



Response Date:03/09/2025

2025/852 – Smacking ban

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

- 1. Please could you provide me with a copy of the original data and impact assessment used to prepare your response to the Welsh Government's review of the smacking ban?**
- 2. Please could you provide me with a copy of all correspondence from the Welsh Government relating to the request for data/evidence and what should and should be included?**
- 3. Please can you provide me with all internal correspondence between member of the senior management relating to the smacking ban and its impact?**
- 4. Please can you provide me with copies of your organisation's guidance on dealing with complaints involving smacking?**
- 5. Please can you provide me with the number of reports your organisation has received relating to smacking involving either a) staff members or b) members of the public?**
- 6. Finally, please can you send copies of all internal emails from your communications/PR department to the senior management team relating to how to handle inquiries into smacking cases?**

The FoI search should cover the last 12 months only.

In relation to questions 1-4 & 6 we are not aware of any communications of this topic. However to ensure this is correct we would need to carry out searches on all emails/letters etc. The cost of providing you with the information is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of retrieving the information exceeds the 'appropriate level' as stated in the Freedom of Information (FOI) Fees and Appropriate Limit regulations 2004.

Therefore, in accordance with the FOI Act 2000 the information you have requested is exempt under Section 12 (1), and this letter acts as a Refusal Notice under section 17 (5) of the legislation.

In relation to question 5, the above exempt is also relevant as a search has been performed using the Child Chastisement criteria supplied by WAG:

1. Occurrence of Common Assault,
2. Featuring non-intimate relationship types,
3. With Victims Under 18 (at time of assault)
4. And Suspect over 12 (At time of assault).

WAG then review this data to ensure relevance. Across the date period specified, this has resulted in >1000 occurrences which will require review and will therefore put this request beyond the specified time limit.

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THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 21/08/2025