



Information Policy & Compliance
bbc.co.uk/foi

10th August 2011

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – RFI20110980

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act ('the Act') of 7/8/11, seeking the following information:

Does the BBC hold a catalogue of programmes that have been produced over the years and that is currently held in archive.

Yes - this information is in the BBC's INFAX catalogue. This database is an internal BBC system which holds information on all BBC archive holdings, both transmitted and non-transmitted. It is not currently available externally. Public access to transmitted BBC programmes is via the British Library (for the sound archive) or the British Film Institute (for the television archive).

Is there any published document that has looked at the release of all programmes

We are not aware of any such published document, but we can explain that the BBC does not make its archive programmes available free to the public for a number of reasons, including copyright restrictions and other restrictions on re-use, particularly in the case of independent or co-productions.

The assets in the BBC's archives are made available to the public at a cost by BBC Worldwide Ltd, which is a wholly owned commercial subsidiary of the BBC. BBC Worldwide's purpose is to maximise profits from these assets, which are then returned to the BBC in order to be reinvested in producing new BBC content, and to keep the UK licence fee as low as possible. You can read more about BBC Worldwide on their website here www.bbcworldwide.com



Appeal Rights

If you are not satisfied that we have complied with the Act in responding to your request, you have the right to an internal review by a BBC senior manager or legal adviser. Please contact us at the address above, explaining what you would like us to review and including your reference number. If you are not satisfied with the internal review, you can appeal to the Information Commissioner. The contact details are: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF, telephone 01625 545 700 or see <http://www.ico.gov.uk/>

Yours sincerely,

Steve Jupe
BBC Information & Archives