

Disclosure Log of completed Freedom of Information requests

RTÉ Freedom of Information – Q4 (October-December 2020)

FOI No.	Date FOI Received	Freedom Of Information Request	Requester	Decision
97.	01.10.2020	Total cost of production for Yvonne Murray's report from China which aired on the 9pm RTÉ TV news on 30 September 2020, including travel, subsistence, and outsourced technical services? Did RTÉ receive any financial support to help affray the cost of the report beyond the licence fee and advertising revenues? List the names of the providers of such support with the approximate monetary value of each of their contributions (in Euro).	Member of the public	Refused. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
98.	05.10.2020	A copy of the minutes and agenda of the five meetings between the Director General and Noel Kelly Management [on May 8th, 2019; 16th December 2019; 15th January 2020; 18th February 2020 and 7th May 2020]; please also include any submissions made and any briefing documents prepared for the meeting.	Journalist.	Refused. Section 15(1)(a).
99.	07.10.2020	Re. a named company: access to non-personal records under the Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act, 204: copies in electronic form of all information you hold relating to a named company between March 2020 to present.	Business/interest group.	Refuse. Sections: 15(1)(i)(i); 31(1)(a). Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
100.	12.10.2020	A breakdown of the Corp HQ costs as per RTÉ's Annual Report for 2008 and 2018. A copy of RTÉ's Brand and Reputation Research, for 2006 and 2018. A copy of RTÉ's audience logs for the years 2010 and 2018. Minutes of Audience Council Meetings for 2020. Correspondence from RTÉ to the press relating to the announcement that RTÉ was to outsource children's content in 2016.	Member of the public.	Granted in part. Sections 36(1)(b). Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.

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101.	12.10.2020	A copy of the agenda and minutes of all RTÉ Board meetings from Jan 1, 2020, to date. A copy of any briefing documents prepared for the RTÉ DG or RTÉ Board, in relation to state funding, the TV licence and/or any other financial matters.	Journalist.	Granted in part. Sections: 29(1)(a)(b); 30(1)(b)(c); 36(1)(b)(c); 37(1); 40(1)(b) and (d); 40(2)(b), (h), (m), (o), (q). Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
102.	12.10.2020	How much a named individual has been paid to appear on RTÉ radio and television over the past five years?	Member of the public	Refused. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
103.	15.10.2020	All requests received by RTÉ under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 for the period 1 January 2018 to date. FOI Disclosure Log(s) for the period 1 January 2015 to date, if such records exist.	Member of the public	Refused. Section 15(1)(a) and (d).
104.	15.10.2020	Any and all records of complaints received by RTÉ in relation to advertisements placed by Bank of Ireland and broadcast by RTÉ television for the period 1 January 2020 to date.	Member of the public	Refused. Section 32(1)(a)(ii).
105.	15.10.2020	All records concerning a company held by RTÉ from 1 June 2018 to date: all emails/correspondence between RTÉ and The Irish Greyhound Board and all emails/correspondence between RTÉ and Dept of Agriculture. Request not limited to corres. referred to previously - these records concern in general, but not limited to, the RTÉ broadcast of the 'Prime Time Investigates: 'Greyhounds Running for their lives'."	Business/interest group	Refused. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.

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106.	19.10.2020	Details regarding the costs of the RTÉ 1 documentary 'The Killings at Coolacree', broadcast 23 Oct 2007. Positive/negative feedback received by RTÉ on the Coolacree documentary, including phone calls, emails, and letters. Copies of correspondence between RTÉ management on the production and broadcast of this documentary.	Member of the public.	Refused. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
107.	29.10.2020	1 Amount paid/procurement process for 'Open for Business' to Coco. If RTÉ engaged procurement process with Enterprise Ireland re. funding / commission / airing content. 2. % of Licence Fee RTÉ committed to independent productions in 2020 relative to licence obligations; where that will finish by end 2020. 3. Amount paid/ procurement process by RTÉ for broadcasting 'Operation Transformation - Keeping Well Apart' to Vision Productions. 4. If RTÉ engaged procurement process with Dept of Health re. funding, commissioning or airing content. 5. % revenue decline/costs savings each month RTÉ experienced to avail of PUP & that it still meets relevant Revenue Comms. criteria. 6. Amount of money paid for 'Ireland on Call' by RTÉ & procurement process undertaken to Indie Pics. 8. Confirm if RTÉ engaged with procurement process with Dept. Health re. funding, commissioning/airing content. 8. Amount paid/ procurement process undertaken for 'No place like Home' to Failte Ireland. 9. If RTÉ engaged in procurement process with Failte Ireland re. funding / commissioning / airing content.10. How many people joined RTÉ in last 4 months, what % was internal/external and that recruitment followed official policies & procedures re advertising, recruitment, selection. 11. Amount RTÉ was paid by Depart Foreign Affairs for production/use of facilities for 'Global Ireland Summit' in 2020.	Journalist.	Granted in part. Section 36(1)(b). Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.

