Foras na Gaeilge

9ú Márta 2026

A chara,

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the BBC Royal Charter Review. Foras na Gaeilge is the statutory body, set up under the Belfast / Good Friday Agreement, responsible for the promotion of the Irish language in Northern Ireland and throughout the island of Ireland. As a body with statutory responsibility under UK law in relation to the matters outlined in this submission, we welcome the opportunity to actively engage with the BBC at this crucial time in relation to the media landscape.

Under Part 5 of the legislation by which Foras na Gaeilge was established, the **British–Irish Agreement Act, 1999**, Foras na Gaeilge has the following functions:

- to promote the Irish language;
- to facilitate and encourage the use of Irish in speech and writing in public and private life in the South and, in the context **of Part III of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages**, in Northern Ireland where there is appropriate demand;
- to provide advice to both administrations, to public bodies and to other groups in the private and voluntary sectors;
- to undertake support projects and provide grant assistance to bodies and groups as considered necessary;
- to undertake research, promotional campaigns, public relations and media relations;
- to develop terminology and dictionaries;
- to support Irish-medium education and the teaching of Irish.

It is in accordance with the function set out by UK law **"to provide advice to both administrations, to public bodies and to other groups in the private and voluntary sectors,"** that Foras na Gaeilge is making this submission as part of the BBC Charter Review Consultation process.

The BBC operates within a clearly defined legal and policy framework that underpins the protection and promotion of the Irish language in Northern Ireland. Under **Part III of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages**, the UK has committed to adopting positive measures to support Irish-language broadcasting and to improve access to Irish-language media. In addition, the Northern Ireland Identity and Language Act 2022 has further strengthened statutory and policy framework for Irish through the establishment of the Irish Language Commissioner and the introduction of language standards for public bodies. Collectively, these developments give rise to an expectation that Irish-language provision within BBC services will be visible, adequately resourced and progressively enhanced.

1ú Urlár, Foirgnimh an Chleandair, 6/6a Sráid an Chleandair, Béal Feirste, BT1 5HX
• 1st Floor, Callender Buildings, 6/6a Callender Street, Belfast, BT1 5HX
T: +353 1 6398400• R: eolas@forasnagaeilge.ie • www.forasnagaeilge.ie

NSAI
Deimhniú Comhlíontachta
SWiFT 3000
Foras na Gaeilge

Minority Language Media (MLM) has great importance for our statutory remit because MLM has the capacity to influence positively the main pillars of language planning: **language status, language use and language attitudes.** MLM can also be seen as creating an important public sphere for the linguistic minority where ideas of concern can be exchanged and debated.

Foras na Gaeilge believes that the current provision of media content in the Irish language by the BBC is very limited and lacks the ambition which the BBC demonstrates in the United Kingdom in relation to the Welsh language, or even for Scots Gaelic.

In the next BBC Royal Charter, Foras na Gaeilge would like to see the following changes to the BBC's Mission and Public Purposes:

1. **A clear and marked improvement in indigenous minority language media balance and a priority principle of UK-wide fairness** (as measured across Welsh, Irish and Scots Gaelic which, all three, are linguistically comparable and related indigenous minority languages, with a significant community of speakers and a significant media presence in the United Kingdom). BBC Wales spends £14M on BBC Radio Cymru, £22M on the BBC contribution to S4C, and spends an undisclosed share of its £15M online budget on Welsh: a total BBC spend of at least £40M + on Welsh language content which is already served by S4C's £95M share of the UK licence fee funding. BBC Scotland spends £10M on BBC ALBA, £4M on BBC Radio nan Gàidheal, and spends an undisclosed share of its £18M online budget on Gaelic: a total BBC spend of £17M+ on Scots Gaelic content. BBC Northern Ireland's spend on BBC Gaeilge is not disclosed in the BBC Annual Report but, across television, radio and online, is estimated to be only around £1M. This imbalance is deeply perturbing and has grown to the point that it is clearly no longer just and impartial, but could lead to a legitimate accusation that the BBC is acting in a discriminatory manner against the Irish language. A strategy to address this shocking imbalance is needed in the upcoming BBC Royal Charter period.

2. **The recognition of Irish as a cross-jurisdictional community language and of the clear obligations on the BBC in this regard**. Working with Foras na Gaeilge and the Irish Language Commissioner, suitably ambitious and measurable targets for Irish language media should be set in the new Charter, with a strong emphasis on accountability, regular monitoring and suitable corrective actions. Provision should extend to structured cross-community supports, acknowledging Irish as a shared cultural and civic resource and promoting equality of access, inclusion and participation through Irish-language content across diverse communities.

