[redacted]

**From:** FOI
**Sent:** 20 March 2023 09:22
**To:** [redacted]
**Subject:** FOI 018-23 - Response

Dear [redacted],

**Our Ref: FOI-018-23**

Thank you for your email to the Electoral Commission dated 28 February 2023.

The Commission aims to respond to requests for information promptly and has done so within the statutory timeframe of twenty working days.

Your request is shown below followed by our response.

*I would like information regarding political donations made to Plaid Cymru from January 2022 to end of February 2023*

**Our response is as follows:**

We hold some of the information you have requested.

However, it is exempt from disclosure under section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Section 21 provides for an exemption where the information requested is reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means. The information that you have requested is accessible to you by using our online register of donations to political parties.

You can view the details of these donations here (we have applied a search using the name 'Plaid Cymru' for you:

Search - The Electoral Commission

We do not have any details of donations beyond 31 December 2022. Political parties are not required to deliver reports for donations from 1 January to 31 March 2023 until the end of April 2023. We will then publish those donations as soon as practicable after receipt.

Registered parties report donations to the Electoral Commission on a quarterly basis using a standard form that can be submitted by post, email, or inputted directly to our online system. We publish all of the data provided on our website. As such, there is generally no correspondence by which donations are reported other than the form itself. All the information on the form is published, except where any data protection restrictions prevent that. Section 40(2) provides for an exemption where the information requested constitutes personal data as defined by the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA), and where release of the information requested would breach one of the data protection principles. The addresses of individual donors are, therefore, exempted from release.

The Commission strives to be an open, transparent authority and I trust that this information satisfies your request.

If you are not satisfied with this response, please note that the Commission operates a review procedure, details of which can be found on the Commission website at: https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/freedom-information/make-a-freedom-information-request.

Please also note that if you have exhausted all internal Commission review procedures and you are still not satisfied you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner. Details of this procedure can be found on the ICO website: https://ico.org.uk/.

Yours sincerely

Information Officer
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**The Electoral Commission**
electoralcommission.org.uk