

Reference: 02234179

Information Requests
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Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information concerning predicted mobile coverage data at pixel-level granularity.

We received this request on 9 July 2026 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the FOI Act").

Your request

I need to obtain a predicted coverage value at each of approximately 1k-2k individual locations (car park sites) identified by lat/long or postcode. The aggregate UK/Nations files published alongside Connected Nations don't provide this location-level granularity, and the online checker isn't practical at this volume.

My questions:

- 1. Is the underlying predicted mobile coverage data available to download at the 50m x 50m pixel resolution (i.e. the layer underpinning Map Your Mobile), rather than as national/regional aggregates? If so, in what format (e.g. raster, shapefile, GeoJSON, CSV grid)?*
- 2. Does this cover all four nations - England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland? I'm aware NI coordinates use the Irish Grid, so any note on the projection supplied would be helpful.*
- 3. Is the data available per mobile network operator, and for both 4G and 5G?*
- 4. Under what licence is this data provided, and is it permitted for use in a commercial, client-facing analytical deliverable?*
- 5. If the pixel-level data isn't available for download, is there an alternative route to obtain location-level predicted coverage at this volume?*

Our response

The pixel-level coverage data underpinning our Map Your Mobile checker is not available for download, but we provide an API that allows access to the address-level coverage data (available per postcode, not in bulk), subject to certain restrictions on the extent to which data can be accessed and the purpose(s) of use. The data is provided per mobile network operator but only for combined 4G and 5G coverage, and covers all four nations

Details and guidance on the API can be found on our [developer portal](#). To access the data, users will have to sign up on the portal or register with the API team (cnapisupport@ofcom.org.uk), and

accept the associated terms and conditions of use on application. The terms of use can be viewed [here](#) and permit usage in a commercial client-facing deliverable (see 3.1.2).

We do not hold mobile coverage data in shapefile or GeoJSON format. The maps shown in our Map Your Mobile checker are rendered by a third-party supplier under licence, using a pixel-based dataset provided by Ofcom. This dataset is based on coverage predictions provided by the UK mobile network operators.

However, while we hold pixel-level coverage data, we are unable to disclose these particular details as we consider that disclosure of this information is exempt under section 44 of the FOI Act. Section 44 of the FOI Act exempts the disclosure of information which is prohibited by another enactment. In this case, we are prohibited under section 393 of the Communications Act 2003 from disclosing information which relates to a business, or businesses, which we have obtained in exercising our powers, unless we have the consent of that business, or businesses, or one of the statutory gateways for disclosure under section 393(2) is met, neither of which applies here. Section 44 is an absolute exemption and does not require a public interest test.

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](#).