



Subsidised Food and Alcohol

22 December 2022

Request for Information.

Thank you for your request received on 28 November in which you asked:

Dear Senedd

As a person living in Wales and a rate payer, I request an answer to my question, do the MS people in the Senedd have subsidised food and alcohol within the Senedd dining area.

Do MS members have any other subsidised allowances.

Please find our response to your questions below.

- 1. Do the MS people in the Senedd have subsidised food and alcohol within the Senedd dining area.*

The Senedd Commission provides a range of catering services to Senedd Members, their staff and Senedd Commission staff within the canteen, Members' tea rooms and public cafe. These services are provided by an external contractor and the total annual budget for these services for 2021-22 was £399,000. The specific services provided are not based on price subsidies on individual items for sale but rather on the cost of providing the total range of services across the various outlets.

Details of our annual budget, including specific costs for catering, are published in our Annual Budget.

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Commission Budget 2021-22.pdf (senedd.wales)

2. Do MS members have any other subsidised allowances.

The Independent Remuneration Board of the Senedd is an independent body responsible for ensuring Members of the Senedd have the appropriate remuneration and resources available to them to undertake their role. This includes setting the salaries of Members as well as other allowances, such as staffing and office costs. The rules surrounding the allowances that are available are contained within the **Determination**.

All claims are published on our allowances system three months in arrears and will show in the financial year to which the cost relates.

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 the allowance you wish to view.
- iv. Select 'Search'

If you have any problems accessing this information, please let me know.

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

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