

Reference: 2054270

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

27 August 2025

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information about incurred and projected costs of enforcing the Online Safety Act.

We received this request on 29 July 2025 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“the FOI Act”).

Your request and our response

1) How much has Ofcom spent so far in the course of enforcing the Online Safety Act?

The table below sets out the total direct spend in preparing for and discharging our regulatory duties under the Online Safety Act by financial year. By way of context, we work within a budget cap set by Government and are funded by the industries we regulate.

The spend is made up of staff, research, professional advice, admin, stakeholder engagement, technology and premises costs.

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Actuals	£2.7m	£14.7m	£38.1m	£46.3m	£64.1m

2) How much per year is Ofcom projected to spend on enforcing the Online Safety Act?

The budget for the current financial year has been agreed by Ofcom's Board at £72.6m for costs directly attributed to the Online Safety regulation. The total fees recovered from the sector will include direct costs and a share of the common costs attributable to the sector in line with our cost recovery methodology. For further information about online safety fees, please refer to our statement on this at [Statement on Online Safety fees and penalties](#).

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,

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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](#).