

Reference: 02246754

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

12 August 2026

Dear,

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information concerning UAS use of the 2500–2690 MHz band.

We received this request on 22 July 2026 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“the FOI Act”).

Your request

“Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I'd be grateful if you could provide the following recorded information held by Ofcom for the period from 1 January 2023 to the date of this request.

My request concerns airborne transmissions by unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) in the 2500–2690 MHz band. As you'll know, the UAS Operator Radio Licence prohibits such transmissions and requires licensees to ensure that their equipment cannot connect to services operating in this band. I'm interested in how this condition is working in practice.

1. How many complaints, reports or referrals has Ofcom recorded concerning actual or suspected UAS transmissions in the 2500–2690 MHz band, or interference suspected to have been caused by such transmissions?

2. Of the matters identified in response to question 1, how many concerned: a. a person holding a UAS Operator Radio Licence; and b. actual or suspected UAS operations where no such licence was believed to be held?

Please provide this breakdown only if it is already recorded or can readily be obtained from the records identified for question 1.

3. How many compliance checks or investigations has Ofcom undertaken concerning the prohibition on airborne UAS transmissions in the 2500–2690 MHz band? Please include both:

a. work prompted by a complaint, report or referral; and

b. proactive compliance work initiated by Ofcom.

4. Of the checks or investigations identified in response to question 3:

a. how many identified or confirmed a breach or unauthorised use; and

b. how many resulted in Ofcom taking formal or informal enforcement action?

For question 4(b), "enforcement action" includes advice, a warning or cease-and-desist correspondence requiring compliance, a formal notice, a financial penalty, licence suspension or revocation, or prosecution. A breakdown by type of action is requested only if Ofcom already holds one.

5. Please provide a copy of any current policy, guidance or procedure specifically governing how Ofcom monitors or enforces the prohibition on airborne UAS transmissions in the 2500–2690 MHz band. If no document specifically addressing this condition is held, please state that fact. If any such document is exempt in part, please supply it with the exempt material redacted. General spectrum-enforcement policies need not be supplied.

To keep this manageable on your side: for questions 1–4 I'm asking for figures only, not copies of individual complaints, correspondence or case files, and annual breakdowns are not required.

I'm not asking Ofcom to create new information or conduct technical analysis. If the requested figures are not held as statistics, any readily available recorded totals or other summary information that answers the questions would be welcome. For questions 1 and 3, a keyword search of Ofcom's spectrum interference or case-management systems would be a perfectly acceptable basis for identifying relevant records — I don't expect a manual review of all interference case files.

For search and retrieval purposes, this request is limited to records categorised or readily identifiable as concerning UAS, drones, the UAS Operator Radio Licence, or airborne mobile user equipment; it does not require a search of every record concerning unauthorised mobile spectrum use generally.

If complying with the request in full would exceed the cost limit under section 12, please treat questions 1, 3 and 5 as the priority."

Our response

We do not hold information in scope of your request.

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](#).