

Reference: 01807422

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

3 May 2024

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information about the legal penalty for unlicensed broadcasting in the UK.

We received this request on 10 April 2024 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Your request & our response

A- What's the current legal penalty as per UK law over seen by ofcom for an unlicensed broadcast in the UK or broadcasting into the UK from outside the UK

Ofcom has published information on [illegal broadcasting](#) and the maximum penalties involved from illegal broadcasting within the UK.

However, when it comes to illegal transmissions from another jurisdiction, then the details are passed to the country of concern(s) via internationally agreed processes through the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The country of origin would have the power to invoke any legal sanctions.

B- what's the penalty by UK law for an unlicensed broadcast in the UK over seen by ofcom for taking advertising revenue from the UK while broadcasting without a license in UK.

Ofcom cannot specifically take action against a station for receiving advertising revenue through illegal broadcasting in the UK, as it does not have the legal remit to do so.

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](#).