

Reference: 02116843

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

6 January 2026

Dear,

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information concerning the broadcast of Bob Vylan's Glastonbury 2025 performance.

We received this request on 5 December 2025 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the FOI Act").

Your request & our response

By way of background, complaints about broadcast standards are carefully assessed under Ofcom's [Broadcasting Code](#) ("the Code") which sets standards for programme content that all Ofcom licensees must follow. Individual complaints received by Ofcom are assigned to cases, and a case is opened when Ofcom is assessing a specific programme or issue and each case may consist of one or more complaints. In line with our published complaints [procedures](#), we review every complaint we receive to consider whether it raises potentially substantive issues under the Code which warrant investigation by Ofcom. If we consider that these standards may have been breached, we will investigate. You can find decisions about complaints we have considered in [Broadcast and On Demand Bulletin](#), published every fortnight on our website.

For complaints about the BBC, under the [BBC procedures](#) Ofcom can normally only consider complaints about BBC programmes where the complainant has already complained to the BBC, and the BBC has reached its final decision.

Turning to your request:

"I would like to request copies of, or extracts from, any correspondence between Ofcom and the BBC relating to the broadcast of Bob Vylan's Glastonbury 2025 performance and the BBC's subsequent handling of the incident.

Specifically, please provide:

1. Any letters, emails, meeting notes, briefing documents, or internal summaries sent between Ofcom and the BBC from 28 June 2025 to the date of this request which refer to:

- * Potential breaches of harm and offence guidelines*
- * Compliance failures*
- * The BBC's internal investigation*
- * Any "lessons learned" or policy changes made by the BBC*
- * Requests by Ofcom for information or clarification from the BBC*

We hold information in response to this question however we are unable to disclose these documents as we consider this is exempt from disclosure under section 44 of the FOI Act. In particular, section 44(1)(a) of the FOI Act exempts disclosure of information if its disclosure is prohibited by or under any enactment. Section 393 of the Communications Act 2003 (“the Act”) prohibits the disclosure of information about a particular business which has been obtained in exercise of a power conferred by, among other legislation, the Act, so long as that business continues to be carried on, unless we have the consent of that business or one of the statutory gateways under section 393(2) of the Act is met, neither of which applies here. Section 44 of the FOI Act is an absolute exemption and therefore is not subject to a public interest test.

2. Any internal Ofcom briefings or notes that summarise the BBC’s responses or outline Ofcom’s assessment of the BBC’s compliance in relation to the broadcast.

Please see under Question 1.

3. Any documents relating to Ofcom’s consideration of whether to open a formal investigation into the broadcast, including decisions taken, reasons for those decisions, or next steps identified.

For clarity, I am not seeking copies of programme content or any material held solely for the purposes of journalism. My request relates strictly to Ofcom’s regulatory oversight, correspondence, and decision-making processes.”

We can neither confirm nor deny if we hold this information as to do so would fall under the exemption in section 44 of the FOI Act, as explained in our response to Question 1. It is likely that other exemptions would also apply to this information, if held.

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](#).