

Reference: 01951699

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

13 March 2025

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information concerning action taken against illegal users of the PMR radio frequency.

We received this request on 3 February 2025. We sought clarification of your request on 13 February 2025 and we received clarification the same day. We have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Your request

Please provide the number of investigations, prosecutions, and other actions taken against users of the PMR frequency in the UK, by year, for the past ten years.

Clarified as:

My research is specifically related to the misuse of the PMR frequency 446MHz, such as the use of non-type-approved transmitters, so please provide information for that specific aspect.

Our response

In line with data protection requirements, Ofcom does not hold records going back ten years - only since 2016 onwards. During that time there have been no prosecutions relating to users of the PMR frequency. Records show that there were 78 investigations during this time, where PMR is mentioned. The 78 are broken down as follows: 4 in 2016, 11 in 2017, 10 in 2018, 10 in 2019, 5 in 2020, 6 in 2021, 17 in 2022, 9 in 2023, 4 in 2024 and (year to date) 2 in 2025.

The investigations covered a variety of matters including reports of equipment, offered for sale, that were alleged to be overpowered, or the alleged use of equipment other than in accordance with conditions.

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](#).