

7 July 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing in response to your request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to be provided with information on the questions listed in your email dated 9 June 2026.

- 1) A list of all inspection reports produced for schools within Cardiff between 1 January 2008 and 31 December 2020.**
- 2) Copies of any inspection evidence bases, inspector notes, working papers, draft reports, correspondence, monitoring records, inspection summaries, or other inspection documentation held by Estyn relating to those inspections, where disclosure is permitted under the Act.**
- 3) Details of inspections undertaken by former Estyn inspector [REDACTED] during his tenure with Estyn, including:**
  - Schools inspected by him within the Cardiff local authority area.
  - Dates of inspections.
  - His role within each inspection team.
  - Any inspection reports, evidence bases, notes, working papers, or associated records held by Estyn relating to those inspections.
- 4) Any records held by Estyn showing the allocation of inspectors to Cardiff schools between 2008 and 2020.**
- 5) Any archived inspection materials relating to Cardiff schools that are no longer available through Estyn's public website.**

Under FOIA, Estyn is required to:

- (i) confirm or deny whether it holds the information of the description specified in the request
- (ii) communicate the information requested to the applicant

In response to your queries, I confirm the following responses:

- 1) A list of all inspection reports produced for schools within Cardiff between 1 January 2008 and 31 December 2020.**

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Mae Estyn yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Bydd gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn y naill iaith neu'r llall yn cael yr un flaenoriaeth.

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enquiries@estyn.gov.wales  
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Estyn welcomes correspondence in both English and Welsh. Correspondence received in either language will be given equal priority.

We have provided a list of schools within Cardiff for which inspection reports were produced and published on Estyn's website during the period specified.

Please note that the attached list covers the period from 2009 onwards. Prior to 2009, Estyn used a different record-keeping system, which is no longer accessible. Consequently, we do not hold accessible records relating to lists of inspection reports published before 2009 and are therefore unable to provide the requested information for that period.

In addition, while your request extends to 31 December 2020, Estyn suspended inspection activity from March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, no inspection reports were produced or published between March and December 2020, and the list therefore covers reports published up to March 2020 only.

**2) Copies of any inspection evidence bases, inspector notes, working papers, draft reports, correspondence, monitoring records, inspection summaries, or other inspection documentation held by Estyn relating to those inspections, where disclosure is permitted under the Act.**

In relation to this part of your request, Estyn does not hold the information requested.

The documents described, including inspection evidence bases, inspector notes, working papers, draft reports, correspondence, monitoring records, inspection summaries and other inspection documentation, would ordinarily be held within the Virtual Inspection Room for the relevant inspection. However, in accordance with Estyn's records retention policy, this information is retained for six months following the date of the inspection and is then deleted.

As the inspections covered by your request took place between 1 January 2008 and 31 December 2020, the information requested is no longer held by Estyn.

**3) Details of inspections undertaken by former Estyn inspector [REDACTED] during his tenure with Estyn, including:**

- **Schools inspected by him within the Cardiff local authority area.**
- **Dates of inspections.**
- **His role within each inspection team.**
- **Any inspection reports, evidence bases, notes, working papers, or associated records held by Estyn relating to those inspections.**

*The name of a third party has been redacted from this published version*

In relation to part 3 of your request, Estyn has searched its records for inspections of schools within the Cardiff local authority area undertaken between 1 January 2008 and 31 December 2020.

For inspections where inspection team membership was published within the inspection report (up to September 2017), our searches have not identified any Cardiff school inspections on which [REDACTED] was recorded as a member of the inspection team.

From September 2017 onwards, information identifying the membership and roles of individual inspection team members was no longer routinely published. Information relating to the inspection activity, deployment, and roles of an identifiable former employee constitutes personal data. We consider that disclosure of such information would contravene the data protection principles and is therefore exempt from disclosure under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption and is not subject to the public interest test under FOIA.

In relation to inspection reports, evidence bases, notes, working papers and associated inspection records, please refer to our response to part 2 of your request.

**4) Any records held by Estyn showing the allocation of inspectors to Cardiff schools between 2008 and 2020.**

Information identifying inspection team members for inspections conducted up to September 2017 was routinely published within Estyn inspection reports.

Copies of inspection reports published from 2009 onwards are available on Estyn's website and can be searched by local authority area and provider name. Inspection reports published prior to 2009 are available through the National Library of Wales archive. See our response to part 5 of your request.

From September 2017 onwards, information identifying the allocation of individual inspectors to specific inspections was no longer routinely published. Information relating to the deployment of identifiable inspectors constitutes personal data and is exempt from disclosure under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption and is not subject to the public interest test under FOIA.

Please also refer to our response to question 3.

**5) Any archived inspection materials relating to Cardiff schools that are no longer available through Estyn's public website.**

The only inspection materials relating to Cardiff schools that were published on Estyn's website are inspection reports.

Inspection reports published from 2009 onwards remain available on Estyn's website. Earlier inspection reports, which are no longer available through our website, are held by the National Library of Wales under Crown Copyright.

If you would like the National Library of Wales to provide copies of reports that are no longer available on our website, please contact [REDACTED]

We have been advised by the National Library of Wales that the system used to process and display Estyn inspection reports to readers is currently unavailable. As a result, catalogue records for Estyn reports are temporarily hidden while a replacement solution is developed. In the meantime, the National Library of Wales is able to provide members of the public with copies of the reports it holds on request.

I hope that this information is helpful to you.

If you are not satisfied with the response Estyn has made regarding your request for information, you are entitled to request that we review the matter. Your request for a review should be addressed to the Feedback and Complaints Manager and received no later than 20 working days after the date of this communication.

If you are still not satisfied, you also have a right to complain to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House,

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire

SK9 5AF

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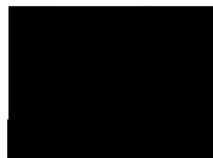
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Yours sincerely



Governance Manager