings if possible from 2019 to present. I would like to receive these records via email by word or excel if at all possible.*

*Clarified 18.05.22 - I mean the catering contract but also any food or beverages not covered by the catering contract but still paid for with public funds, ie expensed meals or coffee purchased for meetings etc.*

Please find our response to your request below. To ensure we have answered your request, I have divided our response into three parts.

#### **i. Catering services**

Catering services are provided to the Senedd Commission through a catering contract to provide a range of services across catering outlets for the Senedd including a staff restaurant, Members' tea rooms and restaurant and a public café. The specific catering services are not based on price subsidies for items for sale but on the basis of the total contract costs and budget to provide the range of services required in the outlets. The

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Bae Caerdydd  
Caerdydd, CF99 1SN

Welsh Parliament  
Cardiff Bay  
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E-bost/Email: [Ceisiadau-gwybodaeth@senedd.cymru](mailto:Ceisiadau-gwybodaeth@senedd.cymru)  
[Information-request@senedd.wales](mailto:Information-request@senedd.wales)

cost of providing the total range of services which is also the total cost of subsidising the service is included within our published Annual Budget. We have include a link to the budget reports and page references in the table below:

<b>Senedd Commission Budget Report</b>	<b>Page reference</b>
<u><a href="#">2021-22</a></u>	Page 25
<u><a href="#">2020-21</a></u>	Page 33
<u><a href="#">2019-20</a></u>	Page 38
<u><a href="#">2018-19</a></u>	Page 38

## ***ii. Members of the Senedd Claims***

The rules surrounding what Members of the Senedd (MS) are entitled to claim are contained within the [Determination](#) (specifically paragraphs 4.5.7 and 5.15.3).

In order to find this information on our [allowances system](#), please follow these instructions:

- i. Select the financial years you wish to search.
- ii. To select a specific Member of the Senedd, select 'MEMBER PICKER' and view the list of previous and current Members and select the specific Member(s). If you wish to search the system for all Members, please leave this blank.
- iii. To select the specific expense type, select the 'ALLOWANCE TYPE PICKER', select 'Additional Cost Allowance' and 'Meals/Subsistence'.
- iv. Select 'Search'

All claims are published on our allowances system three months in arrears and will show in the financial year to which the cost relates. If you are unable to follow these instructions, please let me know.

As this information is already available, 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.

## ***iii. Hospitality and Subsistence Claims***

Please find attached a spreadsheet of the hospitality and subsistence claims that have been paid for between 01/01/2019 - 13/05/2022.

Yours sincerely

**Buddug Saer**

**Freedom of Information Manager  
Welsh Parliament**

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 Welsh Parliament'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@senedd.wales** or in writing to

Welsh Parliament  
Governance and Assurance  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1SN

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