

[NR

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From:
Sent:
Subject:

BBC Press Office
04 October 2012 10:26
CONFIDENTIAL News List - Thursday 4th October 2012



CONFIDENTIAL NEWS LIST - NOT FOR FORWARDING

Thursday 4th October 2012

Agreed lines on running issues and advance warning of anticipated BBC-related issues, events and announcements.

From the papers

Sir Jimmy Savile/ITV documentary

Many papers have reported that a former Radio 1 press officer, Rodney Collins, has alleged that he and the Controller of Radio 1 at the time were aware of rumours surrounding Jimmy Savile. Our position is: "The comments made by the former press officer reflect a conversation that he says he had in 1973 about allegations that the controller of Radio 1 had heard but he does not refer to any formal complaint having been made. The BBC has conducted searches of its files and has not found any record of allegations of misconduct by Jimmy Savile during his time at the BBC. We are now working with police forces to help them investigate these matters. We are also keeping our searches for information under review as and when new information comes to light."

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[S 40

[NIR]

From:
Sent:
Subject:

BBC Press Office
05 October 2012 10:39
CONFIDENTIAL News List - Friday 5th October 2012

BBC | Communications

CONFIDENTIAL NEWS LIST - NOT FOR FORWARDING

Friday 5th October 2012

Agreed lines on running issues and advance warning of anticipated BBC-related issues, events and announcements.

From the papers

[NIR]

Jimmy Savile/ITV documentary

There's continued coverage regarding the allegations made against Sir Jimmy Savile. The papers have noted that the Metropolitan Police will lead the inquiry into the allegations and have reflected the comments made by David Jordan, Director Editorial Policy and Standards, in a range of interviews that were conducted yesterday.

Events

[NIR]

[NIR]

[5.40

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ENR
From:
Sent:
To:
Subject:

Cs40 on behalf of BBC Press Office
06 October 2012 17:20
[NR]BBC Press Office; Paul Mylrea; Cs40 James Hardy; Cs40
17.01 - Digital Spy - Ex-BBC Radio 1 DJ Liz Kershaw: 'I was groped on air'

17.01 - Digital Spy - Ex-BBC Radio 1 DJ Liz Kershaw: 'I was groped on air'

Published Saturday, Oct 6 2012, 17:01 BST | By [Alison Rowley](#) | [Add comment](#)

Former BBC Radio 1 DJ Liz Kershaw has claimed that a fellow presenter "routinely groped" her while she worked at the station.

Kershaw also said that everyone working at the station in the '80s "joked about Jimmy Savile and young girls".

The 54-year-old - who currently presents a show on BBC Radio 6 Music - joined Radio 1 in 1987 and said that the station had thankfully transformed beyond recognition since the 1980s.

She described the past atmosphere at the studios as "intimidating" and told Radio 4's *Today* programme that she remembered an unnamed presenter fondling her breasts while she was live on the radio.

"I couldn't say anything, I couldn't even explain because I was broadcasting to the nation," she admitted.

"When I complained to somebody, they were incredulous, and said, 'Don't you like it? Are you a lesbian?'"

Kershaw - who began her career at Radio 1 around the time when Savile left the station - said: "The rumours were there, the jokes were there. It was an open secret.

"Round Radio 1 everyone joked about Jimmy Savile and young girls. The main jokes were about his adventures on the Radio 1 Roadshow. It was massive then.

"It was rather like *The X Factor* going round the country. Can you imagine the *X Factor* judges rounding up the contestants and asking for sexual favours after the show? I don't think so."

Kershaw - who joined the station from BBC local radio in West Yorkshire added: "When I walked into Radio 1 it was a culture I have never encountered before.

"I have always said it was like walking into a rugby club locker room and it was very intimidating for a young woman."

Upon hearing of Kershaw's claims, a BBC spokesman said: "We are shocked by allegations that anything of this sort could have been carried out by anyone working for the BBC.

"They are allegations which the police have the proper powers to investigate. We would encourage anyone with information on such issues to also speak to the police."

The ITV documentary which recently brought Savile's alleged past actions to light was watched by 1.72 million people on Wednesday (October 3).

Metropolitan Police have since confirmed that they have met officials from the BBC who were "fully co-operating with detectives" following the claims.

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[ENC]

From: Roger Mosey - Feedback
Sent: 08 October 2012 09:07
To: Roger Mosey - Feedback
Subject: My Monday message

This email is being sent from Roger Mosey to all staff in BBC Vision

Dear All,

The past week was dominated in the media by the revelations about Jimmy Savile. First, I want to congratulate ITV on their documentary exposing his appalling behaviour: it broke new ground and in particular we'd all want to support the women who courageously came forward to tell their story.

You'll have seen George's email urging staff to do everything to help the police investigation that's now underway. This morning on Radio 4 he also said the BBC will look into the issues once that police work is concluded. It's worth emphasising that this seems to be overwhelmingly about the entertainment industry and the BBC many years - indeed decades - ago; and we and the country have learned lessons about protecting vulnerable and younger people since then.

