

Reference: 02293702

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

13 October 2026

Dear,

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information concerning Whistleblower Reports.

We received this request on 1 October 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, please provide:

- 1. The total number of whistleblowing reports/disclosures received by your organisation*
- 2. A breakdown of those whistleblower reports by type, using whatever definitions you use internally ie a breakdown of the types of offence that the whistle-blower report is about*

If possible, please provide the information broken down by individual years for the last five years with a year end of June 30. If this is not possible, please use any other year end used by the organisation.

If you cannot provide five years of data, please provide four years of data. If you cannot provide four years of data, please provide three years of data. If you cannot provide three years of data, please provide two years of data. If you cannot provide two years of data, please provide one year of data."

On 7 October 2026 you further clarified your request.

Point 1.

We are looking for the total number of external whistleblower reports made to your organisation.

If you can provide us a second, separate, number that includes whistleblower reports from employees of companies in your regulatory remit (ie prescribed persons) then please provide that.

Point 2.

In relation to the asking for "a breakdown of those whistleblower reports by type".

Please provide a breakdown of reports categorised by the nature of the concern raised in the whistleblower report."

Our response

Some information in scope of your request can be found here (towards end of the page)
<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/about-ofcom/corporate-policies/whistleblowing-disclosure>.

We do hold information regarding the nature of the concern raised in the whistleblower report but consider that this information is exempt from disclosure under the FOI Act, as such information could reveal identity of the whistleblower. In particular, section 40(2) of the FOI Act provides that personal information about persons other than the requester is exempt where, among other things, its disclosure would contravene any of the data protection principles in the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018. This includes the principle that personal data must be processed fairly and lawfully. Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption under the Act 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 Commission Office](#).