

, 5th March 2004.

Dear Sirs,

Re: BBC Charter – Review.

In the consultation process for the Charter review a survey will be conducted to include “research and direct engagement with viewers and listeners”. As viewers and listeners here in Spain do not officially exist and therefore we cannot expect researchers to turn up on our doorsteps, I write to express my views on the forthcoming review.

Most of us were bitterly disappointed at losing the BBC channels last May, in my case particularly at the loss of BBC 4 – which at long last provided an outlet for minority viewing of a distinctly cultural nature (somewhat akin to that provided by Radio 3). No-one is asking for or expecting the privilege of viewing a service free that UK residents pay a licence fee for. Most would willingly pay the annual licence fee for the facility to view the range of domestic channels available to UK residents and perhaps this point could be raised during the review. My many German neighbours here in this apartment block enjoy their domestic radio and TV stations on the digital system. I envy them their huge choice of channels. Inequalities still therefore do exist in the much triumphed European Union.

Yours faithfully,



Marcia van der Wal (Mrs.)

To: Department for Culture, Media & Sport
Broadcast Policy Division
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