

Information Policy & Compliance bbc.co.uk/foi

Mr John Walker

24 September 2009

Dear Mr Walker

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - RFI20091259

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act ('the Act') of 28 August, repeated below.

"I. Who wrote the BBC's Charter?

The BBC Charter was drafted by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (the 'DCMS') for execution by the Queen.

In the BBC Charter, the BBC's "public services" include:

- * Sustaining citizenship and civil society; * Stimulating creativity and cultural excellence;
- 2. What is the definition of "civil society" as used by the BBC?
- 3. What is the definition of "cultural excellence" as used by the BBC?"

Please note that you have listed two of the BBC's public purposes. The public purposes are distinct from the BBC's public services.

As these terms have a plain English, dictionary meaning, the BBC does not hold written definitions of them.



The BBC's public purposes are laid out in the BBC Charter. The approach to how the BBC should fulfil these requirements is set out in Clause 5 of the BBC Agreement and further expanded in the BBC Trust's Purpose Remits. The Purpose Remits are available at:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/bbctrust/about/how we govern/purpose remits/index.shtml.

I hope you find this information useful.

Appeal Rights

If you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to an internal review by a BBC senior manager or legal adviser. Please contact us at the address above, explaining what you would like us to review and including your reference number. If you are not satisfied with the internal review, you can appeal to the Information Commissioner. The contact details are: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF, telephone 01625 545 700 or see http://www.ico.gov.uk/

Yours sincerely,

Rachael Ward Adviser, Information Policy & Compliance.