

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 12 August 2024:

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

1. Any correspondence sent by Tim Davie, [redacted names] including the name Huw Edwards between 8 November 2023 and 31 December 2023.

2. For any meetings between Tim Davie, [redacted names] regarding the arrest of Huw Edwards, please could I request:

- A full list of attendees, including full names and titles as well as who the attendee represents
- A copy of the meeting agenda
- Meeting notes/minutes taken during the meeting, as well as any briefing notes and papers
- Any correspondence associated with the attendees, including debriefs of the meeting via email or other forms of communication.

3. The BBC asked Huw Edwards after his arrest, whether he was guilty. We would like to see that exchange, including his response.

I have put some questions in order of priority. If this request is likely to go over cost limits, please prioritise the questions in the order submitted, with number 1 being the highest priority.

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**