

BBC Charter Review Consultation
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What do you value most about the BBC? News, arts

How well does it serve the regions? Midlands Today is an excellent programme; however, its coverage is really restricted to Birmingham and the Black Country; coverage of Herefordshire & Shropshire news is poor, which limits its interest for us in the sticks...

What do you think of the... services the BBC provides?

TV: BBC used to do live orchestral concerts; they were always excellent, the camerawork adding enormously to the enjoyment and understanding of the work. Why have they vanished from our screens?

As a general comment, it would seem that programmes are generally aimed at a 'popular' audience. Primetime items are invariably of this type – when there's something I really want to see, it always seems, with few exceptions, to be scheduled for late in the evening. *This is tough on people of my age [80] who are still perfectly compos mentis, are just as interested in intellectual things as ever, but are not prepared to stay up late.* I'd point out that those of us in this category depend on radio and TV much more than younger people who have a choice of media, going out to theatre, concerts, lectures... we can't. Do try better to cater for us. We are an important part of your audience. [I made a quick survey last week of items I really wanted to watch; I marked them in Radio Times: 9 items only, in the whole week]

Radio does rather better, with 31 must-hears. [note that radio is very important indeed to my age-group – including the World Service for sleepless nights] *Please* keep Radio 3 as it is, resisting any temptation to do a Classic FM on it, *PLEASE!*

online services: I have found these v. useful when I have used them – I don't use them enough, must do better...

Should the BBC run commercial services? Yes, why not? [And a propos the Radio Times: could the radio programmes be printed separately, in a pull-out supplement, as RT does for holiday pull-outs in the new year?]

Accountability: about programmes, yes. A regular survey on the lines of What I Watched Last Week? via RTimes or website. *But accountable to Parliament? [Why?] Looks a bit like state control?*

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