

Reference: 01987397

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

14 May 2025

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information about complaints made against LBC Radio Presenter James O'Brien in 2024.

We received this request on 17 April 2025 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Your request

Please provide a table of all OFCOM Complaints made about/against LBC Radio Presenter James O'Brien from 01/01/2024 to 01/01/2025 in the following table format:

Date of complaint | Subject/Nature of Complaint | Outcome

Background

Before responding to your question, we would like to provide some background information on Ofcom's complaints procedures and reporting.

Complaints about content standards are handled under Ofcom's Procedures for investigating breaches of content standards for television and radio¹.

Ofcom's Broadcast and On Demand Bulletin (the 'Bulletin'), published every fortnight on our website, includes decisions about the complaints we have considered. [The Bulletin](#) covers a range of cases, including those which Ofcom has escalated for full investigation, and those which, after careful assessment, Ofcom has decided not to pursue because they did not raise issues warranting investigation. The Bulletin can be accessed on our website.

Our response

Please find the requested information in Annex A at the end of this response letter.

Please note that each row within the annex represents a case in which a complaint has been made against James O'Brien in 2024. In some cases, only one individual complaint was made to Ofcom whilst other cases involved a number of complaints regarding the same episode and issue/s.

Where a case involved more than one complaint, we have specified the number of complaints in brackets next to the issue relevant to that case.

¹ <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/tv-radio-and-on-demand/broadcast-standards/procedures>

We 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 A: 2024 Complaints about James O'Brien

Date Opened	Issues	Outcome
16/07/2024	Other (176)	Out of remit
06/08/2024	Materially misleading (23)	Not Pursued
19/09/2024	Generally accepted standards (22)	Not Pursued
15/02/2024	Elections/Referendums (19)	Not Pursued
06/11/2024	Materially misleading (10)	Not Pursued
04/06/2024	Due impartiality/bias (7)	Not Pursued
14/10/2024	Due impartiality/bias (7)	Not Pursued
03/09/2024	Generally accepted standards (5)	Not Pursued
02/05/2024	Generally accepted standards (4)	Not Pursued
18/06/2024	Elections/Referendums (3)	Not Pursued
06/08/2024	Generally accepted standards (2)	Not Pursued
20/08/2024	Materially misleading (2)	Not Pursued
30/08/2024	Generally accepted standards (2)	Not Pursued
10/09/2024	Generally accepted standards (2)	Not Pursued
23/08/2024	Materially misleading (2)	Not Pursued
10/09/2024	Materially misleading (2)	Not Pursued
05/11/2024	Materially misleading (2)	Not Pursued
10/05/2024	Commercial communications on radio	Not Pursued
17/01/2024	Due impartiality/bias	Not Pursued
29/01/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
29/01/2024	Due impartiality/bias	Not Pursued
29/04/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
31/01/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
05/02/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued

11/02/2024	Race discrimination/offence	Not Pursued
09/02/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
15/02/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
23/02/2024	Due impartiality/bias	Not Pursued
21/08/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
03/04/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
05/04/2024	Due impartiality/bias	Not Pursued
09/04/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
17/04/2024	Due accuracy	Not Pursued
17/05/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
23/05/2024	Due impartiality/bias	Not Pursued
04/06/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
04/06/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
06/06/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
07/06/2024	Elections/Referendums	Not Pursued
12/06/2024	Elections/Referendums	Out of remit
19/06/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
28/06/2024	Elections/Referendums	Not Pursued
28/06/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
29/06/2024	Elections/Referendums	Not Pursued
02/07/2024	Elections/Referendums	Not Pursued
17/07/2024	Elections/Referendums	Not Pursued
10/07/2024	Due impartiality/bias	Not Pursued
11/07/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
17/07/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
06/08/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
09/08/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
08/08/2024	Due impartiality/bias	Not Pursued
08/08/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
09/08/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
12/08/2024	Due impartiality/bias	Not Pursued
14/08/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
15/08/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
19/08/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
21/08/2024	Due impartiality/bias	Not Pursued
21/08/2024	Race discrimination/offence	Not Pursued
28/08/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
28/08/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
12/09/2024	Due impartiality/bias	Not Pursued
22/09/2024	Race discrimination/offence	Not Pursued
20/09/2024	Due impartiality/bias	Not Pursued
20/09/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
20/09/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
20/09/2024	Due impartiality/bias	Not Pursued
24/09/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
26/09/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued

07/10/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
15/10/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
19/10/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
28/10/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
29/10/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
29/10/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
30/10/2024	Due impartiality/bias	Not Pursued
01/11/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
04/11/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
08/11/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
12/11/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
14/11/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
27/11/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
28/11/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
28/11/2024	Due impartiality/bias	Not Pursued
02/12/2024	Due impartiality/bias	Not Pursued
02/12/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
04/12/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
04/12/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
10/12/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
20/02/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
15/01/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
22/01/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
21/03/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
03/04/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
11/04/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
30/04/2024	Commercial communications on radio	Not Pursued
24/05/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
25/06/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
25/06/2024	Elections/Referendums	Not Pursued
03/07/2024	Elections/Referendums	Not Pursued
07/08/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
03/09/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
24/09/2024	Offensive language	Not Pursued
19/11/2024	Due impartiality/bias	Not Pursued
23/11/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
22/11/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
28/11/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued
04/12/2024	Materially misleading	Not Pursued
03/12/2024	Generally accepted standards	Not Pursued