

Reference: 631314

Jerin John
Information Rights Adviser
Information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

29 October 2018

Freedom of Information: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information about the charity “Mermaids UK” appearing in the television programme “Butterfly”.

This was received by Ofcom on 23 October and it has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You asked:

I am trying to ascertain the extent to which Ofcom gave permission for the Mermaids UK charity to appear in Butterfly (shown in October 2018 on ITV).

Please could you send copies of all correspondence between Ofcom and the programme makers relevant to the production of Butterfly and its subject matter?

We do not hold any correspondence regarding this - Ofcom does not get involved in the production process of programmes. We are a post-broadcast regulator and we would only consider complaints about references to Mermaids in the programme as broadcast, in line with the relevant rules of the Broadcasting Code.

If you have any queries, please contact information.requests@ofcom.org.uk. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely,

Jerin John

If you are unhappy with the response or level of service you have received in relation to your request from Ofcom, you may ask for an internal review. If you ask us for an internal review of our decision, it will be treated as a formal complaint and will be subject to an independent review within Ofcom. We will acknowledge the complaint and inform you of the date by which you might expect to be told the outcome.

The following outcomes are possible:

- the original decision is upheld; or
- the original decision is reversed or modified.

Timing

If you wish to exercise your right to an internal review **you should contact us within two months of the date of this letter**. There is no statutory deadline for undertaking internal reviews and it will depend upon the complexity of the case. However, we aim to conclude all

such reviews within 20 working days, and up to 40 working days in exceptional cases. We will keep you informed of the progress of any such review. If you wish to request an internal review, you should contact:

Corporation Secretary
Ofcom
Riverside House
2a Southwark Bridge Road
London SE1 9HA

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF