



Information Rights

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

Peter Astbury

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14 October 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

Request for Information – RFI2021450

Thank you for your request to the BBC of 16th September 2021 under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act') seeking the following information:

"I would like to know about the equipment issued to agents carrying out compliance visits and inspections to private residences. Specifically:

- 1) Do they carry any audio/visual recording equipment, such as cameras, microphones, etc?*
- 2) What electronic devices are they issued with?*

Where held please include model numbers of any devices or equipment.

I would also like copies of any guidance issued to enforcement agents or inspectors regarding the use of such equipment."

Please note that "TV Licensing" is a trade mark used 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 Limited ('Capita'). Over-the-counter services are provided by PayPoint plc ('PayPoint') in the UK, and by the Post Office in the Isle of Man and Channel Islands. Target Group Limited ('Target') is the supplier for the Simple Payment Plan. Marketing and printing services are contracted to RAPP Limited (formerly Proximity London Limited). Media services are contracted to Havas Media Limited. The BBC is a public authority in respect of its television licensing functions and retains overall responsibility.

Please be advised that the Act gives a general right of access to all types of recorded information held by public authorities; and that we are not required to create new information to respond to a request, or give a judgement or opinion that is not already recorded.

TV Licensing visiting officers are engaged by Capita, a company contracted by the BBC to administer the television licensing system. I can confirm that visiting officers are not currently issued with any audio/visual equipment in connection with their enforcement duties. Visiting officers are issued with work mobile telephones which are used solely for communication purposes.

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

Rupinder Panesar

Freedom of Information Advisor, TV Licensing Management Team

