

From: Major (Retd) M.J.B. Edgar

BBC Charter Review Consultation  
Department for Culture, Media and Sport  
2-4 Cockspur Street  
LONDON SW1 5DH

24<sup>th</sup> March 2004

Dear Sir or Madam,

**BBC CHARTER REVIEW CONSULTATION**

I would like to see the licence system remain however I have various points:

The programmes must be completely independent of political control. The Board of Governors and the Directors should be selected by a completely non-political body.

You should get the timing sorted out. They don't even show the clock before the six o'clock news anymore! Most of us now have a radio controlled clock on our video recorders; it is infuriating to find the programme running late and therefore miss the end. I usually set the end for five minutes after the programmed time but this is not always possible if one wants to change to another channel.

We now get too many adverts. The other night we had one for the Mozart programme at the end of the news and then the same one after the weather!

What annoys me most is when they are already running late and they then have an advert or two.

Please could the news at the weekend be at a set time.

I used to find that I watched more BBC programmes than the other channels. I now find that they have overtaken the BBC. Though my choice of programme might be somewhat idiosyncratic, it might be an indication of how my generation think – I am 61.

I recently bought a 'thing box' to watch the digital channels. I found them so bad I have hardly used it. The history channel seems to be mainly repeats. I wonder how many other people think the same. I personally think that you should scrap it and devote the money saved into making better programmes for the main channels.

I look forward to a greatly improved BBC.

Yours sincerely,

