



Information Policy & Compliance  
[bbc.co.uk/foi](http://bbc.co.uk/foi)

Mr Matthew Davis

Email - [newsdesk@datanews.co.uk](mailto:newsdesk@datanews.co.uk)

6 October 2011

Dear Mr Davis,

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000 – second response to RF120111078**

Thank you for email dated 21 September 2011 seeking clarification of the previous request (RF120111078) you made under the Freedom of Information Act ('the Act'). Please accept my apologies for the slight delay in responding to you.

I have copied the relevant parts of your email below:

*"In a previous Freedom of Information Act response (REF: 20110803) you state that 12 tickets were given away by the BBC for use on Centre Court on the final day of the championships. Please state **who** these 12 tickets were given to.*

*Your reply was rather general in saying that they were given on merit but did not name those who received them. Please would you reconsider your reply and include the names of those who received the 12 tickets to the final day of Wimbledon. Where those individuals took a guest I would not expect the guest to be named. If possible I would appreciate, where the individual is a BBC staff member, you give consideration to identifying what their position within the organisation is. (Mindful of the S40 exemption)"*

To recap, the previous response I sent to you on 7 September 2011 noted that:

*Our records indicate that the twelve tickets for Centre Court on the last day of the Championships were allocated for use as a reward for staff and contributors to BBC Sport. The tickets were handed out based on merit - for example, to some of the BBC's Sony award winning production team for the Ryder Cup (plus guests).*

Following your request I have investigated what records the BBC has regarding the twelve tickets allocated for use as a staff reward:-

- The twelve tickets were allocated to the Head of Radio Sport, Gordon Turnbull for use as staff reward for staff and contributors of the BBC's Radio Sport department.

- Six tickets went to three members of the 5 live Sport 'Ryder Cup' production team. I can confirm that the individuals were senior members of the production team with significant responsibility for the programme output. However, under Section 40 of the Act we are withholding this information because it constitutes personal information. Personal information about living individuals is exempt under the Freedom of Information Act if disclosure to a third party would breach one or more principles of the Data Protection Act 1998. As individuals who work at the BBC do not expect information about performance-related reward they receive to be disclosed, to do so would be unfair; therefore, disclosure would breach the First Data Protection Principle, fairness.
- The other 6 tickets were subsequently returned by the Head of Radio Sport as they were no longer required. As noted in my first letter dated 26 July 2011, "*Some of the complimentary tickets only become available at short notice (for example, due to the intended recipients no longer requiring them). These tickets are placed in a pool for re-distribution by production teams and senior staff members. The recipients of these tickets are therefore not included [in the names listed above].*"
- The BBC does not keep written records of all the recipients of tickets that are returned and placed in the pool for re-distribution. However, on this occasion there is a record that 2 tickets were provided to each of the following: Bernie Ecclestone (President of Formula One Management), Steve Aldous (freelance producer) and Jonathan Brookes (McLaren Racing).

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

Yours sincerely,

Neil Land  
Chief Adviser & Business Manager, BBC Sport