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108.	22.10.2020	<p>1 & 2: Advertising sales rev for ads immediately before, during, after TV news RTÉ 1 TV at 13.00, 18.01 and 21.00 (21.20 Saturdays) from 1/1/2019 to 30/9/2019 and 1/1/2020 to 30/9/2020 broken down - daily basis. 3 & 4: Daily total ad revenue for RTÉ News Now from 1/1/2019 to 30/9/2019 and 1/1/2020 to 30/9/2020. 5& 6: Ad rates/prices immediately before, during, after RTÉ News on RTÉ 1 TV at 13.00, 18.01 and 21.00 (21.20 Saturdays) from 1/1/2019 to 30/9/2019 and from 1/1/2020 to 30/9/2020. 7 & 8: Daily listing of ad rates/prices for RTÉ News Now channel between 1/1/2019-30/9/2019 and 1/1/2020-30/9/2020. 9 & 10: Viewership figures for RTÉ News bulletins at 13.00, 18.01 and 21.00 (21.20 Saturdays) on RTÉ 1 TV from 1/1/2019 - 30/9/2019 and 1/1/2020-30/9/2020. 11 & 12: Viewership figures for RTÉ News Now 1/1/2019-30/9/2019 and 1/1/2020 -30/9/2020.</p>	Member of the public	<p>Granted in part. Section 15(1)(a).</p>
109.	27.10.2020	<p>RTÉ revenue performance Jan-Sept 2020 -v- same period 2019 - actual numbers/movements. Detail the affect Covid had on specific income streams by business area, Radio, TV, Digital etc - first 5 months 2020. Detail on advertising spend & sponsorship received from Government departments (health, social welfare, Dept. Taoiseach, Bus Enterprise & Innovation) re. Covid 19 in March–Sept 2020. Cost control/savings implemented & amounts/areas savings generated. Details on pay cuts, salary reductions, freelancer reductions as a result of Covid. Wage subsidy scheme: March – Sept 2020 - how much it benefited RTÉ & number staff covered. Details on Investment cost/increased costs to facilitate staff WFH. Details of allowances paid to staff & contractors working from home.</p>	Journalist	<p>Refused. Section 15(1)(b) as a result of Section 12(1)(b).</p>

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FOI No.	Date FOI Received	Freedom Of Information Request	Requester	Decision
110.	27.10.2020	<p>Re. cost saving & future plans RTÉ communicated Nov 2019: re. cost reductions of €60 million (2020-2023), what is achieved to date & amount saved (detail savings & numbers); what has been identified & yet to be implemented? How much of 60 million in cost reductions will be completed end 2020. Update on reduction of 15% in fees for top contracted presenters. No. of contracts negotiated in this bracket since November, how much reduction (% & actual achieved). Info on reviews in conjunction with unions re. pay freezes, tiered pay reductions, review of benefits, work practice reforms. Savings identified, reductions identified & update after 6 months since announcements. Confirm all members of RTÉ Exec accepted 10% pay reduction & inform annualised amount of savings. Detail any fees & expenses paid to RTÉ board members since Dec.2019. Confirm RTÉ headcount as of today's date. How many new employee and freelance hires RTÉ completed from Nov 2019 to end Sept 2020.</p>	Journalist	<p>Refused.</p> <p>Section 15(1)(b) as a result of Section 12(1)(b).</p>
111.	29.10.2020	<p>RTÉ current affairs: texts from listeners that claim increased credibility/interest by saying that they have some special interest/ knowledge by the nature of their work/situation (listeners have specific knowledge/qualification doctor, solicitor, work in a specific industry.) Specific to Radio/TV current affairs progs like Morning Ireland, Claire Byrne, News, Prime Time etc & excludes programmes like Liveline. Provide record showing evidence of procedure to check validity of listener's claims. Provide any records that show numbers of checks performed & no. of claims verified/not verified since Jan 1, 2019; provide records of issues/proposals around verification of listeners' claims.</p>	Member of the public	<p>Refused.</p> <p>Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.</p>

