Complaints to the BBC: December 2013

The BBC answered over 18,000 complaints from the audience during December 2013. These ranged from a small number of complaints about alleged breaches of editorial guidelines through to a much larger collection of views about programme content and services.

This month there were complaints about the decision to interview Anjem Choudary on BBC Radio 4's Today programme on the 20th December following the verdict in the Lee Rugby murder trial.

There were also complaints about the volume and tone of the coverage BBC News devoted to the death of Ronnie Biggs.

Some BBC Sports Personality of the Year viewers complained as they felt the competition must have been 'fixed' when the winner, Andy Murray, was presented with the trophy despite being in America on the night of broadcast (this was a replica trophy sent out in advance).

Finally, there were complaints about the amount of time devoted to covering the death of Nelson Mandela by BBC News; the disruption to the BBC One schedule on 5th December to announce this news and the decision to film Question Time (12th December) in Johannesburg.

The BBC's responses to some recent issues can be read on the <u>BBC Complaints</u> website.