



Information Policy & Compliance

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

James McWilliam

e-mail: request-471063-1c0c1ec5@whatdotheyknow.com

16 April 2018

Dear Mr McWilliams

Freedom of Information Request - RF120180476

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act) received on 14th March 2018, seeking the following information:

Please tell me how many of your staff are currently listed on the sex offenders' register?

Please include all categories of staff, both permanent and temporary.

Where we are legally entitled to undertake a criminal record check through the appropriate agency (such as the Disclosure and Barring Service in England and Wales), this is undertaken as part of the recruitment process or following a risk assessment that identifies a regulated activity is to be undertaken or the exceptions of the Act are met. The outcome of this process is used to make a decision about the suitability of the individual in undertaking this role. This information is sensitive personal data and is managed in accordance with the BBC Data Protection policy.

Each Division within the BBC has a Child Protection Adviser who acts as a point of contact for all child protection concerns. All Child Protection Advisers have received training in safeguarding to support them in this role and the BBC's policy requires all staff (whether employees, contractors or freelancers) to share any safeguarding concerns with Advisers and also to record their concerns on the BBC's online Child Protection Form within 24 hours. Each Division also has a DBS lead representative/Disclosure Scotland signatory to advise which positions require a DBS/Protection of Vulnerable Groups check, or completion of the BBC Personal Disclosure Form.'

If you would like to read the BBC Child Protection Policy, a copy can be found at the following link:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/aboutthebbc/insidethebbc/howwework/policiesandguidelines/child_protection.html

Information about criminal convictions may be stored on an employee's personal file if the BBC becomes aware of a criminal conviction during the course of employment i.e. where a DBS/PVG check has been requested. However, the BBC does not compile a central record of such convictions.

In order to respond in full to your request the BBC would need to check each individual staff employee file. As there are over c18,000 staff currently employed by the BBC we estimate that to carry out this search would take more than two and a half days. Furthermore, we would also have to additionally check the records of those engaged by the BBC as freelancers, of which there are approx. 10,000 per annum. 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).

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

BBC People