3. **A systematic and increased investment in, provision of, and findability of Irish language content across BBC platforms**. In particular, a dedicated iPlayer button for BBC Gaeilge content to match the BBC ALBA and S4C buttons is long overdue and BBC Gaeilge needs a realistic budget for a comprehensive marketing strategy for its content. There is also a glaring lack of Irish language content for children and young people on the BBC. The BBC needs to invest more in this content and it should be easy for young audiences to find and to access it. BBC Northern Ireland should develop a YouTube channel dedicated solely to BBC Irish language content and provide a commissioning budget accordingly. The BBC also needs to better support BBC Bitesize to create essential Irish language content relevant to the curriculum in Northern Ireland.

4. **Provide a news service in Irish on BBC News Northern Ireland.** A budget must be allocated to BBC News NI to provide Irish language output. Unlike BBC Scotland (Gaelic) and BBC Wales (Welsh),

BBC Northern Ireland is in the most anomalous position of having no Irish language news service. A web-based and text-based service, similar to that of BBC Scotland's 'Naidheachdan' service, needs to be initiated in the upcoming Charter period.

5. **Formalised collaboration between the BBC and the Irish language media sector including NI Screen, TG4 and RTÉ**, and increased investment in the joint development of Irish language media skills and new talent, leading to the continued growth of Northern Ireland's creative economy.

Our responses to the consultation are below, marked in yellow highlighter, with added text in purple.

Foras na Gaeilge would also like to use this opportunity to request a joint meeting between BBC UK management, BBC NI management, the Irish language Commissioner and Foras na Gaeilge in order to discuss the crisis in the provision of Irish language content across the BBC.

Le meas agus buíochas,



Seán Ó Coinn

Príomhfheidhmeannach/Chief Executive, Foras na Gaeilge.

*Foirgnimh an Chleandair, 6/6a Sráid an Chleandair, Béal Feirste, BT1 5HX*

*Callender Buildings, 6/6a Callender Street, Belfast, BT1 5HX*

***Britain's Story: The Next Chapter - BBC Royal Charter Review, Green Paper and public consultation. Published 16 December 2025***

**Consultation questions**

**Introduction: The BBC's Mission and Public Purposes**

**Question 1. Do you agree or disagree that the BBC's current Mission and Public Purposes should remain the same?**

- Agree - The BBC's Mission and Public Purposes should remain the same
- Disagree - The BBC's Mission and Public Purposes should change
  Please see the introductory note.
- Unsure or no opinion

**Question 2. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the BBC should have a specific Public Purpose to support economic growth?**

- Strongly agree - A Public Purpose aiming to support the growth of the creative economy should definitely be added.
- Agree - A Public Purpose aiming to support the growth of the creative economy should probably be added.
- Neither agree nor disagree - No opinion either way.
- Disagree - A Public Purpose aiming to support the growth of the creative economy should probably not be added.
- Strongly disagree - A Public Purpose aiming to support the growth of the creative economy should definitely not be added.
- Unsure

**Question 3. Which option, if any, most closely represents your feelings on whether the BBC should continue to provide a wide range of content and services that represent all audiences in a way that brings communities together, supports social cohesion, and helps build a unifying national story throughout the next Charter period?**

- The BBC should do more to represent all audiences. The BBC should provide more content and services aiming to represent all audiences.
- The BBC is doing the right amount to represent all audiences. Currently, enough is being done to ensure all audiences are represented. The BBC should continue to provide content and services aiming to represent all audiences.
- The BBC is not doing enough to represent all audiences, but no further action should be taken. Currently, not enough is being done to ensure all audiences are represented. However, there are other areas the BBC should focus on instead of providing more content and services aiming to represent all audiences.

- The BBC does too much to represent all audiences. The BBC should provide less content and fewer services aiming to represent all audiences.
- No opinion either way
- Unsure

**Question 4. If you agree that the BBC should continue or do more to play this role, what options aiming to improve how the BBC reflects and represents all audiences do you support, if any?** (Please select all that apply)

- Producing more content that is distinctive to the UK
- Covering genres which are less covered by other broadcasters e.g. arts, minority language broadcasting
- Producing more content that brings people together around shared moments
- Sharing diverse voices and perspectives from all parts of the UK
- Improving on and off screen diversity
- Other, please specify [Free text box; 50 words]
  The imbalance between the BBC contribution to Welsh and Gaelic (£40M+ for Welsh, £17M+ for Gaelic and c. £1M for Irish) has grown to the point that it is clearly no longer just and impartial, but shockingly discriminatory against the Irish language. A strategy to address this imbalance is needed.
- No changes are necessary
- Unsure or no opinion

**Chapter 1: A trusted institution**

**Question 5. To what extent do you agree or disagree that new requirements on the BBC should be introduced so that the BBC does more to improve workplace standards?**

- Strongly agree - New requirements on the BBC to improve workplace standards should definitely be introduced.
- Agree - New requirements on the BBC to improve workplace standards should probably be introduced.
- Neither agree nor disagree - No opinion either way.
- Disagree - New requirements on the BBC to improve workplace standards should probably not be introduced.
- Strongly disagree - New requirements on the BBC to improve workplace standards should definitely not be introduced.
- Unsure

