



Information Policy & Compliance

[bbc.co.uk/foi](http://bbc.co.uk/foi)      [bbc.co.uk/privacy](http://bbc.co.uk/privacy)

Samantha

By email to: [request-135730-7251b981@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-135730-7251b981@whatdotheyknow.com)

22 November 2012

Dear Samantha,

**Request for Information – RFI20121184**

Thank you for your request of 29<sup>th</sup> October 2012 under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act') seeking the following information:

*"1) What does the £145.50 TV licence actually pay for?*

*2) Can you provide a break down of how it is spent?*

*3) How much is profit?"*

Please note that "TV Licensing" is a trade mark of the BBC and is used under licence 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 mainland and Northern Ireland, 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.

Firstly, I should explain that the cost of a colour TV Licence is £145.50 and the cost of a black and white TV Licence is £49.50. The BBC does not make a profit as it is not a commercial organisation. It uses its income from the TV Licence fee to pay for its TV, radio and online services, plus other costs including running costs, investment in new technology and collecting the TV Licence fee.

The information you have requested is published in the BBC's Annual Report and Accounts, and is therefore already in the public domain. The latest Annual Report (2011-12) is available on the BBC website at:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/annualreport/download/>

The following link to the Full Financial Statements section of the Annual Report provides a detailed overview of the BBC's income during 2011-12 and a breakdown of how this was spent:

[http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/annualreport/pdf/bbc\\_ar\\_online\\_2011\\_12.pdf](http://downloads.bbc.co.uk/annualreport/pdf/bbc_ar_online_2011_12.pdf)

### **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, Cheshire SK9 5AF, telephone 01625 545 700 or see <http://www.ico.gov.uk/>.

Kind regards

Rupinder Panesar

**Freedom of Information Advisor, TV Licensing Management Team**

