

Sustainability Committee

28 September 2017

Request for Information.

Thank you for your request received on 5 September in which you asked:

Under the freedom of information act, I request information of all the financial costs associated with the National Assembly for Wales Sustainability Committee inquiry in to access to water dated the 1st of May 2009 to the 31st of July 2010 to include all legal costs, stakeholder engagement events, details of venues and dates of such events and methods of collating evidence. I request copies of all documents relating to stakeholder and Sustainability Committee meeting dates, venues, attendees lists and minutes.

Please find our response to your questions below.

In June 2010, the Sustainability Committee launched its report following an [Inquiry into access to inland water in Wales](#). 'The report' provides details of the meetings it held to gather evidence and engage with stakeholders.

i. Financial costs associated with the inquiry

Captured in the table below are the costs that relate to the launch of the report, at the Cardiff White Water Centre on 16 June 2010.

Item	Cost
Staff travel and subsistence	£22.91
Assembly Member travel and subsistence	£22.63
Venue hire	£52.88
Total	£98.42

There were no legal costs as legal advice was provided 'in house' by the Assembly's Legal Service.

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ii. Methods of collating evidence

The Sustainability Committee invited stakeholders to submit vox pops (series of short interviews) video clips at the following dates and locations:

- Friday 20 November 2009 - Gwydyr Hotel, Holyhead Road, Betws y Coed
- Friday 20 November 2009 - Queens Square, Wrexham
- Saturday 21 November 2009 - Guild Hall Square, Carmarthen
- Saturday 21 November 2009 - Welsh Assembly Government Office car park, Merthyr Tydfil
- Friday 20 November 2009 - Gwydyr Hotel

Further information on its approach to evidence gathering can be found at paragraphs 29 -33 of the report.

iii. Committee meetings – dates, venues, attendees

On 16 June 2010, the Sustainability Committee launched its report (see link above) at the Cardiff White Water Centre. The following organisations attended the event:

- Country Land and Business Association
- NFU Cymru
- FUW
- Environment Agency Wales
- Canoe Wales
- Sports Council Wales
- Federation of Welsh Anglers
- Sustainable Tourism Forum
- Open Canoe Association
- Countryside Alliance
- British Waterways
- Dŵr Cymru
- Welsh Salmon and Trout Association
- Countryside Council for Wales

A full schedule of the evidence taken was provided at annex A (pages 33-63) of the report. This includes committee meeting dates and attendees.

Please note that some of the hyperlinks in the report no longer work. However, the documents referred to are available from the Assembly's website and can be searched for and filtered at:

<http://www.assembly.wales/en/bus-home/bus-third-assembly/3-committees/Pages/Committees.aspx?category=SC>

Minutes, transcripts and committee papers have been published to the [Assembly's website](#).

All written evidence received was published on the [Inquiry into access to inland water in Wales](#) webpage.

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

**Freedom of Information Manager
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.assembly.wales/en/help/contact-the-assembly/con-complaint/Pages/con-complaint-procedure.aspx>. 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