

Reference: 01597171

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

5 May 2023

Freedom of Information: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information concerning numbers of staff by grade in Ofcom groups. Your request was received on 6 April 2023 and we have considered it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the FOI Act').

Your request

I would like to know the number of people employed at each grade in the online safety policy team as well as in each of Ofcom's constituent groups.

Please provide the number of associates, senior associates, principals and directors in the online safety policy team, and also the number of associates, senior associates, principals and directors employed in each of Ofcom's constituent groups namely: economics and analytics; broadcasting and online content; legal and enforcement; networks and communications; technology; corporate; strategy and research; and spectrum.

Our response

Please see below the information you have requested, where we are able to disclose this, as of 27 April 2023. Please note that these figures fluctuate depending on a number of matters which include but are not limited to, staff moving within teams, leaving or joining the organisation and changes within group or team structures.

On 1 April 2023 we created a new Online Safety Group, separate from our Broadcasting and Content Group. Numbers provided for Online Safety are for this new group.

In relation to Director levels, we are unable to disclose some of this information given the low number of individuals employed at this level in the group. We consider that this information is personal data and is exempt from disclosure under Section 40(2) of the FOI Act. Section 40(2) provides that personal information about persons other than the requestor is exempt where its disclosure would contravene any of the data protection principles in the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018. This includes the principle that personal data must be processed fairly and lawfully. Section 40 is an absolute exemption under the FOI Act and does not require a public interest test. We have indicated within the tables below precisely where that exemption applies in relation to the requested information.

Ofcom Groups by Grade

	Associate	Senior Associate	Principal	Directors
Broadcasting and Media Group	26	53	25	S40(2)
Corporate Group ¹	92	132	63	11
Economics and Analytics Group	23	38	24	S40(2)
Legal Group	15	52	30	11
Networks and Communications Group	24	64	20	10
Online Safety Group	66	56	36	S40(2)
Spectrum Group	85	106	30	S40(2)
Strategy and Research Group	37	60	31	S40(2)
Technology, Data & Innovation Group	26	40	17	S40(2)

I hope this information is helpful. 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

¹ *Corporate Group includes teams which are not traditional corporate functions, including Communications, Public Policy, our Nations teams and the Chairman and Chief Executive's office*

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. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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