



Information Policy & Compliance

[bbc.co.uk/foi](http://bbc.co.uk/foi)

jdc

By email: FOI archive email account [[foi@sandwich.ukcod.org.uk](mailto:foi@sandwich.ukcod.org.uk)]; on behalf of; jdc325 [request-704-8b97ddfe@whatdotheyknow.com]

20 June 2008

Dear jdc

**Freedom of Information request: RFI20080636 - links to external websites on [bbc.co.uk](http://bbc.co.uk)**

Thank you for your email of 12 June 2008. The reference number for your request is RFI20080636. You requested:

*“ Do the BBC have a written policy for making decisions on which external sites to provide links to from the BBC website?*

*How offensive and/or dangerous would a site need to be before the BBC would refuse to link to them?”*

In answer to your request, the information you have requested is available on the BBC's website page about our links policy at:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/home/links/>

and in the BBC's Editorial Guidelines and Online Services Guidelines at:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/guidelines/editorialguidelines/edguide/editorial/onlinelinkstoth.shtml> and

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/guidelines/editorialguidelines/onguide/editorial/linkstoexternal.shtml>

Please note that your request is outside the scope of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“the Act”) because the BBC and the other public service broadcasters are covered by the Act only in respect of information held for purposes “other than those of journalism, art or literature” (see Schedule I, Part VI of the Act). For more information about how the Act applies to the BBC please see <http://www.bbc.co.uk/foi>. Please note that this guidance is not intended to be a comprehensive legal interpretation of how the Act applies to the BBC.



We hope you find this helpful.

The BBC does not offer an internal review when the information requested is not covered by the Act. If you disagree with our decision you can appeal to the Information Commissioner. Contact details are: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF telephone 01625 545 700. <http://www.ico.gov.uk/>

Yours sincerely,

L. Stiller  
**Legal and Business Affairs Manager**  
**BBC Future Media & Technology**