**Question 6. How, if at all, does the amount those working for the BBC are paid impact your view of the BBC?** When responding, you may wish to consider how much it impacts your trust in the BBC's outputs and whether it affects how much you engage with BBC services. [200 word open box]

**Question 7. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the BBC is currently accountable to the public?**

- Strongly agree - The BBC is almost always accountable to the public.
- Agree - The BBC is mostly accountable to the public.
- Neither agree nor disagree - No opinion either way.
- Disagree - The BBC is rarely accountable to the public.
- Strongly disagree - The BBC is almost never accountable to the public.
- Unsure

**Question 8. Which of the following options aiming to enhance the BBC's accountability, if any, do you support?** (Please select all that apply)

- Requiring the BBC to use consultative forums, such as citizens' assemblies, so that decision-making represents the publics' views and voices
- Requiring the BBC to hear regional perspectives through new consultative frameworks or other structures, representing each of the UK's nations and/or regions
- Enhancing how the BBC conducts audience research to help inform decision making
- Strengthening requirements of the Board to ensure the BBC engages with the public in a meaningful way
- Changing the structure of the Board to enhance its effectiveness and accountability
- Changing the Board's appointment process, this could include reducing the government's role in board appointments to appointing the Chair only
- Clarifying the roles and responsibilities of board members, this could include setting out duties for the Chair
- Enhancing the role of the independent board members and their ability to hold the BBC to account
- Strengthening the external scrutiny of the BBC, this could include, for example, greater oversight by Ofcom or Parliament
- Other (please specify) [free text]

  There are structures within Northern Ireland which have been designed by the state to support the Irish language. These include Foras na Gaeilge itself and the Office of the Irish language Commissioner. BBC Wales has a long-standing relationship with Welsh language bodies which involves discussion of funding agreements, content production, skills training, and adherence to specific Welsh language standards. This needs to be replicated in BBC

Northern Ireland in respect of the Irish language. Foras na Gaeilge, the North South Implementation Body for the Irish language on both parts of the island, has an ongoing partnership arrangement with the state broadcaster in the south of Ireland RTÉ to promote Irish to the wider community. This type of relationship should be developed by BBC NI as the state broadcaster in NI. Indeed the experience in the south should assist greatly in developing similar in NI. Such arrangements would enhance the BBC's accountability in fulfilling its Charter obligations regarding the Irish language in Northern Ireland, supporting structured engagement with statutory bodies, improved transparency in decision-making, and more effective planning, delivery and monitoring of Irish-language provision.

- No changes are necessary
- Unsure or no opinion

**Question 9. The government is considering targeted changes to increase transparency in the BBC to enhance BBC accountability over the next Charter period. Which options, if any, do you support?** (Please select all that apply)

- Improving the way the BBC communicates important information so it is clear, concise and able to be understood by everyone
- Requiring the BBC to communicate important information better to industry stakeholders, particularly to other UK broadcasters
- Requiring the BBC to communicate more information about its complaints process, particularly to those who submit complaints
- Requiring the BBC to communicate more information about the process for selecting which programmes should be made and broadcast
- Requiring the BBC to communicate more information about its editorial decisions
- Other, please specify [free text limited to 200 words]
  Ambitious, measurable targets for Irish language media need to be included in the Charter, with an emphasis on accountability, regular monitoring and suitable corrective actions. When there is no ongoing transparency regarding the lack of investment in Irish language content, this erodes public trust in the BBC. This is especially true at a time when Irish language media outperforms both Welsh and Scots Gaelic media in terms of Oscar and BAFTA UK recognition and when the series 'Crá' has demonstrated a very strong appetite in UK-wide audiences for Irish language content.
- As a publicly funded broadcaster, the BBC should demonstrate that its Irish-language provision represents clear value for money and upholds balanced provision across regions. Licence fee contributions from Irish-speaking audiences must be reflected in a fair and visible level of investment, services and creative opportunity. Accordingly, transparent reporting on expenditure, commissioning and audience impact is necessary to evidence a fair return on public funding, address longstanding gaps in provision, and secure Irish-language content as a sustainable element of the BBC's core public service remit.
- No changes are necessary

- Unsure or no opinion

**Question 10. Why, if at all, does the BBC's independence matter to you?** (Please select all that apply)

- It allows the BBC to be free from government or political influence in the content it releases
- It allows the BBC to be impartial when reporting on elections, government policies, and political parties
- It allows the BBC to hold government to account and/or be critical of government
- It allows the BBC to be editorially independent and make the final call on what stories to cover and how to cover them
- It allows the BBC to pursue its own agenda, without interference, so it can provide content that serves audiences across the UK
- Other, please specify [Free text]
- The BBC's independence does not matter to me
- Unsure or no opinion

**Question 11. What measures to increase the BBC's independence from government, if any, should be prioritised to support greater trust in, and engagement with, the BBC?** In your response you may wish to explain your reasoning and provide relevant evidence.

