



correspondence: Flat 1, Edingworth Mansions, 2 Atlantic Road South,
Weston-super-Mare, Somerset BS23 2DE.

BBC Charter Review Team
BBC Charter Review Consultation
Department for Culture, Media,
and Sport.

April 23, 2006

2-4 Cockspar Street
London SW14 5DH

Dear Sir,

Inadequate Representation /
Accountability

With reference to Section 3.5
and Subsections 9.8.7 and 9.8.8. of "A public
service for all = the BBC in the digital age"
(BBC Charter review white paper). We are
concerned that these do not recognise Wessex
cultural identity and fails to display
sensitivity to the particular needs of Wessex.

① We demand equality of treatment with
Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales* with
provision of programming in Wessex language/
dialect across a range of platforms including
use of the internet to support our language
which is as worthy of respect as Gaelic and
Welsh.

② It is not obvious that the proposed
"Audience Councils" represent any advance

Website: www.zyworld.com/wessexsociety

* including an individual Trust member dedicated to Wessex.

over the existing Broadcasting Councils and Forum. It is not clear that anything changes other than the names. In particular, it seems that Wessex is subsumed in an amorphous "England" which ignores regional perspectives.

While the recent "Poetry Please" programme marking Bame's Night was welcome (we hope that it augurs well for more sympathetic attitudes towards Wessex in future) it was broadcast in an England rather than a Wessex context.

We trust that Wessex (defined as those counties to the south and west of London, with a population greater than Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland taken together) will be represented (specifically) with its own "Audience Council" on a par with those of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, and that the Wessex Society will be kept fully informed and included by you in the new arrangements for the BBC, and that the Society, as the only cultural representative of Wessex as a whole, will be consulted directly, as it was not during the proclaimed "two years of consultation, research and public debate".

Yours faithfully
 Robert Craig
 Assistant Secretary
 The Wessex Society

Department for Culture, Media and Sport	
DATE RECEIVED:	27 APR 2006
Treat Official (TOs) Correspondence	
Deadline:	26 / 05 / 06 (Tick)
Action	Treat Official Reply <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BPD	Treat As Appropriate <input type="checkbox"/>
CIBU	For Information only <input type="checkbox"/>
PCU REF:	WP 41782

P.S.

Will you acknowledge the Society's concerns?



WESSEX SOCIETY



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