Research Projects

24 July 2015

Request for Information.

Thank you for your request received 29 June in which you asked:

- 1) I would like to know if AM's have access to public money for specific research projects?
- 2) If so, how much money is available per Member and who can be paid to carry out this work for them?
- 3) I would like to know which AM's have used the fund to date and a list of those organisations or individuals who have been paid, along with the name of the research project they were paid to carry out.
- 1) I would like to know if AM's have access to public money for specific research projects?
- 2) If so, how much money is available per Member and who can be paid to carry out this work for them?

The rules surrounding what Assembly Members are entitled to claim for with regards to research projects are contained within a 'Determination'. <u>Section</u> 7.11 (Policy and Research Fund) states that:

7.11.1 A Member may claim a maximum of £2,000 (inclusive of VAT) towards the cost of obtaining external expertise to advise or assist, for a fixed period, on a specific task or piece of work ("the work").

7.11.2 A Member wishing to claim must:

a) send to the Members Business Support team a written proposal which outlines the duration, cost and purpose of the work with sufficient detail to enable the request to be considered;

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- *b)* receive approval from the Members Business Support team before the work is commenced; and
- c) ensure that at all times the principles of financial support set out in this Determination are met, including but not limited to the principle that no work may relate to party political activity.
- 3) I would like to know which AM's have used the fund to date and a list of those organisations or individuals who have been paid, along with the name of the research project they were paid to carry out.

The table below provides you with the details you have request.

Year	Assembly Member	Research Author	Title
2011	William Powell	Professor Russell Deacon	Academic Research Report into WAG Energy Policy
2012	Alun Ffred Jones	LG Research	Hafren Power's proposals for a Severn Barrage
2012	Joyce Watson	Bevan Foundation	Women in Employment in Ystradgynlais - Phase 1
2012	Mick Antoniw	University of Glamorgan	Recovering NHS costs in treating patients who have suffered ill health as a result of exposure to asbestos
2012	Plaid Cymru Party Leader	Beaufort Research	Analysis of Public Attitudes to key policy areas
2012	Plaid Cymru Party Leader	Dr Ian Jenkins	Public banking in Wales
2012	Vaughan Gething	University of Glamorgan	Recovering NHS costs in treating patients who have suffered ill health as a result of exposure to asbestos
2013	Elin Jones	LG Research	Sugary drinks levy
2013	Eluned Parrott	Amie Jordan	Apprenticeships and Business in Wales
2013	Jenny Rathbone	E Mills	European Funding opportunities 2014-2020
2013	Joyce Watson	Bevan Foundation	Women in Employment in Ystradgynlais - Phase 2
2013	Julie Morgan	Chaminda Seneviratne	Gypsy and Traveller Community - The disadvantage gap which exists between the Gypsy and Traveller community and the settled "bricks and mortar" residents.
2013	Leanne Wood	Arad Consulting Ltd	Energy in Wales

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2013	Mick Antoniw	Severn Systems Software	South Wales Health reconfiguration plan
2013	Peter Black	Amie Jordan	Local Government reform in Wales
2013	Russell George	MAB Strategy	Constituent surveys and recommendations: Business survey - designed to understand the current challenges of businesses with the area Newtown Traffic survey - designed to understand traffic problems and pinch points Dyfi Bridge survey - designed to understand problems and what the community feels would be the best long/short term solutions Wind Farm survey - designed to understand levels of public concern/support for onshore wind farms
2014	Aled Roberts	Family and Childcare Trust	Childcare in Wales
2014	Byron Davies	Myles Langstone	Routes into work for young people
2014	Elin Jones	Alun Williams	Improving Mental health policy in Wales
2014	Eluned Parrott	David Boyle Projects Ltd	Business Improvement Districts
2014	Jocelyn Davies	Chwarae Teg	Ensuring that women in Wales reach their potential
2014	Kirsty Williams	Swansea University	Welsh Ambulance Service - Comparisons between the Welsh, Scottish and English ambulance systems
2014	Leanne Wood	Helen Taylor	Further Welfare Devolution to Wales
2014	Llyr Huws Gruffydd	Dr. Selyf Lloyd Morgan	How can we produce more of our own food in a sustainable way
2014	Peter Black	The Castalian Pool	Culture, Arts and Heritage - Investigating how best the Welsh Government can support these areas

Year	Assembly Member	Research Author	Title
2014	Russell George	OMB Communications	Health Survey - designed to gauge and understand public perceptions on health issues in Montgomeryshire A Farming Survey - designed to ascertain the views of the farming community in Montgomeryshire
2014	William Powell	Alice Hooker Stroud	Environmental Targets - proposing potential targets that may be included in the Welsh Government's environmental bill

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

Buddug Saer Freedom of Information and Project Support Officer 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/concomplaint/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