

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 23 February – 08 March 2026, BBC Audience Services (Stage 1) received a total of **4,297** complaints about programmes. **7,265** 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
The BAFTA Film Awards	BBC One	22/02/26	Unhappy a racial slur was heard and that it was not edited out of the broadcast.	1,588

94% of all complaints dealt with between 23 February – 08 March 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)

The Executive Complaints Unit made 17 findings at Stage 2 between 23 February – 08 March 2026. Highlighted text links to published findings⁴. Other recently-published findings can be found here:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/complaints/comp-reports/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.

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.

Programme	Service	Date of Transmission	Issue	Outcome
BBC Newsline	BBC One	03/11/2025	Inaccuracy about Motability scheme	Upheld
Newsnight	BBC Two	11/12/2025	Offensive reference to suicide	Not upheld
Matt Chorley	Radio 5 Live	25/11/2025	Bias against Reform UK	Not upheld
BBC News (6pm)	BBC One	29/12/2025	Bias against police	Not upheld
Prisoner 951: The Hostages' Story	BBC Two	23/11/2025	Bias against Iranian authorities	Not upheld
Your Voice, Your Vote	BBC One Wales	15/10/2025	Bias towards Plaid Cymru	Not upheld
Look North	BBC One (East Yorkshire and Lincolnshire)	05/01/2026	Inaccuracy about Holderness Hunt x5	Not upheld
Today	Radio 4	21/11/2025	Inaccuracy about ECHR guidance	Not upheld
Today	Radio 4	15/01/2026	Anti-Muslim bias x2	Not upheld
Piccadilly	Radio 4	12/01/2026	Inaccurate reference to "The Gudjarat"	Not upheld
Look East	BBC One (East)	17/11/2025	Misleading about chicken-rearing	Not upheld
Antiques Roadshow: A History of Food	BBC One	07/12/2025	Inaccuracy about connection with slave trade	Not upheld

88% of complaints (15 out of 17) dealt with between 23 February – 08 March 2026 received a response within the target time.