

Reference: 01712401

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

4 December 2023

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information concerning meetings with Vodafone over the last 12 months- subject and agenda. Your request was received on 6 November 2023 and we have considered it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the "FOI Act").

Your request

"could you please provide a list of meetings and the subject and agenda of these meetings between the Senior Management Team at Ofcom and representatives of Vodafone in the last 12 months?"

Our response

We confirm that there were meetings between members of Ofcom's Senior Management Team (SMT) and representatives of Vodafone occurring between 6 November 2022 and 6 November 2023 which we have identified as falling within the scope of this request.

Vodafone is one of the major telecom operators in the UK and as such Ofcom has met with them to discuss a variety of matters as part of its role as the telecoms regulator. We have found 20 meetings falling in scope of your request, including meetings that are regular catch-ups and meetings held to discuss specific matters we regulate where other industry stakeholders were also present.

However we are unable to provide details of what was discussed in these meetings as we consider that such information 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 (in this instance, Vodafone) 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 here.

If you have any further queries, then please send them to information.requests@ofcom.org.uk quoting the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

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If you are unhappy with the response you have received in relation to your request for information and/or consider that your request was refused without a reason valid under the law, you may ask for an internal review. If you ask us for an internal review of our decision, it will be subject to an independent review within Ofcom.

The following outcomes are possible:

- the original decision is upheld; or
- the original decision is reversed or modified.

Timing

If you wish to exercise your right to an internal review **you should contact us within two months of the date of this letter**. There is no statutory deadline for responding to internal reviews and it will depend upon the complexity of the case. However, we aim to conclude all such reviews within 20 working days, and up to 40 working days in exceptional cases. We will keep you informed of the progress of any such review. If you wish to request an internal review, you should contact information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Further information about this, and the internal review process can be found on the Information Commissioner's Office [here](#). Alternatively, the Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF