



Information Policy & Compliance  
[bbc.co.uk/foi](http://bbc.co.uk/foi)      [bbc.co.uk/privacy](http://bbc.co.uk/privacy)

Peter Price  
e-mail: [request-297424-961b4988@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-297424-961b4988@whatdotheyknow.com)

20 November 2015

Dear Mr Price,

### **Freedom of Information Request - RFI20151748**

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act) dated 18 October, seeking the following information:

*'Please supply dates of all days on which Alan Yentob worked for the organisation in his role as Creative Director from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2015 to 12<sup>th</sup> October 2015.'*

Mr Yentob has a role as Presenter, Imagine as well as his role as Creative Director. Due to the nature of both these roles, he is often required to work in either role on any one day. In addition, Mr Yentob works a large number of evenings and weekends on behalf of both roles.

Mr Yentob is happy to volunteer on this occasion that during the period requested, he was on leave from August 7<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>, August 28<sup>th</sup>, and September 18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>.

Information regarding the dates of Mr Yentob's programme making activities are excluded from the Act because it is held for the purposes of 'journalism, art or literature.' The BBC is therefore not obliged to provide this information to you and will not be doing so on this occasion. Part VI of Schedule 1 to FOIA provides that information held by the BBC and the other public service broadcasters is only covered by the Act if it is held for 'purposes *other* than those of journalism, art or literature'. The BBC is not required to supply information held for the purposes of creating the BBC's output or information that supports and is closely associated with these creative activities.<sup>1</sup>

The limited application of the Act to public service broadcasters was to protect freedom of expression and the rights of the media under Article 10 European Convention on Human Rights ("ECHR"). The BBC, as a media organisation, is under a duty to impart information and ideas on

---

all matters of public interest and the importance of this function has been recognised by the European Court of Human Rights. Maintaining our editorial independence is a crucial factor in enabling the media to fulfil this function.

However, we can confirm that Mr Yentob spent 18 full working days during the period requested filming for the Imagine series. This was a higher ratio than usual, as the new series of Imagine was about to launch.

Please accept our apologies for the delay in providing you with this response.

### **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 (local rate) or 01625 545 745 (national rate) or see <http://www.ico.gov.uk/>.

Yours sincerely

Information Policy & Compliance

