

Reference: 2176

3 May 2016

Julia Snape  
Information Requests

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

### **Freedom of Information: Right to know request**

Thank you for your request for information about telephone exchanges currently in use in the UK, their numbers and locations, which was received on 21 April and has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

Ofcom publishes data on telephone number ranges and the allocatee on our website. You can find the numbering spreadsheets we publish via the following link:

<http://www.ofcom.org.uk/static/numbering/index.htm>

We are unable to disclose the telephone exchange location information you requested. This information was obtained by Ofcom from BT and the disclosure of the information to the public (otherwise than under the Act) by Ofcom would constitute a breach of confidence actionable by BT. It therefore falls under section 41 of the Act, relating to information provided in confidence. Section 41 is an absolute exemption under the Act and does not require a public interest test.

In addition to the exemption in Section 41, the information you have requested is also being withheld as it falls under the exemption in section 44 of the Act. Under this section information which we hold on this subject is exempt from disclosure since it was obtained by us in exercise of a regulatory power and disclosure is prohibited under section 393(1) of the Communications Act 2003. Section 44 is an absolute exemption under the Act and does not require a public interest test.

Please quote the reference number above in any future correspondence as this will help us to deal with your query more quickly.

Yours sincerely

Julia Snape

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:

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