

15 March 2004

Mrs B Carson

Dear Kate Sparshatt

I understand that the BBC Charter is currently under review and that you plan to issue a Green Paper on what it should contain, following consultation.

May I plea for the many ex-patriots living here in Spain to have the ability to continue receiving broadcasts from the BBC. At present, we have the options of Radio 2 & BBC1 & BBC2, though I feel that these services should be extended, particularly with Radio 4 in mind.

I appreciate that you are not able to consult with residents overseas but please be assured that the loss of the BBC would be a very real blow, particularly as so few people are aware that they may lose the service that they currently have.

Moving here due to ill-health (I am 44), one of the bitterest disappointments on buying a short-wave radio was to receive the unbelievably boring world-service.

The BBC serves it's viewers and listeners so well in the UK, is there no way this can be continued within the EU. Surely the technology to pay by subscriptions is possible?

The BBC is a flagship for entertainment and excellence and is a real link with the old- country for people of all ages here. Not only that, it must encourage the sale of BBC programmes the world over. How does the BBC intend to continue successfully selling overseas, if EU residents do not receive their services?

Just because we are not UK residents, please do not disregard our views and ensure that we continue to receive what the BBC has to offer, on a subscription basis, if necessary.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Carson', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Barbara Carson

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