

Reference: 01650513

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

8 August 2023

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request concerning “*I Kissed A Boy*” complaints. Your request was received on 26 July 2023 and we have considered it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the “FOI Act”).

Your request

“All complaints relating to this perverted reality 'show’”

Our response

Ofcom’s Broadcast and On Demand Bulletin, published every fortnight on our website, includes decisions about the complaints we have considered. The Bulletin covers a range of cases, including those which Ofcom has escalated for full investigation, and those which, after careful assessment, Ofcom has decided not to pursue because they did not raise issues warranting investigation. The Bulletins can be accessed via the following link to our website: <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/about-ofcom/latest/bulletins/broadcast-bulletins>

For complaints about the BBC, as outlined in our published procedures for investigating breaches of content standards on BBC broadcasting services^[1], Ofcom can normally only consider complaints where the complainant has already complained to the BBC and the BBC has reached its final decision.

We can confirm that we received 25 complaints related to trailers and episodes of the BBC series *I Kissed a Boy*, which were received ahead of the BBC complaints process and were referred to the BBC. Details of those complaints were published in the BBC First section of the ‘Complaints assessed, not pursued’ segment of the bulletin (issues 474 – 476).

We are unable to disclose additional information because it is exempt from disclosure under section 44 of the Act, which inhibits disclosure of information if another enactment prohibits it. Specifically, Ofcom is prohibited by section 393 of the Communications Act 2003 from disclosing information about a particular business which we have obtained in the course of exercising our functions, such as our work in assessing broadcast standards complaints. This includes information in relation to complaints received about potential breaches of the Code that is not published in the Broadcasting and On Demand Bulletin. In this case the business is the BBC.

^[1] See: https://www.ofcom.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0002/100100/Procedures-for-investigating-breaches-of-content-standards-on-BBC-broadcasting-services-and-BBC-on-demand-programme-services.pdf

We do not hold information on complaints that the BBC may have received directly.

If you have any further queries, then please send them to information.requests@ofcom.org.uk quoting the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

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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 information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

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 [here](#). Alternatively, the Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF