

Reference: 1769673

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

21 February 2024

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information about the Chief Executive's official diary appointments.

We received this request on 24 January 2024 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the FOI Act").

Your request

"I would like to see the diary for Melanie Dawes official appointments for the week of 22nd January 2024 to 27th January 2024, detailing all meetings in her official capacity as Chief Executive of Ofcom.

Where individuals are meeting with Ms Dawes as a representative of a company, and where you would seek to apply an exemption under DPA for individuals details, please list the companies which the representatives were meeting her on behalf of."

Our response

We have taken your request for official appointments to mean external meetings in the period 22 January to 27 January 2024, which we have listed below. By way of background the Chief Executive attends a number of internal meetings each week as part of her role, for example at Ofcom's Policy and Management Board.

Some of the information in scope of your request contains personal information. We consider that this information is exempt from disclosure, where reasonable to withhold this, under section 40(2) of the FOI Act. Section 40(2) 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 is an absolute exemption under the FOI Act and does not require a public interest test.

The official appointments undertaken by Melanie Dawes during the period requested were as follows:

- 22 January, Keith Williams, International Distributions Services
- 22 January, Tristia Harrison, TalkTalk Group
- 23 January, Arturo Béjar and representatives of the Molly Rose Foundation
- 23 January, FTSE Women Leaders panel discussion: Increasing women in leadership in the media industry at KPMG
- 24 January, various media appearances
- 24 January, Baroness Bertin, independent lead reviewer, Pornography Review
- 24 January, Ofcom Plan of Work London event

- 24 January, Neal Mohan, YouTube and Iain Bundred, YouTube
- 26 January, Alex Mahon, Channel 4
- 26 January, Lindsay Croisdale-Appleby, Ambassador and Head of the UK Mission to the European Union
- 26 January, Roberto Viola, DG CNECT

I hope this information is helpful. 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,

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](#).