

26 March

BBC Charter Review
Consultation

I believe that core BBC services should continue to be funded by the licence fee. I include in my definition of core services, BBC Local, Regional and National Radio and B.B.C. 1 and 2. I don't believe that any alternative means of funding, such as advertising or subscription would enable the present breadth and quality of programmes to be adequately resourced.

I am less sure that BBC 3, 4 News 24 and B.B.C. i should be licence fee funded, in some cases there are perfectly viable commercial alternatives, in others subscription might be appropriate. I also believe that much of the BBC 4 output should find a place

on the 2 main terrestrial channels rather than being sidetracked on BBC 4.

I value most about the BBC its news, current affairs and documentary programmes which continue to be of a remarkably high standard and its local radio output which is outstanding. It should however do more arts, science and history on BBC 1 & 2 and less makeover/property/gardening shows. I also think a significant failing is the complete absence of European Cinema from the main channels - it is not acceptable to banish all foreign language films to BBC4.

It is vitally important that the BBC remains completely independent and on balance I believe that the Governors should retain ~~to~~ their present "dual role". I do, however, think they should be looking at ways of improving public involvement/consultation.

1. J Rhodes

Please find enclosed my response to the BBC Charter Review consultation.

I would like to be able to attend a Public Meeting to give my views directly to Ministers. I do not have internet access, so could you please send me details of the nearest Public Meeting.

Yours faithfully

/ R. Rhodes