

From: David [Redacted]  
Subject: Re: Quick questions  
Date: 28 December 2016 at 15:15  
To: Richard Bullick [Redacted]



He's still working on it

Sent from my iPad

On 28 Dec 2016, at 14:38, Richard Bullick [Redacted] wrote:

We need to see Amc statement asap to make an informed judgment.

Sent from my iPhone

On 28 Dec 2016, at 11:47, David [Redacted] wrote:

I think Beeb will want to hold story until next Tuesday.

I haven't heard anything from Andrew McC since Christmas Eve. Have dropped him an email today.

There's a bit of a dance going on all round - everyone pretending to know less than they do about the Bell/McCormick tapes.

BBC position will be that it does not disclose sources and also doesn't need to give Andrew right to reply on his own comments.

If you do nothing and wait for Beeb to do its worst, it could be very bad - headlines about Bell vindicated, Spads in the dock etc. The fact it isn't actually true will be incidental.

Attempts to cool the wider situation and limit damage on Executive could be jeopardised.

An Andrew McC statement and even interview before then could pre-empt some of this - although it does mean dealing with the real story of how cost controls were delayed in 2015 and the political input into that - AC etc.

In an ideal world - you would get the AC story out and dealt with this week and spike the BBC and Bell guns.