

Reference: 1912195

Information Requests  
[information.requests@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:information.requests@ofcom.org.uk)

31 October 2024

## Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information about the use of our powers under section 101 of the Online Safety Act 2023 (“the OS Act”). We received this request on 24 October 2024 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“the FOI Act”).

### Your request and our response

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*“I’m writing in relation to the section 101 powers which took effect on 1 April.*

*As these have been in place for over six months, I was hoping you could share data on the number of:*

- *Information requests received by coroners since the powers took effect, and;*
- *Instances in which a section 101 notice has been issued.*

*I’d also appreciate a steer you can provide on when Ofcom intends to publish its response and next steps to the s101 powers part of the information gathering consultation that took place over this summer.”*

In considering your request we have interpreted ‘information requests received by coroners’ to mean notices which have been issued under paragraph 2 of schedule 5 to the Coroners and Justice Act 2009, section 17A of the Coroners Act (Northern Ireland) 1959 or any information request issued by a procurator fiscal in Scotland.

We have received four such information requests to date and have issued four notices under section 101 of the OS Act since the provision came into effect. These all related to the same coronial investigation.

Further information on Ofcom’s information gathering powers in connection with an investigation into the death of a child can be found on our website. [Ofcom's power to gather information relating to the death of a child - Ofcom](#)

We are planning to publish our statement on information gathering under the Online Safety regime and final guidance on our information powers in early 2025.

We hope this information is helpful. If you have any further queries, then please send them to [information.requests@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:information.requests@ofcom.org.uk) – quoting the reference number above in any future.

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](mailto: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](#).