

DEPARTMENT FOR CULTURE, MEDIA & SPORT BBC CHARTER REVIEW - Advisory Group

Terms of Reference

Membership of the Group is voluntary and by invitation from the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, who will Chair the meetings.

Members will possess a range of skills, experience and expertise that enables them to contribute independently and in different ways to the oversight of the Government's Review of the BBC Royal Charter.

Members are appointed on the basis of their personal experience not as representatives of their respective organisations.

The members are:

Dame Colette Bowe (Chairman of the Banking Standards Board; President of the Voice of the Listener and Viewer and former Chair of Ofcom);

Alex Mahon (media and digital executive and former CEO of Shine Productions);

Ashley Highfield (Chief Executive of Johnston Press);

Stewart Purvis CBE (Professor of Journalism and former CEO of ITN);

Darren Henley OBE (CEO of Arts Council England);

Lopa Patel MBE (a digital entrepreneur)

Dawn Airey (Yahoo and former Chairman of Channel 5)

Andrew Fisher (Executive Chairman of Shazam)

Additional members may be co-opted as and when required by the Chairman.

Secretariat services will be provided by officials from DCMS.

Status

The Group has no legal status and is not set up under the Cabinet Office guidelines for public appointments. It will operate on a voluntary basis in line with the tasks set out in this remit.

Expenses will be provided via DCMS officials for travel and cover, where this is necessary.

Meetings

The Group will meet approximately six times a year at times agreed in advance by the Secretary of State's office. Meetings will normally last two hours and will cover issues of process and policy. Given the personal basis on which members are

appointed, if members are not able to attend substitutes will not normally be appropriate.

Papers will be circulated in advance of each meeting and a note of the meeting with action points if appropriate within one week of each meeting taking place.

Remit

To provide expertise, innovation and advice for the process and policy of the review of the BBC Royal Charter and Agreement. This is to be achieved by:

1. providing strategic independent oversight and challenge to the Charter Review programme of work;
2. bringing to bear their own personal experience and expertise on the policy debates

The Group may make recommendations about both policy and process, but ultimate responsibility for these decisions will remain with DCMS Ministers.