



Information Policy & Compliance
bbc.co.uk/foi

Lord McDowall
Via email: request-4030-8dfa5f74@whatdotheyknow.com

14 November 2008

Dear Lord McDowall,

Request for Information – RFI20081249

Thank you for your request of 10 November 2008 under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 seeking the following information:

I would like copies of any BBC policy which confirms that a presenter in front of a TV camera, must wear a red poppy.

I would like specific clarification of the policy, or guidance if a guest presenter or permanent presenter, refuses to wear the poppy during a TV appearance.

The information you requested is not covered by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“the Act”).

Your request falls outside the scope of 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). We are not therefore obliged to supply information held for the purposes of creating the BBC’s output or information that supports and is closely associated with these creative activities. Information which is not subject to disclosure under the Act because of Schedule I might otherwise be exempt from disclosure because of the application of other provisions of the Act.

However, outside the Act I am happy to volunteer that the BBC does not have a policy on the wearing of poppies and it is down to the individual presenter to decide whether they want to wear a poppy or not. The majority of presenters chose to wear a poppy and this year poppies were worn between 25 October and 11 November.



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For more information about how the Act applies to the BBC please see 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.

The BBC makes a huge range of information available about our programmes and content on bbc.co.uk. We also proactively publish information covered by the Act on our publication scheme and regularly handle requests for information under the Act.

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>

Kind Regards

Louise Wright
Advisor, Information Policy & Compliance