

Reference: 01718740

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

14 December 2023

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request concerning White Space Databases. Your request was received on 17 November 2023 and we have considered it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the FOI Act').

Your request & our response

1. the latest White Space Database Provider (WSDB) Contract

As of the date of this response, the most up-to-date White Space Database Provider (WSDB) Contract template can be found on our website [here](#). More information on WSDBs is available on our [website](#).

2. The number of Qualification Assessments has OFCOM performed

Ofcom conducted 7 assessments (please see the table below in our response to question 4 for more detail).

3. The number of Qualification Assessments that were passed

All qualification assessments were passed.

4. For each of the Qualification Assessments performed by OFCOM, the name of the Operator being assessed, the date the Qualification Assessment started, the date the Qualification Assessment ended, any time extensions provided to complete the Qualification Assessment and whether not the Qualification Assessment was passed.

Database Operator	Qualification Start	Qualification End*
CSIR	14 July 2015	30 th March 2016
Sony Europe	27 July 2015	10 th December 2015
Nominet UK	10 July 2015	20 th October 2015
Google UK Ltd.	7 October 2015	30 th March 2016
Microsoft Ireland Operations Ltd.	10 July 2015	6 th May 2016
Fairspectrum Oy	3 July 2015	1 st December 2015
Spectrum Bridge Inc.	8 July 2015	1 st December 2015

*Database Operators were all initially given until 31st October 2015 to pass qualification. The 'Qualification Start' date is taken from the date that the first qualification materials were sent to the Database Operator. 'Qualification End' date is taken from the date of the Ofcom notice to the Database Operator confirming completion by the Operator of the Qualification Assessment and includes any extensions granted by Ofcom. All Database Operators passed Qualification Assessment.

5. The length of time of the current Qualification Period

There is no current or mandatory qualification period.

6. The Qualification Data Set provided to Operators for the Assessment

We no longer hold the qualification materials for the Qualification Assessments identified above. However, to give you an idea of what we provided Operators during the Qualification Assessment, please see paragraph 5.6 of the Qualification Booklet attached to this response.

7. The additional datasets and reference materials provided to Operators for the Assessment

See 6, above.

8. The actual "Self-declaration Statement in the form which Ofcom will specify following the Commencement Date to verify compliance with specific Technical Requirements".

We have provided a copy of the self-declaration with this response.

9. The "types of third party licences that may be relevant to the proper utilisation of the White Space Data and White Space Algorithms and Methodologies."

The types of third party licences that may be relevant relate to the rules for calculation by WSDBs of the operational parameters for white spaces devices. This information can be found in Schedule 2 of the WSDB Operator Contract (link provided in response to question1). Examples include any licences relevant to the use of Ordnance Survey's coordinate reference systems, the SEAMCAT Extended Hata path loss model, and clutter information from the CORINE Landcover 2006 Raster dataset.

10. A list of the names and titles of the documents and files that constitute the White Space Algorithms and Methodologies

We have interpreted question 10 and 11 as requesting information in relation to White Space Algorithms and Methodologies for the Qualification Assessment. We have provided a copy of the Qualification Booklet with this response. This booklet contains the names of documents and datasets used during a qualification assessment process, and the methodology.

11. The documents and files that constitute the White Space Algorithms and Methodologies

See 10, above.

12. The list provided to Operators of specified WSDs that are Manually Configurable White Space Devices

We do not hold this information.

13. The list provided to Operators of WSD models that are Manually Configurable White Space Devices

We do not hold this information.

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

Information Requests

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