

References: 01999154, 01999155, 01999183, 01999186, 01999188,  
01999190, 01999191, 01999193, 01999196, 01999199

Information Requests  
[information.requests@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:information.requests@ofcom.org.uk)

3 June 2025

## Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your requests for information, as shown below, which we received on 20 & 21 May 2025. We have considered your requests under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“the FOI Act”).

### Your requests

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#### 1) *Travel expenses and countries visited (case # 01999154)*

1. *Details of all travel expenses over £2,000 in the last 12 months.*
2. *A list of all countries travelled to by Ofcom's senior management team on Ofcom business in:*
  - a) 2024/25
  - b) 2023/24
  - c) 2022/23

#### 2) *First class and business class flights (case # 01999155)*

1. *Details of all first class and business class flights expensed, including costs of flights, reasons for flights, and job titles of employees claiming, in:*
  - a) 2024/25
  - b) 2023/24
  - c) 2022/23

#### 3) *First class train travel (case # 01999183)*

1. *Details of all first train tickets expensed, including costs of tickets, reasons for travel, and job titles of employees claiming, in:*
  - a) 2024/25
  - b) 2023/24
  - c) 2022/23

#### 4) *Hotel claims (case # 01999186)*

1. *Details of all hotel claims, including hotel name, costs, reasons for trip, and job titles of employees claiming, in:*
  - a) 2024/25
  - b) 2023/24
  - c) 2022/23

5) *Ofcom's costs for the use of agencies, consultants and contractors (case # 01999188)*

1. *The total costs incurred in relation to using agencies, consultants or contractors providing public relations, media or public affairs services in:*

- a) *2023/24,*
- b) *2022/23,*
- c) *2021/22,*
- d) *2020/21*

6) *Ofcom's costs for legal advice (case # 01999190)*

1. *The total costs incurred in relation to firms used to provide legal advice in;*

- a) *2023/24,*
- b) *2022/23,*
- c) *2021/22,*
- d) *2020/21*

7) *The cost of retaining Carter Jonas (case # 01999191)*

1. *The total cost incurred in financial years 2023/24 and 2024/25 of retaining Carter Jonas to facilitate Ofcom's search for a new office.*

8) *Office rental to external organisations (case # 01999193)*

1. *A list of all external organisations allowed to use or rent Ofcom office space in:*

- a) *2024/25*
- b) *2023/24*
- c) *2022/23*
- d) *2021/22*

9) *The economic impact of the Online Safety Act (case # 01999196)*

1. *All supporting documents and correspondence that provides forecasting and modelling of the economic impact of the Online Safety Act produced in:*

- a) *2024/25*
- b) *2023/24*
- c) *2022/23*

10) *The economic impact to the media sector due to US tariffs (case # 01999199)*

1. *All supporting documents and correspondence that provides forecasting and modelling of the economic impact to the media sector of changes to United States' tariffs.*

## **Our response**

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We are unable to provide the information under your requests as we consider that section 12 of the FOI Act applies. Section 12 of the FOI Act provides that we are not obliged to comply with a request (or requests) for information if we estimate that the cost of complying with the request(s) 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.

When calculating the cost estimate, under [ICO guidelines](#), we are permitted to aggregate requests from the same person which we receive within a 60 working day period, when the requests ask for the same, or similar, information. We note that your requests are mostly costs related. We estimate that it would take over 18 hours to search for, locate and extract the information you have requested.

We may be able to provide some information if fewer requests are submitted and if the requests are narrowed to include a more limited date range, for example one year. In any event some exemptions may apply.

To be helpful, you may find the following published Freedom of Information responses of use:

[Staffing and spend on external consultancy and legal](#)

[Flights for business purposes](#)

[Ofcom staff expenses](#)

[Ofcom staff travel](#)

If you have any further queries, then please send them to [information.requests@ofcom.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](#).