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FOI No.	Date FOI Received	Freedom Of Information Request	Requester	Decision
112.	02.11.2020	Release all actual, accurate, most recent data weekly since March 2020 (include age & location (hospital or home) re: cancer death in Ireland weekly: Heart diseases/lower Respiratory diseases/dementia/cerebrovascular diseases, other respiratory diseases including Flu, Pneumonia, Accidents, Suicides, Covid-19, death caused by Covid 19, death with Traces of Covid 19, Others; which County in Ireland are Infected Cases" located?, are these people In Hospital, home, work; what immunological scientific base do you recognise person with First Wave Infection from Second Wave Infection. How is it differentiated by different types of SARS & Corona Viruses already existing; biochemical facts on mask preventing infection.	Member of the public.	Refused. Section 15(1)(a). Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
113.	05.11.2020	All correspondence (Government Departments and internal correspondence) to & from Dee Forbes in relation to the TV licence system between July 2020 and present.	Journalist.	Granted.
114.	03.11.2020	How much money did RTÉ spend on transportation and accommodation for show guests in 2018 and 2019. Can I have the information broken down by each year and month, which shows incurred the costs and what accommodation the guests were provided with.	Journalist.	Granted in part. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
115.	5.11.2020	The number of complaints received by RTÉ regarding its programming on either TV or Radio which complainants claimed was 'offensive' in 2019, 2018 & 2017. The shows / content related to those complaints. The outcome of these complaints.	Member of the public.	Refused. Section 15(1)(a).

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FOI No.	Date FOI Received	Freedom Of Information Request	Requester	Decision
116.	9.11.2020	Access to the following records: complaints sent to RTÉ by members of the public about the RTÉ Player from 1 September to 9 November 2020.	Journalist.	Granted in part. Section 37(1).
117.	10.11.2020	Any records which discuss the amount of money spent on audience hospitality for 'The Late Late Show' in 2019; of this amount, how much was spent on beverages for the audience before the shows start.	Journalist.	Granted in part. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
118.	12.11.2020	Copies of all the complaints made to RTÉ since January 1st, 2020 about programmes and the RTÉ Player.	Journalist.	Refused. Section 15(1)(c). Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
119.	17.11.2020	The amount spent on work from home equipment for RTÉ employees during the Covid-19 pandemic. A list of some of the equipment purchased and what each one costs.	Journalist.	Refused. Section 15(1)(a).
120.	17.11.2020	A breakdown of all costs associated with the creation and filming of Angela Scanlon's: 'Ask Me Anything' TV show for RTÉ.	Journalist.	Refused. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
121.	18.11.2020	From 1 Jan-31 Dec 2019, what % of total advertising revenue (all RTÉ entities) came from one of following: car manufacturers, petrol & diesel suppliers, forecourt operators, car dealerships, car part retailers (request % is cumulative revenue from industries as % of total ads. for TV/live/Player/print/online.	Member of the public	Refused. Section 15(1)(a).

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FOI No.	Date FOI Received	Freedom Of Information Request	Requester	Decision
122.	18.11.2020	Records of how much has been spent on clothing (wardrobe costs), hair and makeup for RTÉ TV shows; break down records of spending by show and by what money was spent on; include records of the most expensive five shows by wardrobe, hair and makeup costs in the period. I wish for my request to cover the period 1/1/2020 to current date.	Journalist.	Refused. Section 15(1)(a).
123.	18.11.2020	Details of any subvention provided by RTÉ towards the use of the on-site crèche by staff and families: How much in total was paid by RTÉ to the crèche operators in 2018? How many crèche occupants did this payment relate to? How much in total was paid by RTÉ to the crèche operator in 2019? How many crèche occupants did this payment relate to?	Journalist.	Refused. Section 15(1)(a).
124.	20.11.2020	How many employees have taken redundancy & early retirement packages since RTÉ's redundancy scheme in August 2017; How many people have since been hired by RTÉ - part-time & full-time since August 2017; what the current staff levels are for this year so far.	Journalist	Granted in part. Section 15(1)(d).
125.	23.11.2020	Any correspondence circulated to staff/freelance staff, informing them about a gathering of RTÉ staff at retirement event last week, reported by a number of publications (including RTÉ) today; request includes, but is not limited to, emails sent by those present explaining their attendance, or emails from senior staff explaining the event & any action to be taken arising from it; also correspondence sent by MD News & CA Jon Williams to staff who attended regarding their presence at it & any actions to be taken arising from it.	Journalist.	Refused. Sections: 32(1)(a); 37(1).

