



Information Rights

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

Abdul Hai
request-734129-3c0c7fc8@whatdotheyknow.com

7 April 2021

Dear Abdul,

Freedom of Information request – RFI20210408

Thank you for your request to the BBC of 7 March 2021 seeking the following information under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000:

Since 2016 how much have you spent per year in advertising jobs in The Guardian?

In response to your request, there is no central record of advertising with The Guardian. In order to respond in full to your request the BBC would need to carry out a search of all departments across the BBC to investigate any purchase orders raised for advertising jobs in The Guardian over a six year period. We estimate that to carry out this search would take more than two and a half days. Under section 12 of the Act, we are allowed to refuse to handle the request if it would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit has been set by the Regulations (SI 2004/3244) as being £450 (equivalent to two and a half days work, at an hourly rate of £25).

We are mindful of our duty under section 16 of the Act to provide reasonable advice and assistance to you, and specifically to advise how you might narrow your request so that it complies with the time limit. We are however concerned that, because of the way the BBC holds the information that you request, it is not possible to suggest any meaningful way of narrowing. For example, even if the search were to be narrowed to a single year the amount of information that would need to be searched would still be very large.

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. As such, information relating to these entities is not considered in the above 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. 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,

BBC HR