

Reference: 1572393

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23 March 2023

## Freedom of Information: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information about complaints regarding the Today programme related to the coronavirus vaccine and Chris Whitty.

We received this request on 23 February 2023 and received further clarification on Saturday 4 March 2023. We have considered it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

### Your request

You asked: *'How many complaints have been received about the failure of the today programme to interrogate Chris Whitty about the shocking rise in UK excess deaths since the roll out of the C19 jabs? Why was he permitted to continue to peddle the jabs when it is known that they have proved to be far more dangerous than the virus?'* You clarified: *'I apologise for not having given the exact date of the Today programme. It must have been about one month ago'.*

### Our response

Ofcom set a range of editorial standards which all broadcasters must follow as set out in the Ofcom Broadcasting Code, which includes rules relating to broadcast content and such matters as due accuracy and impartiality, harm and offence, offensive language, and the protection of under-eighteens.

Other than in exceptional circumstances, Ofcom can only consider complaints about the BBC that have already complained to the BBC first. Complaints should be registered with the BBC via:

- **Their website:** at [www.bbc.co.uk/complaints](http://www.bbc.co.uk/complaints)
- **Phone:** call them on 037 0010 0222 or 037 0010 0212 (textphone)
- **Post:** write to *BBC Complaints, PO Box 1922, Darlington, DL3 0UR*

It is only after the completion of the BBC's complaints process and having escalated a complaint to the Executive Complaints Unit, that you can ask Ofcom to consider it.

If you are then dissatisfied with the BBC's final response, you can contact us again at that time, and complaints may be registered [here](#).

We have investigated your request and can confirm we did not receive any complaints on the matter you raised in your request within the time specified.

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

Yours sincerely,

Gloria Akinyemi

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](mailto: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