



BBC Charter review public consultation

**YOUR
bbc
YOUR
SAY**

**YOUR BBC
YOUR SAY**

Every ten years or so there is a review of everything the BBC does and how it is run. It's time to start the process again.

We want the next 10 years to be the best ever and we need your ideas to make that happen.

This review of the BBC Royal Charter is your chance to tell the Government what you like about the BBC and what you would like to change. You can comment on anything the BBC does – TV, radio, the internet, or even things the BBC sells, like DVDs, magazines and toys.

The world of television and radio has changed a lot since the last time the BBC was reviewed in the 1990s. Back then, there was no digital television. Today, over 50% of UK homes have it and can access dozens of channels. Back then, only 4% of people used the internet from home. Today, that number is also around 50%. Add to that the new digital radios you find in the shops and you have hundreds – thousands even – of new ways to get entertainment, news, and sport.

So should the BBC change? And if so how? That's what we want you to tell us.

**WE'VE PUT TOGETHER
SOME QUESTIONS TO HELP
YOU THINK ABOUT THE
bbc, BUT YOU CAN TELL
US YOUR OPINIONS ABOUT
ANYTHING THE BBC DOES.**

**send us
your opinions**

Email us at
bbccharterreview@culture.gsi.gov.uk

or send a letter to:
BBC Charter Review Consultation
Department for Culture,
Media and Sport
2-4 Cockspur Street
London SW1Y 5DH

Or call
0207 211 6418

We would like to post your response on the website
www.bbccharterreview.org.uk. If you do not want
us to, please tell us.

You can find the full Government report on the
review of the BBC charter on the internet.

The address is:
www.bbccharterreview.org.uk

The text of this young people's version was prepared in co-operation with the UWhat? Campaign of the Children's Rights Alliance for England. This does not mean the Children's Rights Alliance for England necessarily agrees with all the points in this consultation document.

YOUR bbc YOUR SAY

KEY QUESTIONS

- What do you like or dislike about the BBC? What do you watch on TV or listen to on the radio? Sports? News? Entertainment? Do you use the BBC website?
- If you live in Scotland, Wales, or Northern Ireland, do you like the way the BBC tells you about where you live?
- If you live in England, does the BBC give you enough information about your region?
- Do you have any advice on how the BBC can make the best use of new technology? How should the BBC use the

- internet or digital television and radio?
- What other technology do you think the BBC could use better?
- Should the BBC continue to sell things (like DVDs, magazines, toys)?
- How should we pay for the BBC? Is the licence fee the best way? Can you think of any other ways?
- How do we make sure the BBC listens to the public? Should you have a greater say in what the BBC puts on TV or radio? How?

Got more to say? Tell us anything else you think about the BBC.

BBC FACTS

What does the BBC do?

What does 'BBC' stand for?
British Broadcasting Corporation

What is the BBC Royal Charter?

The BBC Royal Charter is a document signed by the Queen. There is also an Agreement between the Government and the BBC and these documents set out the rules for what the BBC does and where it gets its money.

The rules do not mention specific television or radio programmes – that is up to the people who work at the BBC – but the rules do make sure the BBC creates programmes that appeal to the diverse population of the UK.

The Royal Charter normally expires every 10 years.

What does the BBC do?

- Services in the nations and regions – BBC Scotland, BBC Northern Ireland, BBC Wales and BBC English Regions.
- Eight TV channels – BBC1 and BBC2, BBC 3 and BBC4, CBeebies, CBBC, BBC News 24 and BBC Parliament.
- 54 Radio stations – Radio 1, Radio2, Radio 3, Radio 4, Radio Five Live, Five Live Sports Xtra,

Radio 1Xtra, BBC6 Music, BBC7 and BBC Asian Network, as well as 38 local radio stations and a further six stations covering the nations.

- BBCi – the BBC's interactive services, including websites, mobile services and interactive television.
- In addition, the BBC runs the World Service and some TV stations in other countries (like BBC America) and has departments that sell things like DVDs or produce magazines like The Radio Times.

Who pays for the BBC?

You do. We do. Almost every home with a TV in the UK does.

If you have a colour TV at home, the TV licence fee this year is £116. If your TV is black and white, it's £38.50. Those rates will go up a little in April, 2004.

People aged 75 pay no fee, some pensioners and disabled people pay a £5 fee, and registered blind people get a 50% discount.

Last year the BBC earned £2,638 million in TV licence fees and another £170 million from selling things like TV shows and DVDs both in the UK and in other countries.