



Information Rights

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

David Wales

request-708604-4e99aa2d@whatdotheyknow.com

22 December 2020

Dear David Wales,

Freedom of Information request – RFI20201839

Thank you for your request to the BBC of 24 November 2020 seeking the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'):

“could you please tell me if the BBC received approximately £5 million pounds from the Bill Gates foundation in 2019. Thankyou.”

The BBC is funded through the licence fee and may only take funding for content from limited exceptions that conform to Clause 49 of the BBC Framework Agreement. We can confirm that it does not receive income from Bill Gates or his associated companies.

As set out in section 6(1)(b)(ii) of the Act, our subsidiaries (including BBC Studioworks Limited, UKTV, BBC Global News Ltd and BBC Studios Ltd), as well as the charities BBC Media Action and BBC Children in Need, are not subject to the Act. Therefore information regarding their activities is also not subject to the Act.

However, we can confirm that the Gates Foundation have provided funding to BBC Media Action. BBC Media Action is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. As an independent charity, it receives funding from institutions, foundations, corporate and individual donors to carry out life-saving and life-changing work. It does not receive any Licence Fee funding. BBC Media Action's accounts are publicly available at Companies House, the Charities Commission and on our website. You will also find information about how the work is funded at the following link:

<http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/mediaaction/annualreports/2019-2020.pdf>

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. A request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of receiving the BBC's response to your original request.

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,

Information Rights

BBC Freedom of Information
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