Assembly Member second homes

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru National Assembly for Wales



13 December 2019

Request for Information.

Thank you for your request received on 10 December in which you asked:

Dear sir

As instructed via my telephone call to you today, it has been brought to my attention that several of our AM's have second homes with regard to their duties. This will include any additional form of accommodation in order to carry out their duties in office.

I would ask under the above act to be furnished with the list of such members to establish the full facts.

Many thanks

Assembly Members (AMs) can be reimbursed for any expenses necessarily incurred to enable the performance of their duties as an AM. Payments under Residential Accommodation Expenditure Allowances are for the purpose of reimbursing AMs for additional expense which they necessarily incur in staying away from their main homes in the performance of their duties as an AM.

The rules surrounding what AMs are entitled to claim for are contained within a '<u>Determination</u>' and all expenses are published on our <u>expenses database</u>.

Instructions on how to search the database are available below:

1. Click to choose the financial year and month(s). (The default is set for the April to March for the current financial year).

Bae Caerdydd Caerdydd CF99 1NA Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1NA

Ffôn/Tel: 0300 200 6544

 $\hbox{E-bost/Email:} \ \ \underline{\hbox{Ceisiadau-gwybodaeth@cynulliad.cymru}}$

Information-request@assembly.wales

- 2. Click to choose an Assembly Member. (If you do not click on a particular Assembly Member, it will return a search for all Members.)
- 3. Click to choose the allowance you would like to view. E.g. Additional Costs Allowance, Cardiff Overnight Stay Allowance
- 4. Click to find the type of expenditure (If you do not select a particular expenditure, it will return a search for all expenditures). E.g. Second Home Mortgage Interest, Second Home Rental, Second Home Council Tax, Intermediate Area Utilities, Cardiff Hotel Costs

As the requested information is already reasonably accessible by other means, it is subject to the exemption set out in section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. As this is an absolute exemption, we are not required to carry out a public interest test.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Manager National Assembly for Wales Your request has been considered according to the principles set out in the <u>Code of Practice on Public Access to Information</u>. 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 Governance and Assurance Cardiff Bay Cardiff
CF99 1NA

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