

Reference 1466585

Gloria Akinyemi
Information Rights Adviser
Information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

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Freedom of Information: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information on the statistics for Ofcom's Freedom of Information cases.

We received this request on 14 June 2022 and have considered it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the Act")

Your request and our response

You asked: 'Please supply statistics from 2015 to present day the number of Freedom of Information Requests.'

The information below is for the period 1 January 2015 to 23 June 2022.

1. Accepted

2,823 cases. All Freedom of Information (FOI) and Environmental Information requests (EIR) combined are accepted and considered.

2. Required Clarification

We are unable to provide this information as it is not readily accessible and would require a manual search of each case to locate, retrieve, identify and extract the information specified in your request. Section 12 of the Act provides that we are not obliged to comply with a request for information if we estimate that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the "appropriate limit". The appropriate limit is set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 (the "Regulations"), and is, for Ofcom, £450. That sum is intended to cover the estimated costs involved in determining whether Ofcom holds the information requested, locating, retrieving and extracting the information from any document containing it. The Regulations

provide that costs are to be estimated at a rate of £25 per person per hour, which equates to 18 hours of time.

We estimate that it would take over 18 hours to identify and extract the information you requested due to the number of cases we would have to search. You may wish to consider submitting a narrower, more focused request and we would be happy to consider this under the FOI Act. Should you decide to make a further request for information, please note that other exemptions may apply (for further information on the exemptions under the FOI Act, see the Information Commissioner's Office's website).

3. Rejected

We do not hold a category for this term on our case management system. We consider all FOI requests, and some may require clarification in order to help us search for information that would help the requestor. In some cases, the request does not fall under FOI/EIR and may be answered on a business-as-usual basis.

4. Cost greater than the monetary limit

97 cases.

5. Required Internal Review

104 cases.

6. Passed to Information Commissioner

We do not pass requests to the information Commissioner Office (ICO). Requestors have the right to escalate their case to the ICO after internal review. We do not hold figures on how many the ICO have received as this is information the ICO may hold. We do hold figures on the number of ICO appeals received by Ofcom which is 21 cases.

I hope this information is helpful. If you have any further queries, then please send them to information.requests@ofcom.org.uk quoting the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely,

Gloria Akinyemi

If you are unhappy with the response you have received in relation to your request for information and/or consider that your request was refused without a reason valid under the law you may ask for an internal review. If you ask us for an internal review of our decision, it will be subject to an independent review within Ofcom.

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 responding to 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 information.requests@ofcom.org.uk.

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. Further information about this, and the internal review process can be found on the Information Commissioner's Office [here](#).

Alternatively, the Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire

SK9 5AF