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Bullying cases fall at the BBC

15 July, 2015 | By Jake Kanter



Around 13 staff were found guilty of bullying at the BBC in the year to end of March 2015, as the number of bullying and sexual harassment cases at the corporation fell 37%.

The BBC's annual report revealed that there were 46 bullying grievances lodged in 2014/15 and a single sexual harassment claim. This compares with a combined total of 75 grievances in 2013/14.

The corporation said 29% of the 46 cases recorded were either upheld or partially upheld, meaning 13 employees were rightly accused of intimidating their colleagues in some form.

The BBC still has work to do to resolve bullying and harassment cases within the 30 days it committed to when it introduced new procedures following the Rose Respect At Work review in 2013.

Claims were open for an average of 83 days in 2014/15, a minor reduction on the 85 days during the previous year. But the BBC stressed that in the first three months of this year, the average time taken to resolve a case fell to 37 days.

Furthermore, responsible business assessment firm GoodCorporation reviewed the BBC's child protection and whistleblowing practices following the Jimmy Savile scandal in March 2014. It was commissioned to produce its review at the same time as Dame Janet Smith's review into the culture and practices at the BBC during Savile's tenure.

It found the BBC "has strong policies in place, supported by evidence of a clear commitment to the safeguarding and protection of children".

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