

References: 1952565

Information Requests information.requests@ofcom.org.uk

24 February 2025

Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information about breaches and fines to social media companies.

We received this request on 5 February 2025 and we have considered it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the FOI Act").

Your request

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Could you please provide the following information:

- 1. The number of recorded breaches of the Online Safety Act 2023 by social media companies since its enforcement.
- 2. The number of fines issued to social media companies for breaches of the Online Safety Act 2023, broken down by year if possible.
- 3. The total amount of fines levied on social media companies under the Online Safety Act 2023.
- 4. The highest individual fine issued and details of the breach that led to it.
- 5. The number of cases where a recorded breach did not result in a fine, and any reasons provided for this.
- 6. If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the cost limits identified in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act, please provide advice and assistance under Section 16 on how I may refine my request.

Our response

We can confirm that we do not hold this information.

The illegal content/child safety duties that would apply to these types of services do not take effect until March/July. We have therefore not recorded any breaches/fines under the Online Safety Act against social media services.

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.