

Complaints to the BBC

This fortnightly report for the BBC complaints service¹ shows for the periods covered:

- the number of complaints about programmes and those which received more than 100² at Stage 1 (Audience Services);
- findings of subsequent investigations made at Stage 2 (by the Executive Complaints Unit)³;
- the percentage of all complaints dealt with within the target periods for each stage.

NB: Figures include, but are not limited to, editorial complaints, and are not comparable with complaint figures published by Ofcom about other broadcasters (which are calculated on a different basis). The number of complaints received is not an indication of how serious an issue is.

Stage 1 complaints

Between 07 – 20 September 2026, BBC Audience Services (Stage 1) received a total of **2,749** complaints about programmes. **6,311** complaints in total were received at Stage 1.

BBC programmes receiving more than 100² complaints during this period:

Programme	Service	Date of Transmission	Main Issue(s)	Number of Complaints
Today	BBC Radio 4	10/09/26	Emma Barnett's interview with Kemi Badenoch was aggressive and biased against Badenoch.	155
Today	BBC Radio 4	09/09/26	Inappropriate that Justin Webb questioned Ed Miliband on his Jewish heritage during an interview on UK sanctions of settlements in the West Bank.	138

93% of all complaints dealt with between 07 – 20 September 2026 received an initial response within the stage 1 target period of 10 working days.

Recent BBC public responses to significant complaints at Stage 1 are published at:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/complaints/complaint/>

Stage 2 complaints – Executive Complaints Unit (ECU)

¹ Full details of the service are in the [BBC Complaints Framework and Procedures](#) document.

² As defined in the [BBC Complaints Framework and Procedures](#) and regulated under [Ofcom's Broadcasting Code](#).

³ Excluding investigations of online material outside Ofcom's remit.

The Executive Complaints Unit made 13 findings at Stage 2 between 07 – 20 September 2026. Highlighted text links to published findings⁴. Other recently published findings can be found here: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/complaints/comp-reports/ecu/>

Programme	Service	Date of Transmission	Issue	Outcome
Have I Got News for You	BBC One	07/11/2025	Offence x2	Upheld
The Nolan Show	Radio Ulster	22/07/2026	Unfair to complainant	Resolved
Scottish Premiership Football	Radio 5 Live	16/05/2026	Inaccuracy about pitch invasion	Upheld
Eurovision Song Contest	BBC One	14/05/2026	Inappropriate song pre-watershed	Not upheld
The World at One	Radio 4	27/05/2026	Pro-Palestinian bias	Not upheld
File on 4 Investigates	Radio 4	16/06/2026	Inaccurate about Church of England and slavery	Not upheld
Prayer and Reflection	BBC One	19/07/2026	Objected to extract from Qu'ran	Not upheld
Question Time	BBC One	26/06/2026	Excessive air-time for Reform panellist	Not upheld
News (12.30pm)	Radio 6 Music	21/07/2026	Insufficient information about Institute of Economic Affairs	Not upheld
BBC News (10pm)	BBC One	28/08/2026	Distressing images of animal cruelty	Not upheld
Illuminated: Tarot and the Art of Creativity	Radio 4	17/05/2026	Promotion of the occult	Not upheld
Newsnight	BBC Two	28/07/2026	Inappropriate to include comment from Reform	Not upheld

77% of complaints (10 out of 13) dealt with between 07 – 20 September 2026 received a response within the target time.

⁴ These include all upheld, partly-upheld and resolved findings, all not-upheld findings concerning impartiality and accuracy and all findings where there were more than 100 complaints about the same issue at Stage 1.