

Reference: 02072724

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

30 September 2025

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information concerning the Online Safety Act, s.56(1)(c) and s.56(1)(d) - recognised news publishers.

We received this request on 3 September 2025 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Your request & our response

I Please provide any information Ofcom holds about which specific named organisations it believes are recognised news publishers that are caught as a result of being an organisation meeting the criteria under either s.56(1)(c) or s.56(1)(d).

In particular, please provide, to the extent Ofcom holds it.

- 1. Any complete or draft list of "recognised news publishers" prepared for any purpose, include for the purposes of assessing compliance with or preparing guidance under the Online Safety Act, and any information on how Ofcom intends to keep such a list up to date.*
- 2. Any list Ofcom holds for any purpose that identifies which of its licensees under the Broadcasting Act 1990 or the Broadcasting Act 1996 are authorised to publish news-related material under that license (as opposed to a mixed list of all or some licensees that do not distinguish between those that hold licences that do not permit publication of new-related material without requiring review of the published terms of each licence)*
- (3) names of, and where publicly available URL links to, any existing internal or third party information sources that Ofcom refers to, or believes that providers could refer to, in order to obtain this information or to keep it up to date. For example, a link to any existing Ofcom list of licensees that would allow the easy identification of entities meeting the terms of s.56(1)(c) without requiring the review of the licence terms; or identities of press standards code organisations where Ofcom believes that all listed members meet the standards of s.56(1)(d)*
- 4. (only if Ofcom has not provided any information under q.1-3 in relation to one of s.56(1)(c) or s.56(1)(d)): If Ofcom holds no information described in q.1-3 of which entities meet one (or both) of these standards, and information that Ofcom holds on how it plans to go about identifying these organisations for its own purposes when obligations under ss.17-19 OSA come into force.*

We do not hold information in respect of questions 1 to 4.

Ofcom will be publicly consulting on guidance to assist category 1 service providers in complying with their duties regarding recognised news publishers. The draft guidance and accompanying consultation document will provide further information about Ofcom's approach to these duties and how providers can comply.

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](#).