



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

Richard Card

Via email: request-266182-90677e5c@whatdotheyknow.com

30th June 2015

Dear Mr Card,

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – RFI20150934

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act ('the Act') of 12th June 2015, seeking:

"I have completed my submission to Child Sexual Abuse Inquiry now and it was filed 2nd June 2015

I suggested that you fwd the FOI to Dame Janet SMITH that is still a request. I am not asking Dame Janet to respond to FOI. But she should as a courtesy be made aware of SAVILE history of abuse at Sue RYDER child hospice and that she should recall Sue Ryder Homes, Leonard Cheshire Homes and the Beeches Ixworth child care home being put to her Harold Shipman Inquiry deliberations about death registration malpractice.

In 1976 I was threatened with Official Secrets Act charges as a DHSS civil servant re the excellent 1975 Panorama. That means OSA action had been sanctioned by minister Barbara CASTLE (her special advisor Jack STRAW non practising barrister) and Attorney General. The dog that didn't bark at the Panorama expose was MIND a charity at which serial child abuser Peter RIGHTON was an executive. From PIE of Islington where CASTLE, STRAW and HODGE were also based.

As you know the Beeches Ixworth (six years of uninvestigated child deaths in Islington and Hackney care) adjoins the notorious Henniker estate home of Henniker and Rightons abusive Islington Suffolk project.

Ironically Jack Straw re theft of Norman Scott's DHSS records to get arm on Jeremy Thorpe now bleats Official Secrets Act as a smokescreen to be silent about his own role at the time vis a vis OSA.

Please disclose whether you have records that the 1975 Panorama broadcast is archived and whether a copy has been disclosed to the Child Sexual Abuse Inquiry."

The Dame Janet Smith Review was established in October 2012 by the BBC to conduct an impartial, thorough and independent review of the culture and practices of the BBC during the years that Jimmy Savile worked there. The Review will be publishing its findings in due course. Under section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act, information is exempt if the information is held by the public authority with a view to its publication, by the authority or any other person, at some future date (whether determined or not).

As section 22 is a qualified exemption, I am required under s 2(2) of the Act to assess whether the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information ahead of the planned schedule.

In favour of release we considered that there is generally a public interest in increasing the accountability and transparency of publicly-funded organisations. However, we do not consider that there is a particular public interest in the early release of this information.

The Metropolitan Police has told the Review that it is concerned that publication of the Report now could prejudice its ongoing investigations into sexual abuse.

Furthermore, it is in the public interest that this information should be disclosed to all licence-fee payers at the same time, rather than provided in advance to one individual.

I am therefore satisfied, in terms of section 2 of the Act, that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information ahead of schedule.

Further information regarding the Dame Janet Smith Review can be found at the following website: <http://www.damejanetsmithreview.com/updates/>

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, telephone 01625 545 745 or see www.ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

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