Electoral Posters

Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru National Assembly for Wales

25 September 2014

Request for Information.

Thank you for your request received on 18 September, in which you asked:

Could I please request the following information:-

- a) The National Assembly for Wales' rules on the use of electoral posters inside the Senedd?
- b) The National Assembly for Wales' rules on the use of electoral posters stuck to the outside of the Senedd?
- c) The National Assembly for Wales' rules on the use of electoral posters or political messaging used in windows in the National Assembly for Wales' estate.

The National Assembly for Wales strictly maintains political impartiality. Guidance for Assembly Members and their staff published on our Intranet pages states that:

The definition of 'Assembly Resources' includes anything provided by the Assembly to Members paid for from public funds. This includes the use of allowances, support staff, facilities provided by the Assembly Commission and any work undertaken by Commission staff to assist Members.

Prohibited activities

- Assembly resources are provided to help assist Members discharge their Assembly duties. Assembly resources must not be used for the following reasons:
- Personal, business or commercial communications; Party political fund raising, recruitment of party members nor the organisation and publicising of party political meetings; and

Bae Caerdydd Caerdydd CF99 1NA Cardiff Bay Cardiff CF99 1NA • Campaigning for the election or re-election of particular candidates for public office (including the Member using the resources), irrespective of whether the office is that of membership of the Assembly or of any other body.

The extract of text above is in <u>Guidance for Members on the Use of Assembly</u> Resources.

Therefore posters that promote the election of candidates or parties would not be permitted to be affixed to either the inside or the outside of the Senedd building, nor in the windows of the National Assembly for Wales estate.

We also publish Senedd entrance conditions for members of the public which state that 'Banners, placards and posters are not permitted in the building'.

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.assemblywales.org/conhome/con-complaint.htm. 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