

Reference: 541276

Jerin John
Information Rights Adviser
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25 May 2018

Freedom of Information: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information where you asked about Telephone Boxes.

This was received by Ofcom on 9 May and it has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You asked us to provide information on the following:

1. *Number of public telephone boxes in England by year between 2013 - 2018*
2. *Number of new telephone box licences issued by Year between 2013 - 2018*
3. *Location of new telephone box licences issued by Year between 2013 - 2018*
4. *Company name of applicant of new telephone box licences and number issued to said company*

Unfortunately, Ofcom does not hold any information on the number of new or existing telephone boxes issued by the years 2013 – 2018. In addition, public telephone boxes are not licensed by Ofcom, and the location and company names of new telephone box licences issued during the years 2013 – 2018 are not held.

You may find the following information helpful regarding your request. A “public call box” is defined as a public pay telephone which is permanently installed on public land, and to which the public has access at all times¹. Telecommunications providers have powers under the Electronic Communications Code to install public call boxes in publicly accessible locations (e.g. streets) which require planning permission from a local authority.

Ofcom is responsible for maintaining a register of persons who have been granted Code powers under the Electronic Communications Code², and the use of Code powers is subject to oversight by the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport under section 109 of the Communications Act.

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

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https://www.ofcom.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0026/86273/CONSOLIDATED_VERSION_OF_GENERAL_CONDITIONS_AS_AT_28_MAY_2015-1.pdf at p. 15

² <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/phones-telecoms-and-internet/information-for-industry/policy/electronic-comm-code>

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:

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