Reference: 1600197

16 May 2023

Dear

Freedom of Information: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information about data regarding Nominet in March 2022.

We received this request on 17 April 2023 and have considered it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the Act").

Your request

You asked: *'As per your previous replies, I am breaking down my FOIA for you to answer each within the 20 day statutory time limit.*

For March 2022, please provide all data held by Ofcom in any system or format, which was exchanged with or makes reference to, the entity known as "Nominet". In the event you choose to apply any exclusions to any of the communications, please only apply the exclusions to the parts qualifying for exclusion and not the whole or any associated meta.'

Our response

We consider that your request is too broad in scope and it would take a considerable amount of time to locate *"all data held by Ofcom"* *"which was exchanged with or makes reference to, the entity known as "Nominet".* Ofcom regulates a few sectors and as such, there are several teams within Ofcom dealing with different matters such as networks, spectrum, broadcasting etc whose records (including documents and emails) would need to be searched to locate or retrieve information relating to your request.

We do however note that some information from March 2022 relating to Nominet was disclosed under this previous FOI Reference: 1541647. You may wish to narrow your request for example by reference to a particular matter/topic, as in the above-mentioned previous request.

Section 12 of the Act provides that we are not obliged to comply with a request for information if we estimate that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the "appropriate limit". The

appropriate limit is set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 (the "Regulations"), and is, for Ofcom, £450. That sum is intended to cover the estimated costs involved in determining whether Ofcom holds the information requested, locating, retrieving and extracting the information from any document containing it. The Regulations provide that costs are to be estimated at a rate of £25 per person per hour, which equates to 18 hours of time.

We estimate that it would take over 18 hours to locate or retrieve the information or documents containing it.

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