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FOI No.	Date FOI Received	Freedom Of Information Request	Requester	Decision
126.	23.11.2020	All complaints from public sent to the station regarding an impromptu retirement party held for staff member which was covered extensively in media on and from 20th Nov; and all internal complaints about the issue made by staff.	Journalist.	Granted in part. Section 37(1)
127.	23.11.2020	Between 4-24 th November, all email correspondence between a) staff & management and b) management & RTÉ Board which refers to the breach of social distancing at a gathering to mark retirement of Phil Collins - including emails sent & received which contain those keywords. Provide all email correspondence sent & received by Jon Williams which references the breach of social distancing at a gathering to mark retirement of Phil Collins including emails sent & received which contain those keywords.	Journalist.	Refused. Sections 32(1)(a); 37(1).
128.		Provide total amount of money spent by RTÉ on security for personnel, such as talent, including private security guards & equipment, such as alarms, panic buttons, CCTV at private dwellings, in the past three years. Provide details on number of times Gardai have been contacted to investigate death threats and/or intimidation against RTÉ personnel, such as talent, in the past 12 months, with dates that each incident was reported.	Journalist	Refused. Section 15(1)(a). Information is not subject to release under FOI Act.

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FOI No.	Date FOI Received	Freedom Of Information Request	Requester	Decision
129.	23.11.2020	Please provide copies of all WhatsApp messages sent between RTÉ staff within WhatsApp groups - set up for staff to communicate - between November 8, 2020 and November 21, 2020. Please provide the information in email form through screenshots or equivalent.	Journalist.	Withdrawn.
130.	23.11.2020	Provide the number of allegations of sexual harassment received by RTÉ's HR Department in relation to alleged inappropriate behaviour by personnel within the company in the past 12 months. Confirm if an investigation took place, the outcome of that investigation and if Gardai were called by RTÉ to investigate.	Journalist.	Refused. Section 15(1)(a) – no records exist.
131.	23.11.2020	From 13-23 November 2020: all internal correspondence between the RTÉ communications team in relation to the press query received from The Sun newspaper in relation to Covid breach at an event in RTÉ. All internal correspondence between the RTÉ communications team in relation to the retirement event where Covid-19 regulations were breached. All correspondence between the RTÉ Board, Director General Dee Forbes and the Managing Director of News in relation to the retirement event where Covid-19 regulations were breached.	Journalist.	Granted in part. Section 37(1).

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FOI No.	Date FOI Received	Freedom Of Information Request	Requester	Decision
132.	24.11.2020	Between 1 Jan 2019 to 24 Nov 2020 records showing appearance fees paid to guests for 'The Late Late Show', in tabular form from lowest to highest: fees paid to guests per show & broadcast date; all costs of travel and accommodation for guests; details of refreshments (food and drink) provided for guests; details of refreshments (food and drink) for any audience members; costs of Ryan Tubridy's wardrobe: the breakdown of cost associated with 2019's Late Late Toy show and 2020 Late Late Toy Show (so far).	Journalist.	Granted in part. Section 15(1)(a). Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
133.	24.11.2020	From 20-24 November 2020, all external correspondence received by RTÉ from members of the public re. retirement party in RTÉ that was reported in The Sun newspaper on 20 November 2020.	Journalist.	Granted in part. Section 37(1).
134.	24.11.2020	Access to minutes of meetings of RTÉ's Board during 2020; access to minutes of meetings of RTÉ's Audience Council during 2020.	Journalist.	Granted in part. Sections: 36(1); 29(1); 30(1); 37(1). Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000).
135.	26.11.2020	Records of any complaints received following the disclosure about an event to mark the retirement of an RTÉ employee, which led to several other staff issuing a public apology for failing to follow public health guidelines.	Journalist.	Granted in part. Section 37(1).

