**Date issued:** 2nd of January 2024

**Freedom of Information Request** 279/23

We are writing in response to your Freedom of Information request. Your request has been considered in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act and our Data and Information Management Policy.

**YOU ASKED US…**

**One of the comments left on a social media posts confirms that TFW has given some units to another provider/away, over the last 3 months, under the Freedom of Information Act can you confirm if this is true, and if so why?**

**RESPONSE**

TfW, along with most other UK operators, leases most of its train fleet. As new trains have come into the fleet over the last few months, most notably the new class 197s, of which 40 are now in service, the older fleets are taken out of service and returned to the leasing companies or moved to new operators. The lease contracts have strict conditions over the timing and condition of trains that are coming off lease and as a result a number of trains were removed from service over the last 3 months and have either left the fleet or are currently undergoing repairs before they leave the fleet.

Even if TfW had the ability to delay the older fleets being removed from service, limited maintenance facilities and resources mean that it would not be possible to maintain and operate both the new and existing fleets.

Further new trains will come into service over the next few months meaning that the size of the TfW train fleet will continue to increase.”

We hope this information is of use to you.

Yours sincerely,

**Transport for Wales**

**Appeal Rights**

If you are unhappy with the way your request has been handled and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, please write to the Head of Freedom of Information at either Transport for Wales, 3 Llys Cdwyn, Pontypridd, CF37 4TH or freedomofinformation@tfw.wales. Your request must be submitted within 40 working days of receipt of this letter. 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 (ICO) can be contacted at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or you can contact the ICO through the 'Make a Complaint' section of their website on this link: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>

The relevant section to select will be "Official or Public Information".