

Reference: 02065537

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

12 September 2025

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information about security implications of the Telecommunications Act 1984.

We received this request on 19 August 2025 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Your request

I am carrying out historical research into the UK's telecommunications policy and security implications following I would thus be grateful if you could please provide me with a copy of the following information:

A copy of all correspondence, minutes, briefings, presentations or notes, which:

- 1. Ofcom received from the Home Office, the Cabinet Office or the Department of Trade; and*
- 2. relate to security implications of the 1984 Telecommunications Act, such as interception of communications, directions under section 94 of the Act or communications surveillance;; and*
- 3. are dated between 1 August 1984 and 31 December 1985.*

Our response

Whilst Ofcom was only created in 2003, we do hold some records from Oftel- which was the telecoms regulator before the creation of Ofcom.

Following a search through our records from the period you have outlined, we can confirm that we do not hold any of the requested information. Most of Oftel's archive records have been deposited in [The National Archives](#).

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](#).