

26th March 2004

Dear Sir or Madam,

BBC CHARTER REVIEW CONSULTATION

Above all, retain the independence of the BBC. Programme content must never be influenced by pressure from any government or commercial sponsor, therefore, retain the license fee. It is not a government hand-out but comes directly from viewers and listeners; use it to regain and enhance the reputation of the BBC for truth and excellence throughout the world.

Certainly the license income should be augmented by providing for a fee commercial products and services directly related to the broadcast output, the remit of the original BBC Radio Enterprises.

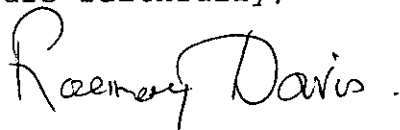
A lot of money was spent, we were told, on digitalisation, while at the same time the range of TV and radio channels has been enormously extended. Is it perhaps, over-extended, the resources for programmes spread too thinly - 8 TV channels, 38 local radio stations?

The compensating cost-cutting exercise which cut a swathe through the organisation must have affected the way in which many people work. Are drama and feature directors able to function efficiently without secretaries?

6-month contracts have been introduced, but surely some experienced people of proven worth must remain in situ, to pass on their knowledge to younger editors, producers and directors? As a young free-lance broadcaster I learned how to write, record interviews, edit and present feature programmes through the guidance of senior producers. I was never a trainee, but was simply invited to submit ideas and, if they were accepted, was told to "get on with it". Invaluable experience, which I hope may still be available to others in the same way.

How such a vast organisation is managed, or the role of the governors, I do not know. I do know that if Michael Grade should be willing to become the next Director General, the BBC should grab him, hang on to him and thank its lucky stars!

Yours faithfully,



(Miss) Rosemary Davis.

