

Reference: 02123828

Information Requests  
[information.requests@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:information.requests@ofcom.org.uk)

22 January 2026

## Freedom of Information request: Right to know request

Thank you for your request for information regarding complaints received by Ofcom about *Citizen Khan* and *Da Ali G Show* programmes.

We received this request on 22 December 2025 and we have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

### Your request

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*I am a student at the University of xxxxxxx and undertaking a dissertation this year which looks at public reaction of Television shows. I was hoping to gain access of the full OfCom complaints list regarding the BBC TV show- Citizen Khan that ran from 2012-2016 and the Channel 4 TV show Da Ali G Show that ran from 2000-2004.*

### Our response

By way of background, complaints about broadcast standards are carefully assessed under Ofcom's [Broadcasting Code](#) ("the Code") which sets standards for programme content that all Ofcom licensees must follow. Individual complaints received by Ofcom are assigned to cases, and a case is opened when Ofcom is assessing a specific programme or issue and each case may consist of one or more complaints. In line with our published complaints [procedures](#), we review every complaint we receive to consider whether it raises potentially substantive issues under the Code which warrant investigation by Ofcom. If we consider that these standards may have been breached, we will investigate. You can find decisions about complaints we have considered in [Ofcom's Broadcast and On Demand Bulletin](#), published every fortnight on our website.

Turning to your request, we do not hold complaints on our database that far back, due to record retention policies, however you can search for the information you are interested in via our pre-2020 published Broadcast Bulletins here: <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/tv-radio-and-on-demand/broadcast-standards/pre-Jan-2020>.

Any complaints about *Da Ali G Show* received prior to Ofcom starting in December 2003 would have fallen to the Independent Television Commission and may appear in the ITC archive programmes complaints reports here:

[https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/ukgwa/20080712221638/http://www.ofcom.org.uk/static/archive/itc/itc\\_publications/complaints\\_reports/programme\\_complaints/index.asp.html](https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/ukgwa/20080712221638/http://www.ofcom.org.uk/static/archive/itc/itc_publications/complaints_reports/programme_complaints/index.asp.html).

Yours sincerely,

## Information Requests

### **Request an internal review**

If you are unhappy with the response you have received to your request for information, or think that your request was refused without a reason valid under the law, you may ask for an internal review. If you do, it will be subject to an independent review within Ofcom. We will either uphold the original decision, or reverse or modify it.

If you would like to ask us to carry out an internal review, you should get in touch within two months of the date of this letter. There is no statutory deadline for us to complete our internal review, and the time it takes will depend on the complexity of the request. But we will try to complete the review within 20 working days (or no more than 40 working days in exceptional cases) and keep you informed of our progress.

Please email the Information Requests team ([information.requests@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:information.requests@ofcom.org.uk)) to request an internal review.

### **Taking it further**

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our internal review, then you have the right to [complain to the Information Commissioner's Office](#).