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Media & Sport

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Caroline Lucas MP

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23 February 2016

Dear Caroline,

Thank you for your letter of 16 February, to the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, the Rt Hon John Whittingdale OBE MP, on behalf of a number of your constituents about the 38 Degrees campaign regarding the BBC Charter Review. I am replying as the Minister responsible for this policy area.

The Secretary of State has specifically said that views expressed by 38 Degrees members are valid. However, I would point out that their original circular asking for responses wholly misrepresented both the Charter Review and the Secretary of State's comments on it. Furthermore, there is no new consultation, although we are carrying out opinion research and focus groups to obtain more detailed information about public opinion. This was always the intention.

The Government takes the responses extremely seriously and is in the process of reading and analysing all of these. I can assure you that once all the responses have been read and analysed the Government will of course be publishing the consultation results.

I hope that this is helpful.

Ed Vaizey MP

Minister for Culture and the Digital Economy

