

Reference: 02171595

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

25 March 2026

Dear,

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information concerning Protocol Filtering under the Online Safety Act 2023.

We received this request on 6 March 2026 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Your request & our response

1. Any technical feasibility studies, risk assessments, or internal evaluations (from 1 January 2020 to the present) concerning the detection, classification, or blocking of obfuscated or mimicry-based encrypted protocols, including but not limited to: REALITY (Xray), VLESS, Hysteria 2, and NaiveProxy.

We do not hold this information.

2. Any internal documents or correspondence discussing the failure rates or limitations of automated scanning technologies (including perceptual hashing) when faced with client-side encrypted traffic that utilizes the aforementioned obfuscation techniques.

We do not hold this information.

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](#).