

RECEIVED - 8 APR 2004

April 5<sup>th</sup> 2004

Dear Ms Jowell,

**Re BBC Charter Review**

I would like to thank and congratulate the government on the process and outcome, which has resulted in the appointment of Mr. Grade as Chairman of the BBC.

I would like to join with him in his statement that the licence fee should be retained. By such action the BBC would be answerable only to its audience and not to advertisers and/or shareholders.

I would also like to point out, something I mentioned in my previous letter to you, that irreparable damage would be done to the cultural life of the country and in particular the future of St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, because the BBC is more than just broadcasting. It supports live music of all facets e.g. world, folk, jazz and classical. Who will run the Proms, the young musician of the years, the world music awards, and the new generation artists' scheme? Who will arrange for live music events at many of the country's music festivals, help keep concert venues like St George's Bristol and the Wigmore Hall?

I hope this government will stick to its educationist and socialist principles and retain and independent and eclectic BBC by retaining the licence fee and that you will support this action.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Thomas