



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

Darren Clarke
Via email: request-221201-d24b2336@whatdotheyknow.com

15th August 2014

Dear Mr Clarke

Request for Information – RFI20141208

Thank you for your request of 22nd July 2014 under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act') seeking the following information:

"can you please tell me why, even when I tell the TV inspector that I do not have a tv or need a licence, my word isn't good enough for you,

But if I say I have a tv and buy a licence, no one comes around to check that I actually have a tv

Why should I allow a stranger to walk around my house, who turns up with out an appointment,

Are these inspector trained police officers, as I have had one try and read me my rights and tell me he was going to get me arrest for not allowing him to the property"

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. Marketing and printing services are contracted to Proximity London Ltd. Media services are contracted to Mediaedge:CIA International Limited ("MEC"). The BBC is a public authority in respect of its television licensing functions and retains overall responsibility.

I shall address your requests in turn below.

Question 1

Please be advised that the Act gives a general right of access to all types of recorded information held by public authorities. As this is not a request for recorded information; and we are not required to create new information to respond to a request, or give a judgement or opinion that is not already recorded - we will not be providing a response to this question.

However, please note that TV Licensing reserves the right to visit addresses that have made an No Licence Needed declaration to confirm that there is no television in use at that address or that television receiving equipment at the address is not used to receive television programme services. In 2013-14 when we visited people who told us that they did not need a TV Licence, almost one in five of those we made contact with was found to need a licence.

Questions 2 and 3

These are not requests for recorded information and therefore we will not be providing a response to these questions.

Question 4

Recorded information relevant to this question is available on the TV Licensing website at the following web-link under the heading "*Do enquiry officers have the same powers as police?*":

<http://www.tvlicensing.co.uk/about/foi-administering-the-licence-fee-AB20>

Appeal Rights

If you are not satisfied that the BBC has 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 under the Act 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 SK9 5AF. Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or 01625 545 745 (national rate) or see <http://www.ico.gov.uk/>.

Kind regards

Rupinder Panesar

Freedom of Information Advisor, TV Licensing Management Team

