



*On 15 September 2016 the government published a draft Royal Charter and Framework Agreement. This is one in a series of information sheets, explaining some of the key policies contained in the drafts in more detail.*

### **Background**

The governance - as well as regulation - of the BBC is currently undertaken by the BBC Trust. An independent review into the governance and regulation of the BBC was conducted by Sir David Clementi in March 2016 and the recommendations were accepted by the government. The new Charter will establish a strong unitary board for the BBC, which will be fully responsible for the governance of the BBC and the delivery of its services. The Charter will also appoint Ofcom as the independent external regulator of the BBC. There will be a short period of transition before the BBC Board and Ofcom take on their new governance and regulatory roles on 3 April 2017.

### **The government's policy**

- There will be a short period of transition before the BBC Board and Ofcom take on their new governance and regulatory roles on 3 April 2017.
- The fundamental reforms set out in the draft Charter will require time for the bodies involved to implement, given the complexity of the changes, the need for a smooth transition and the importance of consulting on some elements of the new regulatory structures, such as the new operating framework and licensing regime.
- The BBC will continue to operate under the current arrangements during this transitional period. This means that the BBC Executive Board and the BBC Trust will continue to govern and regulate the BBC as they do now.

### **Provisions in the Charter and Framework Agreement**

- The transitional arrangements are set out in the Schedule to the Charter.
- Further details will be confirmed in the coming months as we work closely with the BBC and Ofcom to ensure all elements of transition are managed as smoothly as possible, including the process by which the new BBC Board will be established.

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For more information, please visit [www.gov.uk/government/collections/bbc-charter-review](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/bbc-charter-review).  
If you would like to discuss the contents of this information sheet, please contact [enquiries@culture.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@culture.gov.uk)

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