

**Reference: 01907778** 

Information Requests information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

28 October 2024

### Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information concerning Fibre network data in Scotland.

We received this request on 17 October 2024 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the FOI Act").

### Your request

"I am writing enquire about the availability of data on fibre optic networks. We are carrying out some site selection exercises for data centres and the availability of resilient connections. Our area of interest is Scotland."

### Our response

We do not hold the information you have requested, however you may find the following of help.....

The Scottish Futures Trust (SFT) has done specific work on this topic. More information can be found here: <u>First class datacentre sites identified in new reports - News - Scottish Futures Trust</u>. (We understand the Host in Scotland initiative is no longer running, but the SFT may be the holders/owners of the information referred to in the web link.)

You may also find our <u>interactive data</u> useful, which we publish alongside our Connected Nations reports (annual and updates); the most recent is from <u>Spring 2024</u>. Anyone can go in and search the report by Nation (or local authority area) and by commercial coverage. This may provide a sense of where networks are available and the speeds.

The Planned Network Deployments publications, including data tables, can be found here: Connected Nations - Planned Network Deployments 2024.

Please note that our reports and outputs on fibre availability do not include 'leased lines' (the high-speed data connections used by large organisations) which may be of particular interest and relevance to you. For such information or availability, we would advise you to contact communications providers directly. You may also wish to familiarise yourself with Ofcom's <u>Telecoms Access Review work</u>, which will replace the current regulatory framework (which runs from 2021-26) in the Wholesale Fixed Telecoms Market Review. This includes regulation of leased line services.

If you have any further queries, then please send them to <a href="mailto:information.requests@ofcom.org.uk">information.requests@ofcom.org.uk</a> – 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.