



Licence Fee Unit

'Watchkeeper'  
request-15637-68c90011@whatdotheyknow.com

2 December 2009

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Request for Information – RFI 2009 1152**

Thank you for your email of 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2009. Your query was whether the BBC was justified in processing the data of people who do not have a television. My apologies for the long delay in replying to you. This delay was due to an administrative oversight.

Current estimates are that over 97 percent of UK households own a TV. In administrative terms therefore it makes sense for the BBC's working assumption to be that every UK household requires a license, and then 'discount' addresses where we are notified.

Notwithstanding this however, I can confirm that no-one is under any obligation to provide us with personal information. This is because it is the address that is licensed, not the individual. That said the absence of a name does not reduce liability. Enforcement measures are taken at addresses where they are necessary, irrespective of whether there is a name associated with that address or not.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Dan McGregor', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Dan McGregor  
**Senior Policy Adviser, TV Licensing Management Team**