

Thank you for your request to the BBC dated 25 August 2023 seeking the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'):

*"I request all information - including but not limited to emails, letters and documents - between BBC Scotland and the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association relating to the World Pipe Band Championships 2023. Specially, if there has been any communication between the RSPBA and the BBC regarding the removal of Nat Russell's piping results from the Grade 1 competition that could have potentially altered the final result, and seen Field Marshall Montgomery crowned champions. Additionally, has this information been shared with the BBC and will it be covered in your highlight programme.*

*Date rangers for this FOI should likely consider January 1st 2023 up to and including todays date, but please do not limit yourself to these date ranges should there be pertinent information related to the above."*

If held, the information you have requested is held for the purposes of 'art, journalism or literature'. The FOI Act provides that the BBC is not obliged to disclose this type of information and we will therefore not be disclosing any information requested by you on this occasion.

### **Information held for the purposes of art, journalism or literature by the BBC**

Information that relates to the BBC's output, or information that supports and is closely associated with these creative activities, is considered to be held by the BBC for the purposes of art, journalism or literature. Such information held by the BBC and other public service broadcasters falls outside the scope of the FOI Act.

The limited application of the FOI Act described above recognises that the BBC and other public service broadcasters can preserve their independence by ensuring information about matters

including editorial decisions about programming and budgets allocated to such programming, are not subject to undue public scrutiny. It is important that the BBC is an independent and impartial news organisation.

We have also attached a more detailed explanation of how the FOI Act applies to the BBC and other public service broadcasters which we hope you will find helpful.

## **Appeal Rights**

The BBC does not offer an internal review when the information requested is not covered by the Act. If you disagree with our decision you can appeal to the Information Commissioner. Contact details are: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF, tel: 0303 123 1113 or see <http://www.ico.org.uk>

Please note that should the Information Commissioner's Office decide that the Act does cover this information, exemptions under the Act might then apply.

Yours sincerely,

Information Rights  
**BBC Legal**