

# Complaints to the BBC: January 2012

The BBC answered almost **22,000** complaints from the audience in January 2012. 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.

There were complaints about a question asked by Jeremy Paxman on *Newsnight*, which some viewers felt inappropriately compared Scotland and Alex Salmond to Zimbabwe and Robert Mugabe.

There were also complaints about *Top Gear: India Special* from people who felt the programme was offensive to India and/or Indian culture.

Changes to the BBC Two schedule on 22 January to accommodate live coverage of the final of the *Masters Snooker* which over-ran prompted some complaints from viewers who were disappointed that *Ski Sunday* was shown later than billed. The scheduling of *Public Enemies* which was replaced by *Panorama Special – Stephen Lawrence: Time for Justice* on 3 January also caused complaints.

The content of *Sherlock* on 1 January attracted complaints from some viewers who felt it was unsuitable for a pre-watershed slot.

The decision not to commission a further series of the BBC Three programme *Mongrels* led to some complaints from fans of the show.

Finally, the BBC broadcasts of the *Australian Open Tennis Championship* attracted complaints from viewers unhappy with different aspects of the coverage.

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