

Reference: 02060495

Information Requests information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

18 August 2025

Dear,

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information concerning Wolverhampton City Centre Data.

We received this request on 8 August 2025 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the FOI Act").

Your request

"I am writing from Wolverhampton City Council. Just wanted to check, do you have any postcode level digital connectivity or full fibre data for Wolverhampton? We want to understand what this looks like at a city centre level rather than across the whole city."

Our response

Information of fixed broadband coverage can be found in the Open Data files associated with Ofcom's Connected Nations report. The latest version can be found here: Connected Nations update: Spring 2025 - Ofcom. Information is provided at various levels of granularity including postcode. Please see 'about this data' file for details of the information provided. For detail on how this information was gathered, please see the Methodology Annex to the Connected Nations report, the latest version of which can be found here: Methodology Annex.

While we hold some additional information on leased line operators, which are different from the data in the Connected Nations report, we consider it is exempt from disclosure under Section 44 of the FOI Act. Section 44(1) of the FOI Act provides that information is exempt from disclosure if its disclosure is prohibited by or under any enactment. The enactment that prohibits the disclosure of this information is section 393(1) of the Communications Act 2003 ("the Communications Act"). Under this section, we are prohibited from disclosing information with respect to a particular business (such as individual telecoms companies) that has been obtained in the exercise of our regulatory functions, unless that business consents or one of the statutory gateways under section 393(2) of the Communications Act is met, neither of which apply here. Section 44 of the FOI Act is an absolute exemption and therefore is not subject to the public interest test.

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

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 <u>complain to the Information Commissioner's Office</u>.