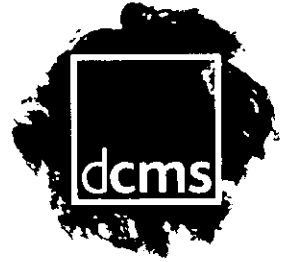


Mr Brian Wilby  
85 The Serpentine  
Aughton  
Ormskirk  
Lancs.  
L39 6RN



2 April 2004

Dear Mr Wilby,

**BBC Charter Review**

Thank you for your letter to the BBC Charter Review Team, received on the 31<sup>st</sup> March.

On 11 December 2003 Tessa Jowell launched the BBC Charter review with a wide-ranging industry and public consultation. This consultation is supported by a package of survey research and direct engagement with viewers and listeners.

We intend to publish a Green Paper at the end of this year, which will bring together the results of the consultation and other strands of work to form policy options for further consideration. We are grateful for the comments you have made about the BBC and have fed them into the Charter review process.

Thank you for your interest and contribution to BBC Charter review.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'NR Appleby'. The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized script.

Natalie Appleby  
BBC Charter Review



30th March 2004

B.B.C. Charter Review

Dept. for Culture, Media and Sport

2-4 Cockspur Street  
London SW1Y 5DH

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to say how much I value the programmes offered by the BBC on radio and television, especially radio, and to say how important I feel it is that the BBC continues to be independent and financed solely by the licence fee.

I particularly value the music on radio 3, its broad range and its commitment to supporting 'New Generation Artists'. This week we can hear the Belcea Quartet & the Kungsbäck Trio, for example, both of which come through the 'New Generation Artists' scheme. Radio 3 has given me the opportunity to get to know, for example, the six Bartok quartets, the piano music of Schönberg & Webern, and other 20th century composers. No commercially sponsored programmes could offer this range.

Of spoken-word programmes I have particularly enjoyed the two series in which Joan Bakewell discusses with artists, musicians, writers etc their religious understandings. What a range of nuanced ideas, thoughts and imaginings between belief & unbelief and across the faiths. Another wonderful programme on Radio 4 is 'In our Time' presented by Melvyn Bragg. How it

enriches the listener's understanding of history, science, philosophy and literature. And there are many other excellent programmes on radio. The news on radio is generally good, well balanced, and more searching than on television, although the ten o'clock news on BBC is good on the whole.

I enjoy arts programmes on BBC 2 - we used to have more, but I value what we have.

~~The recent programmes presented by Charles Hylleberg~~  
on Mozart have been excellent, well researched & accurate. I was apprehensive in advance, fearing they might be "dumbed down" but in fact they showed that it is possible to combine high standards with a popular approach.

The general level of BBC programmes is so much higher than those of its rivals, & I feel sure this is only possible because of its independent funding. ~~The licence is a superb~~  
value, & should be raised sufficiently to enable it to continue to offer the best in quality, to bring on new young talent in all the arts.

The government is aiming for a society with 50% university graduates. We need to continue to support public service broadcasting to match the raised educational standards of the nation. ~~how~~ may the BBC continue to flourish in its present form.

Yours sincerely,  
Brian Welby