



Culture, Media and Sport Committee

01 July 2025

Tim Davie
Director General, BBC

Dear Tim,

As you know, there has been widespread concern about the BBC's coverage of Glastonbury on Saturday 28 June, including from the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Culture Media and Sport. My committee shares many of these concerns and would welcome your reply to the following questions:

Broadcast delays

1. Before the festival started, did the BBC consider streaming all or part of its Glastonbury coverage with a short time delay, to allow room to respond to events if necessary?
2. Are there any technical reasons why that would not be possible?

Staffing and decision-making

3. How many BBC staff and contractors were working at Glastonbury or on coverage of the festival, and what roles were they performing?
4. Were staff with the authority to cut the live stream present during the performance of Bob Vylan?
5. Was cutting the live stream of Bob Vylan discussed during the performance?
6. If it was, did that discussion include members of the Editorial Policy and Legal teams?
7. At what level were the decisions made to not stream Kneecap live and to stream Bob Vylan live, but with a warning on screen?

Contingency plans

8. In making those decisions, did the BBC have a contingency plan?
9. If so, who was responsible for creating and actioning the plan?
10. Is it standard practice to have a contingency plan in place for similar broadcasts, such as live sporting events?



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Next Steps

11. In light of the events at Glastonbury, will you be reviewing the Editorial Guidelines, and BBC guidance for live output, to ensure they are fit for live streaming?
12. In summary, what is your personal assessment of what went wrong and what key lessons that the BBC will take away from the experience of live streaming Glastonbury 2025?

Given the public interest in this matter, I would be grateful if you could respond by Monday 14th July. This letter and your response will be published on the Committee website.

Yours sincerely,

Dame Caroline Dinenage MP
Chair, Culture, Media and Sport Committee