

Reference: 01513037

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Information Rights
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1 November 2022

Freedom of Information: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information regarding the LGB Alliance. We received this request on 3 October 2022 and have considered it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the 'FOI Act').

Our response

Please see our response to each of your questions below.

1. "Please provide the following information for the dates Jan 2021 to date of this request:

1) any and all available correspondence between Ofcom or any representative of your organisation and the group LGB Alliance or any representative of this group"

We note that we have responded to similar FOI requests which we have published on our website for the period up to 25 August 2021. You can find these and some documents that we released here: lgb-alliance-correspondence.pdf (ofcom.org.uk); contact-with-lgb-alliance.pdf (ofcom.org.uk) LGB-Alliance-response.pdf (ofcom.org.uk); annex-2-lgb-alliance-meeting-note.pdf (ofcom.org.uk)

We have conducted searches for information that Ofcom holds within the scope of your request and confirm that we hold a number of emails sent by LGB Alliance to colleagues in our Standards and Audience Protection team, and our email responses from the Standards and Audience protection team to LGB Alliance. We also hold a letter and meeting notes.

In the interests of transparency in this area and because of the public interest we think that it is appropriate to release the information that falls within scope of your request. Some of the information however is exempt from disclosure under section 40 of the FOI Act which relates to personal information, where its disclosure would contravene any of the data protection principles in the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018. Section 40 is an absolute exemption under the FOI Act and does not require a public interest test. We have the consent of Adam Baxter to disclose his name.

The information comprises emails related to meetings and discussions, a letter to the LGB Alliance from Adam Baxter in our Standards and Audience Protection Team dated 5 August 2022 and a meeting note from the meeting on 10 December 2021. There are no meeting notes from a (postponed) meeting held on 20 September 2022 that took place.

Ofcom Riverside House 2a Southwark Bridge Road London SE1 9HA Switchboard: +44 (0)20 7981 3000 or +44 (0)300 123 3000 2) "How many meetings have Ofcom any representative of your organisation have had with LGB Alliance or any representative of this group, including dates the meetings occurred, who attended, subject discussed and copies of any meeting notes associated."

For information up to 25 August 2021 please see the previously published responses referred to under question 1. Since 25 August 2021 there have been 2 meetings with the LGB Alliance at their request on 10 December 2021 and 20 September 2022. We are unable to disclose who attended as we consider this information is exempt from disclosure under Section 40 of the FOI Act as noted under question 1. Adam Baxter has given his consent for his name to be disclosed.

3) "Of the meetings in 2), how many of these were instigated by Ofcom, the reasons for doing so, and any associated internal correspondence and meeting notes associated."

No meetings were instigated by Ofcom.

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,

Julia Snape

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 <u>information.requests@ofcom.org.uk</u>.

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 can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow Cheshire

SK9 5AF