

Reference: 02181165

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

22 April 2026

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information concerning constituency-level 4G mobile coverage (2015–2016).

Your request was received by Ofcom's Data team on 23 March 2026 and was forwarded to the Information Requests team the same day. We have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the 'FOI Act').

Your request & our response

I am writing to request data for an academic research project on the relationship between 4G mobile coverage and electoral behaviour in Great Britain.

I have been using your Connected Nations 2018 constituency-level file (201809_mobile_pcon_r01.csv), but for the analysis I need earlier data — specifically 2015 or 2016 — when 4G rollout was still uneven across the country and provides meaningful geographic variation.

I can see from your published reports that local authority-level coverage data exists for these years, but I am not aware of a constituency-level version being publicly available. I would be grateful if you could let me know whether:

- 1. A 2015 or 2016 constituency-level mobile coverage file exists and could be shared for academic use; or*
- 2. Failing that, whether the underlying postcode or output-area level data for those years could be provided, which I could aggregate to constituency level myself.*

All of our pre-2020 publications are available via the [National Archives](#).

We only published mobile coverage data at the local authority level for 2015 and 2016:

<https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/ukgwa/20200701124248/https://www.ofcom.org.uk/research-and-data/multi-sector-research/infrastructure-research/connected-nations-2015/downloads>
<https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/ukgwa/20200701124249/https://www.ofcom.org.uk/research-and-data/multi-sector-research/infrastructure-research/connected-nations-2016/downloads>

Please note that we do not hold further data from 2015 and 2016.

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](#).