

Reference: 01454479

Katherine Childs

Information Rights Advisor

Information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

6 June 2022

## Freedom of Information: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information asking about content London Borough Tower Hamlets provides on Facebook. We received this request on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022 and have considered it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

# Your request

### You asked:

I have written previously in connection with my potential concerns as to how a local authority such as London Borough Tower Hamlets could broadcast or provide content on Facebook.

I want to know if they are unlawfully processing data under RIPA type provisions including CHIS, do you have a duty to disclose or does this afford them protection and mean you can not confirm or deny their online broadcasting activities. Furthermore, do you control in any way or are you the appropriate forum to complain to if broadcasting is done by cryptography on face book

On a related note, would your company be the relevant forum to complain to or offer help to individuals where content is networked without and individuals consent but for public consumption, where this is on pay per view basis or where a subscription exists.

### Our response

In response to your first point, Ofcom does not hold this information. Content on Facebook falls outside of our current jurisdiction. Any concerns about processing data unlawfully would fall within the remit of the <u>Information Commissioner's Office</u>.

In response to your second point, although Ofcom may consider complaints related to fairness and privacy issues on its regulated services, as set out in the <u>Broadcasting Code</u>, we understand this point to be referring to copyright matters which fall outside our remit.

If you have any queries, then please contact <u>information.requests@ofcom.org.uk</u>. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely,

#### Katherine Childs

If you are unhappy with the response you have received in relation to your request for information and/or consider that your request was refused without a reason valid under the law you may ask for an internal review. If you ask us for an internal review of our decision, it will be subject to an independent review within Ofcom.

The following outcomes are possible:

- the original decision is upheld; or
- the original decision is reversed or modified.

#### Timing

If you wish to exercise your right to an internal review **you should contact us within two months of the date of this letter.** There is no statutory deadline for responding to internal reviews and it will depend upon the complexity of the case. However, we aim to conclude all such reviews within 20 working days, and up to 40 working days in exceptional cases. We will keep you informed of the progress of any such review. If you wish to request an internal review, you should contact <a href="mailto:information.reguests@ofcom.org.uk">information.reguests@ofcom.org.uk</a>.

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. Further information about this, and the internal review process can be found on the Information Commissioner's Office <a href="here">here</a>. Alternatively, the Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire

SK9 5AF