



**Northern Ireland
Assembly**

Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure

Room 344
Parliament Buildings
Ballymiscaw
Stormont
Belfast BT4 3XX
Tel: +44 (0)28 9052 1602

Consultation on the renewal of the BBC's Royal Charter in 2017

The BBC's Royal Charter is due for renewal in 2017. The CAL Committee wants to hear your views on what the new Charter should say.

The Committee is considering the issues outlined in the questions below. We would like to hear your views, as the BBC's audience, in order to help shape the Committee's position.

If you want to help us shape the next BBC Royal Charter then please respond to the questions below in a Word format. We need to receive your response by **5pm on Friday 20th November 2015**. Please send your response to: committee.cal@niassembly.gov.uk

- What should the next Charter say about the BBC's approach to, and priorities for, Northern Ireland?
- How could the governance structure of the BBC be enhanced to ensure a voice for Northern Ireland; and what accountability arrangements for the BBC should be put in place?
- Do you believe that there is value in having locally-focused programming commissioned from Northern Ireland's independent producers, and do you consider that there is sufficient externally (non-BBC) produced programming on BBC NI?
- How well does the BBC portray Northern Ireland on the national network?
- What could the BBC do to develop more partnerships in Northern Ireland and which partnerships should be prioritised?
- What could the BBC do to enhance its role in the development of production capacity and skills in Northern Ireland?
- There are Public Purposes* enshrined in the BBC's current Charter. How might these be enhanced to best serve the Northern Ireland audience?
- The BBC is currently funded by a licence fee. Is the licence fee still appropriate, or are there alternative ways to fund the BBC and what are the benefits and disadvantages of these?

**“The BBC exists to serve the public interest” and that its main object is the promotion of the following Public Purposes:*

- *Sustaining citizenship and civil society;*
- *Promoting education and learning;*
- *Stimulating creativity and cultural excellence;*
- *Representing the UK, its nations, regions and communities;*
- *Bringing the UK to the world and the world to the UK; and*
- *Promoting its other purposes, helping to deliver to the public the benefit of emerging communications technologies and services; and, in addition,*
- *Taking a leading role in the switchover to digital television”.*