

ANSWERING KEY QUESTIONS
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, MEDIA AND SPORT

David Attenborough recently spelt out what he would like the BBC to be - educational, thought-provoking and above all less sex and violence.

I suppose we have to have some sport but the way the football clubs are going I am sure that some of them will face financial ruin with the players' high wages for what - on the whole they are not a good role model for the young.

Being an elderly person the last thing I want to buy is a new TV with all the nobs and gadgets that I cannot get my mind around, let alone my fingers. Perhaps the elderly, of which they form a large majority these days, will go back to conversation, and no bad thing

Are we going to have more obsolete electrical boxes filling up our land fill sites if the only way forward is the digital outlet.

Definitely no commercial programmes. The Radio Times (and now, I suppose the DVD of popular programmes) is a household name and none of the Weekend papers match it for information and use.

Regarding the various programmes of late on the 1st and 2nd world wars and the information programmes on aircraft, sea battles, etc., there are a lot of errors in the facts presented. Surely there should be more folk to research more widely

The top brass, like the footballers, should not be given these vast sums of money as a salary - are they really worth it?

I think there should be more petitions and protests if we feel that the BBC is not living up to its good, clean entertainment. It wants more of the little lady who protested that she would go to prison rather than pay the inflated Council Tax. Hence we are to be offered £100 towards our tax for the ensuing year. - The Media Watch as a body should be shouting from the housetops if the concensus of opinion from the man in the street feels that the BBC is erring in its manifesto.

Your BBC – Your say : BBC Charter Review - public consultation by DCMS 2004

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) is asking the British public to give its views on the BBC now and in the future. The BBC's activities are governed by a Royal Charter – a document that shapes what the BBC is for, what it does and how it does it. A review of the BBC, called the Charter review is now being carried out. Once it is completed, the DCMS will be able to consider what the BBC of the future will look like.

Anyone with a television pays for the BBC through its licence fee. That gives them a stake in its future. Since 1927, a review has been carried out every 10 years or so to see how the BBC is serving the public and to consider its future.

You can play a role in this review by letting the DCMS know what you think. **Your views matter. Nothing is ruled in or out of the review. It's your BBC; have your say.** (More info' is on the BBC & Charter review website - www.bbccharterreview.org.uk or at local libraries.)

KEY QUESTIONS

To help people think about the BBC, the DCMS have drawn up a list of key questions. They want you to send them your responses. Their key questions have been set out here as a questionnaire by mediamarch, with space provided for your comments, thus making it easier for you to respond.

Please note you do NOT have to respond to every question. (If you need more space, continue on the back of this sheet.) **The questions are:**

- **What do you value most about the BBC?** e.g. is it the news, sports, arts or educational coverage? How well does it serve different nations, regions and communities in the UK? What subjects does it cover less well?
- **How should the BBC adapt to cope with changes in technology and culture?** e.g. how should it take account of the rise in use of the internet or digital TV?
- **What do you think of the TV, radio and online services the BBC provides?** What changes if any would you like to see?
- **Should the BBC run commercial services?** The BBC produces magazines like The Radio Times and DVDs of popular programmes like The Office. Its main commercial arm, BBC Worldwide, put £123m back into public services in 2002/03. Do you think the BBC should continue running commercial operations?
- **How should we pay for the BBC?** Is the licence fee the best method or can you suggest any alternative?
- **Is the BBC organised in the most effective and efficient way?** Is it set up to provide the very best services for the public?
- **How should the BBC be run? How should it be regulated?** The BBC's Governors currently have a dual role. First, overseeing how the BBC is run internally. Secondly, regulating on behalf of the public interest, e.g. making sure it meets standards of accuracy, impartiality and fair trading. Is this the best approach?
- **How do we ensure that the BBC is properly accountable to the public and to Parliament?** Should the public have a greater say and influence on the BBC? If so, how?

Other Comments (continue on back of this sheet if necessary):

See overleaf

Name: DM GINNS (MRS)

Address:

Signature: DM Ginns

**Return this sheet to: BBC Charter Review Consultation, Department for Culture, Media and Sport,
2-4 Cockspur Street, London SW1Y 5DH Tel: 020 7211 6418 Email: bbccharterreview@culture.gsi.gov.uk**

The DCMS aim to publish all responses within 10 working days of receipt. You can request that your response be kept confidential. You can also give your views directly to Ministers at public meetings being held across the UK. See Charter review website for details.

Closing date for your response to arrive at DCMS : March 31st 2004