

## OFCOM COMPLAINT - Britain's Newsroom on GB News - 21 August 2024

### Programme details

Programme title: Britain's Newsroom

Date of broadcast: 21 August 2024

Time of broadcast (24 hour clock): 10:09

Channel / station\*: GB News

### Your complaint

**Subject:** GB News hosts shared climate denial about the impact of carbon emissions on the climate and platformed misleading claims about YouGov polling on climate issues. This violated Ofcom rules 2.2 and 5.7, which cover accuracy and impartiality.

**Description:** On 21st August, GB News hosts Bev Turner and Dawn Neesom discussed a recent poll from YouGov showing public support for green energy policies. Turner read out a message from a viewer alleging that the poll is “flawed”, calling green energy “ridiculous” and “not environmentally friendly”. Turner expressed thanks to the viewer for this comment and then cast doubt herself that the science is “settled” that “carbon is killing the planet”. This is a rejection of the scientific consensus on the harmful impact of carbon emissions on the planet. Turner has made similar comments casting doubt on climate science before on GB News.

Neesom also cast doubt on the YouGov polling, claiming that “people don’t really understand what they’re being asked” and reading out another message from a viewer alleging that Labour are “over-egging the pudding to suit their stance”. This is not challenged by the hosts, who instead appear to agree with the sentiment.

The unscientific climate denial from Turner and Neesom’s casting of doubt on a poll supporting green policies both amount to violations of Ofcom rule 2.2 and 5.7. These require due accuracy, due impartiality and that “portrayals of factual matters must not materially mislead the audience”. The uncritical platforming of spurious allegations from viewers amount to similar violations of due accuracy and due impartiality.