

## Freedom of Information: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information on votes cast in the BBC programme *Strictly Come Dancing*.

Your request was received on 19 December 2016 and I am dealing with it under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act').

You requested details of the voting figures in the semi-final and final of *Strictly Come Dancing*.

The information you have requested is not held by Ofcom.

For your information, while Ofcom regulates the content of programmes, it has no direct jurisdiction over the internal operation of broadcasters. Although we can request voting statistics if an investigation warrants it, we cannot insist that the BBC publish such information.

It would be best to contact the BBC directly for information on their policy of releasing voting figures: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/foi/>

If Ofcom obtained voting statistics during the course of an investigation, Section 44 of the Act and S393 of the Communications Act would likely prevent us from disclosing the data to you.

If you would like further information on S44, please see: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/section/44>

I hope this information is of assistance.

If you have any further requests do please get in touch. Please quote the reference number above in any future correspondence as this will help us to deal with your query more quickly.

Yours sincerely

:: **Alistair Hall**  
[information.requests@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:information.requests@ofcom.org.uk)



Riverside House  
2a Southwark Bridge Road  
London SE1 9HA  
020 7981 3000  
[www.ofcom.org.uk](http://www.ofcom.org.uk)

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 exception cases. We will keep you informed of the progress of any such review. If you wish to request an internal review, you should contact:

Steve Gettings  
The Secretary to the Corporation  
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