

Reference: 02035077

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

24 July 2025

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information concerning GB NEWS complaints - Headliners.

We received this request on 7 July 2025 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI Act).

Your request

Please disclose all complaints, redacted if appropriate, made against GB News relating to the Headliners broadcast. Please disclose the status of the investigation to date and please disclose records of complaints against GB News within the last 10 years and analysis of content considered to fall under hate speech and homophobia.

Our response

Please note that GB News has only been broadcasting since 13 June 2021, therefore any information held relating to GB News (if any) would only be from that date.

Ofcom publishes decisions about complaints we have received in the [Broadcast and On Demand Bulletin](#) ("the Bulletin"), published every fortnight on our website. The Bulletin covers a range of cases, including those which Ofcom has escalated for full investigation, those which Ofcom has decided not to pursue because they did not raise issues warranting investigation, and those which fall outside Ofcom's remit. Ofcom's decisions to not pursue an investigation of complaints about GB News are available in the "assessed, not pursued" section of our Bulletin Hub by removing the "Issue" filter and filtering for "GB News". You may also wish to refer to the "Look at past Decisions" and "Read our latest Decisions" tabs within the Bulletin for any completed investigations and their outcomes. The Bulletin can be filtered down to the Service (in this case, GB News) and to the complaint issue (e.g. sexual orientation). This will give more granular information about the numbers of complaints received about different programmes. We therefore consider requests for complaints relating to Headliners (if any) and its status and any other complaints relating to GB News to be exempt under section 21(1) of the FOI Act as this information is publicly available in our bulletin. Section 21(1) of the FOI Act provides that information which is otherwise reasonably accessible to the applicant is exempt information. Section 21 is an absolute exemption and therefore not subject to the public interest test.

We are unable to provide any further detail of broadcasting complaints (including those relating to Headliners (if any)) other than what is published in our Bulletin as this information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to section 44 of the FOI Act. Under section 393 of the Communications Act 2003 we are prohibited from disclosing information which relates to a business which we have obtained in

the course of exercising our functions in relation to broadcast standards, unless we have the consent of that business or one of the statutory gateways under section 393(2) of the Communications Act 2003 is met, neither of which applies here. Section 44 is an absolute exemption and does not require a public interest test.

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](#).