

## Communities First Partnerships

01/07/2013

Further to my email of 14 June 2013, I am now in a position to respond to your request for information of 9 June 2013, which was:

I would like to be informed about the investigations into Communities First Partnerships that have been the subject of financial inquiries.

How many such partnerships have been found to be suspect?

How many have been suspended?

Has any prosecutions followed?

In particular I would like info on the Cwmaman Communities First Partnership in the Cynon Valley?

Has any prosecutions been made?

My email of 14 June 2013 requested clarification of your request, but as I have not received clarification from you, I have assumed the following:

With regard to your definition of "investigations into Communities First Partnerships that have been the subject of financial inquiries", I have assumed that you mean investigations that the Auditor General for Wales or appointed auditor has conducted into Communities First Partnerships that have resulted in a published report or in a report issued to an audited body. Also, with regard to your reference to "suspect", because of your subsequent reference to "prosecutions", I have assumed that you seek information as to whether an investigation into a Communities First Partnership has raised our suspicions of potentially criminal activity.

If either of my assumptions are incorrect, please let me know.

The only inquiry that meets the scope of your request is regarding Plas Madoc Communities First. [This is the link to the Auditor General's report](#)

Paragraph 14 of the above report sets out that the Plas Madoc Communities First Board decided that two members of staff should be suspended, pending the outcome of subsequent investigations.

It is in the public domain that the former co-ordinator of Plas Madoc Communities First was sent to jail for defrauding Plas Madoc Communities First. Please see the following link:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-north-east-wales-16109857>

We do not hold any information that meets the description of your request with regard to Cwmaman Communities First Partnership.

I have not applied any exemptions, however if you wish to complain about my handling of your request, please email or write to me.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Ian Phillips