

9 May 2005

To:- Department for Culture, Media and Sport,
2-4, Cockspur St.,
London,
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BBC CHARTER REVIEW CONSULTATION

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter; I set out below my thoughts on the questions put in the Green Paper.

Q 1 and 2:- these definitions are useful and do summarise what the BBC should be about, not least the international aspect where the World Service should continue to do the excellent job it has done for many years; now it can be heard across this country it can add to the viewpoints available to the home audience - I personally find it a valuable addition to the home services.

Q 3:- The characteristics listed are right, provided the BBC is allowed to provide programmes across the whole range, that is popular and even trivial as well as highbrow. Otherwise it will be in danger of being undermined by critics of the universality of the licence fee.

Q 4:- I agree.

Q 5:- I suppose a further review is inevitable, but I really do not see why the licence fee is not as suitable for the digital age as in the past. It can be levied on households with a domestic TV set, as most people will have one of these regardless of whether they also have sets in their car or elsewhere, or whether they watch on their computers.

Q 6:- No comment.

Questions on the proposed Trust:- It is important that the views of the viewers and listeners are available to the Trust, as well as those of the experts.

I am happy with the other views and proposals set out on pages 8 to 15 of the Green Paper.

Yours faithfully,



(Peter R C Dancer)