



Ein cyf/Our ref: WAQ78629

Andrew RT Davies  
AM for South Wales Central  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
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21 August 2019

*Dear Andrew,*

I am writing in response to WAQ78629 tabled on July 26, in which you asked:

Following the inquest into the death of Carl Sargeant, and with reference to the telephone calls made by the former First Minister to two lobbyists in the aftermath of Mr Sargeant's death, will the First Minister confirm the duration of these calls, which were made on a Welsh Government-owned phone?

The telephone records we hold are only held because they are required by a court order for the specific purpose of the inquest.

This information is exempt under section 32 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Section 32 is an absolute exemption, which is therefore not subject to the public interest test. It applies to information held by a public authority only for the purposes of court proceedings and/or investigations or inquiries.

The relevant part of section 32 states:

32 (2) Information held by a public authority is exempt information if it is held only by virtue of being contained in—

(a) any document placed in the custody of a person conducting an inquiry or arbitration, for the purposes of the inquiry or arbitration, or

(b) any document created by a person conducting an inquiry or arbitration, for the purposes of the inquiry or arbitration.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

32 (4) In this section—

...

(c) “inquiry” means any inquiry or hearing held under any provision contained in, or made under, an enactment...

The Coroner’s inquest into the death of Carl Sargeant is an “inquiry” as defined by section 32(4).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark." with a period at the end. The letters are cursive and fluid.

**MARK DRAKEFORD**