This is something I feel strongly about because I led the work on defining the BBC Values almost ten years ago; and the central tenets of the way we operate include respect for each other and our audiences - and zero tolerance of the kind of inappropriate behaviour that was much more widespread in society and in the workplace when people of my generation were starting out. What's vital is that we continue to live by those Values and that they underpin the culture of the BBC today, so that nobody ever again will have any fear about going to work or coming into contact with people who might abuse their trust.

One contemporary element of the story is about alleged attempts to stop Newsnight reporting on the Savile allegations last year. Let me be clear about this: both George and I, in our days as News programme editors, would have told anyone trying to influence our agendas to take a running jump. The independence of our journalism is non-negotiable.

NIR

Best wishes
Roger

Roger Mosey
Acting Director, BBC Vision

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From: BBC Press Office
Sent: 08 October 2012 10:42
To: (N) BBC Press Office; Communications - Domestic News; James Hardy; Es 40 1
Trust Unit Communications Team
Subject: BBC News - Jimmy Savile abuse claims: BBC pledges 'examination'

BBC News - Jimmy Savile abuse claims: BBC pledges 'examination'

The BBC has promised a "comprehensive examination" of allegations the late Sir Jimmy Savile sexually abused girls while working for the corporation.

Director General George Entwistle said all "outstanding questions" would be addressed - but only after "police had finished everything they have to do".

He also apologised to women involved "for what they've had to endure here".

A growing number of women have come forward over the weekend to say they were victims of the presenter.

Some have also spoken of a broader BBC culture which tolerated sexual harassment in the 1980s.

On Sunday, Prime Minister David Cameron called the Savile claims "truly shocking", and said the allegations needed to be "properly looked at, properly investigated" by the corporation itself.

Speaking on BBC Radio 4's Today programme, Mr Entwistle said: "The women involved here have gone through something awful, and something I deeply regret they should have had to go through, and I would like to apologise on behalf of the organisation to each and every one of them for what they've had to endure here.

"We need a comprehensive examination of what went on here," he said. But he added that criminal allegations at the heart of the case must first be investigated by police.

"The way to deal with those is to make sure the police - who are the only properly constituted authority for dealing with criminal investigations - are allowed to make the examinations and inquiries they need to make."

Mr Entwistle denied he was kicking an inquiry into the long grass and insisted he was "putting all the BBC's resources" at the disposal of the police.

"When the police have finished everything they have to do, and when they give me the assurance there is no danger of us in any way compromising or contaminating an investigation, I will take it further and ensure that any outstanding questions are answered properly," he said.

Particularly, the organisation would look at "the broad question of what was going on and whether anybody around Jimmy Savile knew what was going on".

The Metropolitan Police said last week it would be assessing allegations against Sir Jimmy but had not as yet launched an investigation.

Sexual assault claims

Sir Jimmy died in October 2011, at the age of 84.

The face of Top of the Pops in the 1960s, he hosted TV favourite Jim'll Fix It on BBC 1 in the 1970s and 1980s and was knighted in 1990 for his charity work.

But over the past week allegations have emerged about serious sexual assaults upon under-age girls at the height of his fame.

Some of the allegations - widely publicised in an ITV documentary about the former presenter - refer to incidents on BBC premises.

Mr Entwistle - former head of BBC Vision - has been facing fresh questions over whether a similar Newsnight report had been dropped because it was embarrassing to the BBC and would clash with a tribute to Sir Jimmy broadcast in Christmas 2011.

The director general told the Today programme he had been told about the report in December because of "possible implications for programming and scheduling decisions in Vision".

But he denied the Newsnight editor had been vulnerable to any influence on the matter, adding that he supported his judgement.

"He was not brought under any pressure from anybody in the management chain in his own division or elsewhere to make a different judgement than the one he made."

In an email to employees on Friday, Mr Entwistle said he was "appalled" by the claims.

Speaking on the BBC's Marr programme on Sunday, Mr Cameron said the allegations needed to be "properly looked at, properly investigated".

He added: "It seems to me it is very important that the organisation, the BBC, does that itself.

"But also, if there are questions that should be pursued by the police and other organisations, everyone has to ask themselves the question, 'Is there new evidence that needs to be looked at?'

"Are there new things as an organisation we should look at and examine?"

The corporation also faces fresh questions about whether staff turned a blind eye to a broader culture of harassment of women at work.

On Saturday, former BBC Radio 1 DJ Liz Kershaw said she had been regularly fondled in the 1980s by another colleague, who she did not name.

And on Sunday, comedian Sandi Toksvig says she was groped by a "famous individual" while she was broadcasting in the 1980s.

Ms Toksvig, 54, did not indicate where she was working at the time but said when she told staff "everybody thought it was amusing".

Meanwhile, it has also emerged that the Jimmy Savile Charitable Trust is considering changing its name.

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