



Information Rights

bbc.co.uk/foi bbc.co.uk/privacy

Mr Scott

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30 July 2019

Dear Mr Scott

Request for Information – RFI20191114

Thank you for your request to the BBC of 1st July 2019 under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act') seeking the following information:

- “1) Is having a Television Licence a requirement for employment anywhere at the BBC? Please list the departments where a valid Licence is required at your home address to gain employment.*
- 2) In particular, does one need to have a Television Licence to gain employment within the Television Licensing enforcement division, currently outsourced to Capita? I ask with particular interest when it comes to becoming an Enforcement Officer.*
- 3) Is there any kind of employee or contractor discount for a Television Licence for those employed by the BBC or their contractors?*

Please note that “TV Licensing” is a trade mark used by companies contracted by the BBC to administer the collection of television licence fees and enforcement of the television licensing system. The majority of the administration of TV Licensing is contracted to Capita Business Services Ltd ('Capita'). Over-the-counter services are provided by PayPoint plc ('PayPoint') in the UK, and by the Post Office in the Isle of Man and Channel Islands. Target Group ('Target') is the supplier for the Simple Payment Plan trial. Marketing and printing services are contracted to Proximity London Ltd. Media services are contracted to Media Planning Limited trading as Havas Media UK. The BBC is a public authority in respect of its television licensing functions and retains overall responsibility.

Please be advised the Act gives a general right of access to all types of recorded information held by public authorities; and that we are not required to create new information to respond to a request, or give a judgement or opinion that is not already recorded. Whilst these are queries rather than requests for recorded information, I can tell you outside the scope of the Act that the requirement to hold a TV Licence and to pay a fee for it is mandated by law under the

Communications Act 2003 and Communications (Television Licensing) Regulations 2004 (as amended): You need to be covered by a TV Licence to watch or record programmes as they're being shown on TV or live on an online TV service download or watch BBC programmes on iPlayer.

I can confirm that BBC staff are not eligible for a free TV Licence or a reduced fee licence by virtue of the fact they work for the BBC. This applies to BBC suppliers and their employees.

Appeal Rights

If you are not satisfied that we have complied with the Act in responding to your request, you have the right to an internal review by a BBC senior manager or legal adviser. 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, Tel: 0303 123 1113 or see <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely

Rupinder Panesar

Freedom of Information Advisor, TV Licensing Management Team

