



BBC Charter Review Consultation
Dept for Culture, Media & Sport,
2 - 4 Cockspur Street,
London SW1Y 5DH

March 20th/04

dear Sir,

Regarding the 'Your say' leaflet, we would reply to your key questions as follows:

We value most The News, Arts programmes - and especially adaptations of books, quality films, historical and programmes on rural affairs.

Obviously, the BBC has to adapt to changing conditions - but don't forget there are still a large proportion (not all elderly) 'Luddites' who are not remotely interested in the Internet.

Our first paragraph refers to both Radio & TV.

Regarding commercial services; we consider these should be restricted to publications such as Radio Times - and not competing with the already squeezed independent booksellers.

Concerning payment, the licence fee would still seem to be best.

On Organisation; 'Dumbing down' is getting worse by the week; and increasingly, programmes seem to be catering for the lowest levels of intelligence, with the assumption that people's attention-span is limited to a maximum of 15 minutes. Also, do we have to have all pervading, intrusive background music with every type of programme?

The dual role of Governors would seem to be acceptable, but should aim for higher levels of accuracy and impartiality.

OFCOM presumably has the power to oversee quality and decency, and the public have direct access to them; but they appear very lax. We greatly object to increasing amount of unnecessary swearing, gratuitous sex infiltrating almost every type of production; and particularly the widespread blasphemy and belittling of religion - especially in relation to Christianity in all its forms. More attention should be paid to organisations such as 'Mediawatch' not ignoring the silent majority in pursuit of perfect PC.

For information, we are both in our 70's (but young in heart !), parents and grand parents - regretting the passing of BBC English.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G.H. Goatcher', written over the typed name.

G.H. Goatcher B.Sc., MIOH and Mrs K. Goatcher FIOH