

Freedom of Information: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information dated 23 June 2017 asking for correspondence to and from Ofcom regarding Ofcom's consideration of the authorisation of commercial multiuser gateways (COMUGs), which Ofcom has considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act). You asked: "Under the freedom of information act can I request all correspondence to and from ofcom regarding this matter particularly but not limited to all correspondence from the Home Office other government agencies" Given the breadth of your request, a considerable amount of time would be needed to locate, retrieve, identify and extract all relevant information. Section 12 of the Act provides that a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed £450. We estimate that complying with your request in full would exceed this limit. For the purposes of responding to your request we have therefore limited our review to correspondence between Ofcom and the Home Office and other government departments relating to Ofcom's consultation on the authorisation regime for COMUGs, published on 16 December 2016.

I note that since your request, Ofcom has published a Statement on this matter on 6 July 2017 available at: https://www.ofcom.org.uk/consultations-andstatements/category-2/commercial-multi-user-gatewayreview?utm_source=updates&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=comugs-statement I am writing to confirm that Ofcom has now completed its search of relevant documents.

Some of the information you requested is already available in a response to a previous similar FOI request – please see the following links:

<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/resources/documents/about-ofcom/foi/2017/april/foi-comug-HOcorres.pdf>

https://www.ofcom.org.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0017/104507/FOI-Comug-bundle.pdf

We also hold the following correspondence which is responsive to your request and is attached to this letter: • Letter from Ofcom to the Home Office dated 19 June 2017 Redactions have been made to limited parts of the attached document which relate to personal data. This information is being withheld as it falls under the exemption section 40 of the Act, which relates to personal information and which provides that such information is exempt for the purposes of the Act. If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

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