



FOUR-CORNERS-VISION

Rt. Hon. Tessa Jowell, MP
Department for Culture, Media and Sport
2-4 Cockspur Street
LONDON SW1Y 5DH

August 16th 2001

Dear Secretary of State,

Further BBC Digital Services

I understand that you are making final deliberations on BBC proposals for further digital services, including digital national radio stations.

Clearly, the BBC must be allowed to grow and develop, especially if it can provide genuinely distinctive new services that will add something special to Britain's broadcasting landscape. However, as part of the independent broadcasting sector, this company inevitably shares the fear that the Corporation might abuse its position and resources to imperil commercial businesses. I write to suggest a last-minute compromise that could leave honour intact on all sides!

I suggest that the BBC should be encouraged to make full use of its digital radio opportunities – but should invite proposals from *independent producers who could supply and maintain new services which offer genuine additional listener choice.*

I hope you will be able to give this idea consideration, even at this late stage, as I feel it has genuine merit.

Yours sincerely,

Phamie MacDonald
Head of Production

cc: Stuart Brand, Head of Radio and Media Markets, DCMS

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