

## Reference: 01945925

Information Requests information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

18 February 2025

# Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information concerning meetings held with technology companies.

We received this request on 21 January 2025 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the FOI Act").

## Your request

"The number of meetings held technology companies likely to be regulated under the Online Safety Act where the economic proportionality of regulatory measures in proposed or finalised Codes of Practice was raised or discussed.

This request runs from July 1 2023 to Jan 21 2025."

# Our response

We can confirm that we do hold information falling within the scope of your request. However, we are unable to provide this information under your request as we consider that disclosure of this information is exempt under section 12 of the FOI Act. Section 12 of the FOI Act provides that we are not obliged to comply with a request for information if we estimate 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 (the "Regulations"), and is, for Ofcom, £450. That sum is intended to cover the estimated costs involved in determining whether Ofcom holds the information requested, 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, which equates to 18 hours of time.

With, in the region of 1200 meeting notes to locate, retrieve, assess and consider whether they are in scope of the request, we estimate that it would take over 18 hours to extract the information you have requested.

We may be able to provide the information if the request was narrowed to include a date range, or included more specific criteria than considering the evidence we received.

If you have any further queries, then please send them to <u>information.requests@ofcom.org.uk</u> – quoting the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely,

**Information Requests** 

Ofcom, Riverside House, 2a Southwark Bridge Road, London SE1 9HA Switchboard: 0300 123 3000 or 020 7981 3000 www.ofcom.org.uk

#### 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 (<u>information.requests@ofcom.org.uk</u>) 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.