

Reference: 1903837

Information Requests
information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

30 October 2024

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request about a consultation document. We received this request on 7 October 2024 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“the FOI Act”).

Your request

“A 91 page consultation document was produced by Ofcom 30/06/2008. Was there a concise version of this document produced? If there is please can i have a copy?”

The document also contains in Annex 5 a notification of proposed revocation of universal services 7 (USC7). Are there any other documents which refer to this between 2008 and 2024?”

Our response

In response to your first point, there is a summary at the front of the document in chapter 1: [Directory Info \(ofcom.org.uk\)](#). No separate concise version of the document was produced.

In response to your second point:

- The outcome of that consultation was later suspended pending the resolution of appeals of our decision on disputes raised by the Number and Conduit with respect to BT’s supply of directory information – the original dispute finding is here: [\(Microsoft Word - 2008 03 04 - Final Determinations non-confidential versio\205\) \(ofcom.org.uk\)](#)
- These determinations were appealed to the Competition Appeal Tribunal and subsequently the Court of Appeal, which made a reference to the Court of Justice of the European Union. The Court of Justice agreed with Ofcom that USC7 was unlawful because it was incompatible with the Universal Service Directive.
- In our [2021 consultation](#) on the telephony universal service we proposed to revoke USC7 (see chapter 4) and this was confirmed in our [June 2022 statement](#) (chapter 5).

We 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](#).