



Information Policy & Compliance
bbc.co.uk/foi bbc.co.uk/privacy

Philip Rapier
request-306727-f1562364@whatdotheyknow.com

17 December 2015

Dear Mr Rapier,

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – RFI20152112

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act ('the Act') of 10 December 2015, seeking:

“Please provide the number of F.O.I. requests that have been declined under Section 43 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act for the last three audited years available where the substantive reason given for decline by the BBC is to preserve the commercial confidentiality of the Corporation's and others Employment and Recruitment Practices. Please also provide the combined total number of all other requests the Corporation has declined in each relevant year information has been provided for comparison purposes.”

I estimate that to deal with your request would take more than two and a half days; under section 12 of the Act, we are allowed to refuse to handle the request if it would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit has been set by the Regulations (SI 2004/3244) as being £450 (equivalent to two and a half days work, at an hourly rate of £25). This is because we do not log the substantive reason for citing section 43(2) on our FOI case management system.

From our records, we can see that we have cited section 43(2) in more than 200 cases over the last three years. We would need to go back into each request and review these individually in order to be able to answer your request fully.

If you would like to submit a narrowed request, we would be happy to consider it. For example you may consider narrowing your request to a smaller time period.

You may request an internal review of our decision that your request exceeds the appropriate limit. Please contact us at the address above, explaining what you would like us to review and including your reference number. If you are not satisfied with the internal review, you can appeal to the Information Commissioner. The contact details are: Information Commissioner's Office,

Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF, telephone 01625 545 700 or see www.ico.org.uk.

Yours sincerely,

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