

Complaints to the BBC: August 2011

The BBC answered **21,842** complaints from the audience in August 2011. 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.

We continued to receive complaints this month from people who are unhappy with the new rights deal that the BBC has secured for the Formula One 2012-2018 seasons. The deal was announced on 29th July.

A discussion on the 12th August edition of Newsnight looking at the possible causes of the recent riots in England led to complaints from viewers who felt David Starkey's views and contribution to the debate was offensive.

There were also complaints about an interview with Darcus Howe, broadcast on the BBC News Channel on 9th August, from viewers who felt the presenter was too robust in the line of questioning.

Some people complained as they felt the BBC News channel was incorrect to refer initially to the 'UK Riots' as the rioting was taking place in England as opposed to the whole of the UK.

Finally, fans of the rock band Muse complained when BBC Three's coverage of their performance at the Reading Festival on 28th August did not include the band's performance of their 'Origin of Symmetry' album in full. The programme's presenters explained at the time that this was because the band did not wish the entire set to be broadcast.

The BBC's responses to some recent issues can be read on the [BBC Complaints website](#).