

Information Rights

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

Mr A Willmore

request-681161-3adb02c9@whatdotheyknow.com

28 August 2020

Dear Mr A Willmore,

Freedom of Information request - RFI20201126

Thank you for your request to the BBC of 2nd of August 2020 seeking the following information under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000:

The rewards and benefits of having a career with the BBC are set out plainly on this page https://www.bbc.co.uk/careers/why-join-us/rewards-and-benefits which states "Every year we get to choose from a range of great tax-free benefits" and includes such benefits as childcare vouchers, health screening and private medical or dental cover.

I would like you to send me, please, the following information:

- 1) The number of BBC staff receiving monthly wine deliveries at any time during 2019.
- 2) For the month of December 2019 only, the number of wine deliveries made to BBC staff under this scheme.
- 2) For the month of December 2019 only, the direct cost to the BBC of the wine and the deliveries.

<u>In response to your first and second question</u>; please see the table below of active members of the wine delivery scheme across the calendar year of 2019. Please note we do not know whether individuals received an actual delivery in that month; only that they have elected to join the scheme and have regular deductions from salary.

	Active Members
January	20
February	20
March	21
April	23
May	23
June	23
July	23

August	22
September	22
October	22
November	21
December	22

With regard to your third question; there were no direct costs to the BBC in providing this benefit.

Please note, that the BBC, like many other employees, provide a range of voluntary benefits and discounts in line with legislation and market practice to employees as part of its overall reward offering. Individuals pay for the benefits themselves by way of a deduction from their salary. There is no direct cost to the BBC. The wine delivery benefit has no tax advantages to the employee with deductions from net salary. The BBC reviews the benefits offered from time to time and took the decision to close the wine scheme with effect from 1st April 2020.

We have not been able to access the link you've provided. The information quoted regarding Health Screenings, Private Medical and Dental Cover is outdated. The current information is here (https://www.bbc.co.uk/careers/why-join-us)

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