

Reference: 01793779

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

16 April 2024

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information about the minutes of a board meeting on the subject of the Misinformation and Disinformation Committee.

We received this request on 15 March 2024 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“the FOI Act”).

Your request

Could you please disclose a copy of the minutes of section 10 (Misinformation and Disinformation Committee) of the meeting of the OFCOM board held on 13 March 2024.

Our response

Ofcom is in the process of reviewing the full minutes of the OFCOM board meeting held on 13 March 2024. We intend to publish the minutes on our website [here](#) in due course.

Ofcom therefore considers that the information requested falls under the exemption contained in section 22 of the FOI Act, namely that the information is intended for future publication and that it would be against the public interest to release the information at this time. The attached annex to this letter sets out the exemption in full, as well as the factors Ofcom considered when deciding where the public interest lay.

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,

Information Requests

Request an internal review

If you are unhappy with the response you have received to your request for information, or think that your request was refused without a reason valid under the law, you may ask for an internal review. If you do, it will be subject to an independent review within Ofcom. We will either uphold the original decision, or reverse or modify it.

If you would like to ask us to carry out an internal review, you should get in touch within two months of the date of this letter. There is no statutory deadline for us to complete our internal review, and the time it takes will depend on the complexity of the request. But we will try to complete the review within 20 working days (or no more than 40 working days in exceptional cases) and keep you informed of our progress.

Please email the Information Requests team (information.requests@ofcom.org.uk) to request an internal review.

Taking it further

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our internal review, then you have the right to [complain to the Information Commissioner's Office](#).

Annex

Section 22: Information Intended for Future Publication

Section 22 may apply if there is an intention to publish the requested information at some future date. This ensures that the FOI Act does not force public authorities into premature publication of information.

Key points:

- Section 22 may apply even if the specific date for publication has not yet been determined but the proposed publication timetable must be reasonable in all the circumstances;
- Section 22 will only apply if a public authority has decided, before the request is received, to publish the information concerned;
- Section 22 is subject to a public interest balance.

Factors for disclosure	Factors for withholding
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To promote transparency	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ofcom intends to publish the requested documentation at a future date.• The advanced release of full meeting minutes would be against the public interest because the minutes need to be reviewed and redactions made to avoid disclosing sensitive information.
Reasons why public interest favours withholding information	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ofcom is currently reviewing the full meeting minutes. It is in the public interest that Ofcom publishes this information at a future date to ensure proper review of the minutes to avoid disclosing sensitive information.	