

Reference: 1990523

Information Requests information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

27 May 2025

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information about assessments/estimates/modelling into anticipated impact of Illegal Content Codes of Practice.

We received this request on 25 April 2025 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, I would like to request the following information:

Please provide working titles and summary descriptions of any assessments, estimates, or results of modelling that Ofcom has conducted or requested into the anticipated impact of the Illegal Content Codes of Practice on levels of online harm, including:

- \cdot assessments/estimates/modelling of the anticipated reduction in the number of victims of harm
- \cdot assessments/estimates/modelling of the anticipated reduction in the severity of impact on victims
- \cdot assessments/estimates/modelling of the anticipated reduction in the financial costs from harm, including costs to victims, or costs to the state, or costs to the wider economy

Please include information on any assessments/estimates/modelling which consider the overall impact of the Codes, and the overall reduction in harm. Please also include information on any assessments/estimates/modelling which consider the impact of a subset of measures, or a specific measure, or the impact of measures on a subset of harms, or a specific harm.

If you haven't conducted any such category of assessments, estimates or modelling, please confirm this.

Please provide summary descriptions of any targets Ofcom is working towards for reducing online harm, including targets relating to number of victims, severity of impact on victims, or financial costs of harm.

We consider our Illegal Harms Statement to be a critical step toward creating a safer life online for UK users.

Volume 2 (<u>Statement: Protecting people from illegal harms online - Ofcom</u>) of our Illegal Harms Statement contains the impact assessments of each measure we have recommended (in addition to the Governance measures set out in Volume 1), as well as our assessment of their cumulative impact in Chapter 14.

To note, we are undertaking some work that will, over time, look at whether life is getting safer online.

We 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 complain to the Information Commissioner's Office.