

Reference: 2133288

Information Requests

information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

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Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information about the utilisation of C-DSP reserved capacity on SSDAB Multiplexes.

We received this request on 19 January 2026 and we have considered it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the FOI Act').

Your request and our response

Can I please ask for a breakdown by multiplex of how many of the are using their reserved capacity for C-DSPs and how much un-utilitsated reserved capacity there is per multiplex.

We have investigated your request and can confirm we do not currently hold the information you have requested in a readily available format.

There are currently around 99 licences of this type. We would need to locate and review the information we hold on each of the licences to be able to produce the figures you have requested and we consider that this would take a substantial amount of time, roundly over 18hrs.

Section 12 of the FOI Act provides that we are not obliged to comply with a request for information if we estimate that the cost of complying with the request(s) would exceed the "appropriate limit". The appropriate limit is set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 (the "Regulations"), and is, for Ofcom, £450. That sum is intended to cover the estimated costs involved in determining whether Ofcom holds the information requested, locating, retrieving and extracting the information from any document containing it. The Regulations provide that costs are to be estimated at a rate of £25 per person per hour, which equates to 18 hours of time.

You can resubmit a narrower request, for example focusing on a few particular multiplexes, and we shall consider this under the FOI Act. However please note that given this information would relate to a business, we may not be able to disclose this under the FOI Act. Particularly section 44 of the FOI Act (which we explain below) prohibits the disclosure of information that we have obtained about a business.

Please also let me know how many / and which multiplexes have requested to reduce their reserved capacity (and by how much they requested, and what was agreed).

Please note that where we receive a request and approve it, we would publish this information on our website. We consider that any other information relating to the requests is exempt from disclosure under the FOI Act. In particular, section 44(1)(a) of the FOI Act exempts disclosure of information if its disclosure is prohibited under another enactment. Ofcom is prohibited under section 393 of the Communications Act 2003 ('the Communications Act') from disclosing information about a business which we have obtained in the course of exercising a power conferred by the Communications Act among others, unless we have the consent of that business or one of the statutory gateways under section 393(2) of the Communications Act is met, neither of which applies here. Section 44 is an absolute exemption and therefore is not subject to a public interest test.

Other exemptions under the FOI Act may also be applicable such as section 43.

Yours sincerely,

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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](#).