

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information about the Chief Executive and Chair's diary appointments.

We received this request on 26 February 2024 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the FOI Act").

Your request and our response

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 I wish to see full copies of all diary appointments of the Chief Executive and Chairman dated 01/12/2023 to 23/02/2024.

We hold the information you have requested however we consider that we would need to spend a considerable amount of time processing it. We believe that the time it would take to gather and review the information, consider any redactions, and consult with relevant third parties would prove disproportionately burdensome. Under section 14(1) of the FOI Act Ofcom is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing it further. We also note in this context that you have not identified any specific matter of enquiry.

In making our decision we have taken account of the number of days' worth of diary entries that are held in different places, that each day may feature a number of different appointments of several different types, that each appointment will need separate consideration against a range of exemptions, and that any potentially exempt information will not be easily isolated because it is scattered throughout the requested material. The volume of information located as falling within the scope of the request would make separating out the exempt, from non-exempt, information a difficult and time-consuming task to achieve. Such a process would involve going through an extremely large amount of information appointment by appointment, working with the relevant colleagues to identify information which can be released and determining the sensitivities to be able to ensure correct application of the FOI exemptions, including potential consultation with third parties.

For example, we would need to consider the following FOI Act exemptions which may apply to the information falling within the scope of the request: section 36 (free and frank exchange of views and likely to prejudice the effective conduct of public affairs), section 40(2) (personal information) and section 44 (information about a particular business or businesses).

We would be happy to consider a less burdensome request, for instance, if you were to request a narrower time period on a particular subject you were interested in, noting that some exemptions may apply. You may find the following previous FOI response helpful [CE-diary-official-appts-](#)

[publish.pdf \(ofcom.org.uk\)](#). Our estimates as to the time that would be taken to process your request have been informed by the response to that previous 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,

Information Requests

Request an internal review

If you are unhappy with the response you have received to your request for information, or think that your request was refused without a reason valid under the law, you may ask for an internal review. If you do, it will be subject to an independent review within Ofcom. We will either uphold the original decision, or reverse or modify it.

If you would like to ask us to carry out an internal review, you should get in touch within two months of the date of this letter. There is no statutory deadline for us to complete our internal review, and the time it takes will depend on the complexity of the request. But we will try to complete the review within 20 working days (or no more than 40 working days in exceptional cases) and keep you informed of our progress.

Please email the Information Requests team (information.requests@ofcom.org.uk) to request an internal review.

Taking it further

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our internal review, then you have the right to [complain to the Information Commissioner's Office](#).