

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Decision notice

Date: 3 December 2024

Public Authority: British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC)

Address: BBC Broadcasting House
Portland Place
London
W1A 1AA

Request:

The complainant requested the following information from the British Broadcasting Corporation on 20 August 2024:

"I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from the BBC, regarding Strictly Come Dancing.

1. How many cases have been opened by the BBC's Corporate Investigations team and/or the Support at Work team within the last 10 years about the alleged conduct of anyone participating either as a professional dancer, or as a celebrity dancer on Strictly Come Dancing, in connection with their engagement on the show? If it is not possible to provide this information, within the cost limit, please could you provide the information for the last 5 years?
2. Please describe exactly what the alleged conduct in the above cases involved, e.g. bullying, harassment?
3. What was the outcome of any of the above internal cases / investigations?

4. Has there been any police involvement relating to any of the above cases? If yes, what was the conclusion?

If it is not possible to provide this information based on the time required to do so exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.

I would like to request to see this data as I believe it is in the public interest.”

Commissioner’s Decision:

A public authority will breach section 10 of FOIA if it fails to respond to a request within 20 working days. Based on evidence available to the Commissioner, by the date of this notice the public authority has not issued a substantive response to this request. Therefore the Commissioner finds a breach of section 10.

Steps:

The public authority must provide a substantive response to the request in accordance with its obligations under FOIA.

The public authority must take this step within 30 calendar days of the date of this decision notice. Failure to comply may result in the Commissioner making written certification of this fact to the High Court pursuant to section 54 of FOIA and may be dealt with as a contempt of court.

Right of Appeal:

Either party has the right to appeal against this decision notice to the First-tier Tribunal (Information Rights). Information about the appeals process may be obtained from:

First-tier Tribunal (Information Rights)
GRC & GRP Tribunals,
PO Box 9300,
LEICESTER,
LE1 8DJ

Tel: 0203 936 8963

Fax: 0870 739 5836

Email: grc@justice.gov.uk

Website: www.justice.gov.uk/tribunals/general-regulatory-chamber

Any Notice of Appeal should be served on the Tribunal within 28 (calendar) days of the date on which this decision notice is sent.

**Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF**