



Information Rights

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

A Willmore

request-830443-5bd44a00@whatdotheyknow.com

1st March 2022

Dear A Willmore,

Freedom of Information Request - RFI20220261

Thank you for your request to the BBC of 5th February 2022 seeking the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'):

I refer to Spectator article <https://www.spectator.co.uk/article/bbc-pol-ed-frontrunner-s-thousand-dollar-bash> headlined "BBC political editor frontrunner's thousand-dollar bash" and a tweet from Mr Sopel (<https://twitter.com/BBCJonSopel/status/1462996005956292614>) dated November 23rd 2021 that states "Thank you ^[LRI]@KarenPierceUK^[PDI] for the wonderful send off tonight from ^[LRI]@UKinUSA^[PDI] - great evening with so many good friends. And I'm sure that is a glass of water I'm holding...."

Please provide the following information:

- 1) How accurate is the sum of \$1000 stated by The Spectator?*
- 2) Who paid the \$1000 or the sum involved?*
- 3) How "many good friends" attended the event?*
- 4) Who were they?*
- 5) What Covid-related social distancing measures were in place?*

Under section 1(1) of the Act, we can confirm that the BBC does not hold this information.

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

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BBC Legal