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FOI No.	Date FOI Received	Freedom Of Information Request	Requester	Decision
136.	30.11.2020	All communications and documents regarding the appearance of RTÉ staff and/or Met Éireann staff before the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Climate Action last year, including but not limited to: any discussions about the questions that would be asked by the Committee and responses that might be given; any discussions about actions RTÉ might take to mitigate criticisms; any discussions about actions considered or taken by RTÉ in response to the Committee appearance.	Member of the public.	Granted in part. Section 37(1).
137.	01.12.2020	Costs of staging 2020 'Late Late Toy Show': amount paid to named third parties, goods/services provided; amount paid to each third party; amount of goods/services donated by named third parties and good/services and value of each good/service; number of RTÉ staff to work on show; amount of money generated in advertising; highest amount paid for a particular TV advertisement; number of ads sold; largest 10 donations received for Toy show fundraising appeal; name of each donor.	Journalist.	Refused. Section 36(1)(b). Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
138.	01.12.2020	How much RTÉ pay to following guests per appearance when they appear on The Claire Byrne show and Prime Time: Professor Samuel McConkey, Professor Luke O'Neill, Professor Tomas Ryan.	Member of the public.	Refused. Statutory Instrument 115 of 2000.
139.	01.12.2020	How many Children's Hospitals or children's' care centres generally has Ryan Tubridy visited on behalf of RTÉ in the past 10 years.	Member of the public.	Refused. Section 15(1)(a).
140.	02.12.2020	The amount spent on costumes, makeup and sets for 'The Late Late Toy Show' in 2019 and 2020.	Journalist.	Refused. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.

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FOI No.	Date FOI Received	Freedom Of Information Request	Requester	Decision
141.	03.12.2020	Information, details and documentation that relate to RTÉ's guidelines and rules regarding their decision-making process when deciding who retires when they turn 65, and who doesn't.	Member of the public.	Granted in part. Section 31(1)(a).
142.	03.12.2020	Records and documentation regarding the total number of employees over the age of 65 currently employed by RTÉ, encompassing all RTÉ operations and divisions, and to include those on temporary and permanent contracts, and those employed through an intermediary company, and those directly employed by RTÉ, and including those working in a part-time and/or full-time capacity.	Member of the public.	Granted in part. Section 15(1)(a).
143.	07.12.2020	A sample 20 of the emails the RTÉ complaints office received in relation to this year's 'The Late Late Toy Show which refer specifically to Covid-19.	Journalist.	Refused. Statutory Instrument SI 115 of 2000.
144.	08.12.2020	In relation to farewell gathering on 12 November, did any RTÉ board members and/or senior executives attend the party; and if yes, who were they?	Journalist.	Refused. Section 32(1)(a).
145.	17.12.2020	The number of article headlines RTÉ website has published with Laura Whitmore as the subject, in the past 6 months.	Member of the public.	Refused. Section 15(1)(a).
146.	22.12.2020	Minutes of any RTÉ Board meetings during October, November and any held to date in December 2020.	Journalist.	Granted in part. Section 36(1)

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FOI No.	Date FOI Received	Freedom Of Information Request	Requester	Decision
147.	28.12.2020	Breakdown of / any records which discuss how RTÉ spent the €240,000 awarded by Science Foundation Ireland on contributors to various TV programmes and online seminars during Science Week 2020.	Journalist.	Granted in part. Section 37(1).
148.	28.12.2020	Donations collected during this year's 'Late Late Toy Show': what was the total raised; how much did the text number charge for their service and which charities will receive money and how much?	Member of the public	Handled outside of Freedom of Information Act.
149.	29.12.2020	From 2018-2020 list of organisations below which paid money, or gave financial assistance in any form, to RTÉ or to persons employed under personal contract by RTÉ, and total amount paid by each over that period: Pharmaceutical companies or their representatives; Google / Alphabet; Facebook; Open Society Foundations; Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation; Rockefeller Foundation; Ford Foundation; Atlantic Philanthropies / any other philanthropic or grant-making foundation.	Member of the public.	Granted in part. Sections 15(1)(a); 36(1).
150.	30.12.2020	The minutes of all meetings of the organisation's Board /governing authority/ management committee, or equivalent central authority, held in 2020.	Journalist.	Granted in part. Section 37(1).