

Reference: 01821589

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

7 June 2024

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information about technology used by IX wireless.

We received this request on 16 May 2024 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the FOI Act").

Your request

"I am wanting information under the freedom of information act regarding the specific wireless technologies that IX wireless are using to transmit their wi fi services across the North West . There is very little information about this and I understand that this is a different technology to that used for phone masts cellular transmission.

Please can you provide details of this technology used by IX wireless whether the health and safety aspects of exposure to this level of exposure has any supporting research to prove it is harmless to humans or the environment."

Our response

We do not hold information on the specific wireless technologies that IX Wireless are using to transmit their Wi-Fi services across the North West. You may wish to contact [IX Wireless](#) directly with your query.

However, we note that Wi-Fi services operate at very low powers. For example, please see our [information sheet on 5 and 6 GHz wireless access systems](#), which sets out the power limits for RLANS (including Wi-Fi) in these frequencies.

With regard to the health and safety aspects of exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF) more generally, we note the following.

Ofcom is not a public health body and does not have medical or health expertise. We do not hold any studies relating to potential health risks of EMF exposure.

In the UK, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) takes the lead on public health matters associated with EMF, and has a statutory duty to provide advice to Government on any health effects that may be caused by exposure to EMF. UKHSA's main [advice](#) is that EMF levels should comply with the internationally agreed levels in the [ICNIRP Guidelines](#). UKHSA publishes information on the possible health effects of EMF exposure on its [website](#), including specific guidance on [Wi-fi radio waves and health](#).

Ofcom carries out unannounced tests of EMF levels around radio transmitters, including mobile phone masts, and can take [enforcement action](#) against spectrum licensees if they produce EMF at levels above those set out in the ICNIRP Guidelines. All [measurements](#) to date over many years have shown that EMF levels are well within the internationally agreed levels in the ICNIRP Guidelines.

Further information on EMF is available on our [website](#) (see also our [General EMF queries](#)).

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](#).