

29th March 2005

BBC Charter Review
Department for Culture, Media and Sport
2-4 Cockspur Street
London SW1Y 5DH

Dear Sir or Madam

I have seen your February 2005 leaflet entitled "**YOUR BBC YOUR SAY**" inviting the public to comment on the DCMS's Green Paper which supposedly will help determine the future of the BBC.

Before I waste any time on this, I would be grateful for an assurance that this will be genuine *consultation* and not merely the DCMS going through the motions of consulting before merely proceeding in the way it has always intended.

I have worked in the Civil Service and know how these things usually work. Individuals and organisations devote a good deal of time to making constructive comments on an issue. In the event most of their comments are given the most superficial treatment and essentially dismissed without a proper hearing.

For this exercise to have any credibility, the DCMS will need to make available, should individuals wish to see it (to be paid for if necessary), a complete list of all the points made and convincing reasons why particular comments cannot be accepted. There cannot be that many people who will trouble to comment and so this would be perfectly feasible if the comments are actually considered properly.

That this is to happen should be announced by means of an arranged PQ. I look forward to receiving the Department's response to this important issue.

Yours faithfully



C M Willson (Mr)