

Reference: 01705767

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

8 November 2023

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your clarified request for information as detailed below, which was received on 24 October 2023, and further clarified on the 26 October 2023, which we have considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the FOI Act').

Your request and our response

Please list all meetings that have taken place either in person or remotely since March 2023 with the purpose of discussing Ofcom's regulatory activities between Ofcom and any representative(s) of the following organisations and/or groups:

- a) Political parties;*
- b) Political Pressure groups;*
- c) Registered charities;*
- d) Broadcasters;*
- e) The press and/or media outlet;*
- f) Pressure Groups;*
- g) Think Tanks;*
- h) Lobbying Companies or Groups; and*
- i) Activists and/or Campaigning Companies.*

Your request is very wide, for example at point d) where Ofcom regulates many broadcasters. We are unable to process your request as the information is not readily accessible as a considerable amount of time would be needed to locate, retrieve, identify and extract any relevant information. Under section 12 of the FOI Act, public bodies are not obliged to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates 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, and is, for Ofcom, £450. That sum is intended to cover the estimated costs involved in determining whether Ofcom holds the information

requested, identifying, 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. Ofcom estimates that it would take at least 18 hours to identify, locate and extract the information you require and as such the cost of complying with your request will exceed the appropriate limit. We would be happy to consider a narrowed request.

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