- [free text limited to 200 words]
- Unsure or no opinion

**Chapter 2: Delivering services for the public good**

**Question 12. What, if anything, should the BBC focus on to ensure AI is used for the public good, and for the benefit of the wider creative industries?** Please select all that apply.

- Transparently explaining its own use of AI, for example, in the creation of content and services
- Having new requirements (for example, transparency obligations), to set the ethical standards for AI's use in public service media organisations
- Teaching audiences how to recognise where AI has been used, and to critically assess the reliability of information and content
- Helping audiences to use AI themselves, for example, teaching them basic prompting skills
- Find innovative uses of AI to drive efficiencies within the BBC and in the wider media sector
- Act as a bridge between AI companies and smaller public service media who have less time and money to negotiate, helping to support wider collaboration

- Other, please specify [free text limited to 200 words]
  The Irish language is currently disadvantaged in the area of AI, especially regarding the existence of 'speech to text' technology and language translation technology. These technologies are especially important in the area of subtitling and translation subtitling. Progress is being made in this area within universities in Ireland but the collaboration, expertise and BBC proprietary Irish language recordings would help bring forward audience solutions based on new technology, serving existing audiences and opening the door to new audiences.
- The new Charter should not introduce obligations around AI for the BBC
- Unsure or no opinion

**Question 13. What kind of programming, if any, do you think the BBC should make more visible on its platforms?** (Please select all that apply)

- News and current affairs programming
- Arts, religious and international affairs programming (sometimes referred to as 'underserved' genres)
- Children's and educational programming
- Programming showing different voices and perspectives from across the UK
- Locally relevant programming
- Other, please specify [free text limited to 200 words]
  Public service prominence and findability is a key question for indigenous minority language media. A dedicated iPlayer button for BBC Gaeilge content to match the ALBA and S4C buttons is long overdue. There is also a glaring lack of Irish language content for children and young people on the BBC. The BBC needs to invest more in this content and it should be easy to find and to access and underpinned by a properly funded marketing strategy. BBC NI needs to support the school sector better, using BBC Bitesize to create essential Irish language content relevant to the curriculum in the north. As stated above and below, the lack of any kind of BBC News service in the Irish language is anomalous and discriminatory. Enhanced prominence should be afforded to short-form Irish-language news and digital content, together with original drama and factual programming that reflects audience demand. Content supporting new speakers, families and cultural participation would further strengthen audience development and language normalisation. Bilingual provision and strengthened discoverability are also essential to ensure Irish-language content is readily accessible across BBC platforms.
- The new Charter should not require the BBC to make specific types of programmes more visible
- Unsure or no opinion

**Question 14. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the BBC should make greater use of third party platforms to share its content?**

- Strongly agree - The BBC should definitely make greater use of third party platforms to share its content
- Agree - The BBC should probably make greater use of third party platforms to share its content
- Neither agree nor disagree - No opinion either way
- Disagree - The BBC should not make greater use of third party platforms to share its content
- Strongly disagree - The BBC should definitely not make greater use of third party platforms to share its content
- Unsure

**Question 15. Reflecting on your response above, please explain why you agree or disagree that the BBC should make greater use of third party platforms to share its content.** Please provide relevant evidence, where possible.

- [free text limited to 200 words]
  Third-party platforms can broaden reach to younger audiences and new speakers who may not engage directly with BBC services, improving discoverability and supporting language normalisation. Their use should complement BBC platforms while preserving clear branding, editorial oversight and core public service values. The recent agreement between BBC and YouTube is welcomed, because it demonstrates a recognition of younger audience trends. However, in the same way as signposting buttons for minority language content is necessary on iPlayer, prominence and signposting for BBC Gaeilge content for children on YouTube is also necessary, and is not difficult to achieve. A priority in the next Charter period must be the establish of a YouTube channel dedicated solely to BBC Irish language content and the provision a commissioning budget for this content.

**Question 16. What, if anything, do you believe would improve the value and relevance of BBC news and current affairs to you? This includes all BBC news and current affairs content, including its TV, radio and online news services, and local, national and international news outputs.**

- A renewed focus on accuracy and impartiality
- More clearly marking when content is news versus where it is opinion
- Robust and transparent editorial guidelines applied consistently
- Greater explanation of the editorial and journalistic decisions taken when reporting the news
- Greater transparency when mistakes and errors are made
- More effort to be made in taking into account the public's views in its news coverage
- Reporting more news stories which are local to you
- Reporting more international news stories

- Highlighting stories which are not reported by other outlets
- Other, please specify [free text limited to 200 words]
  Unlike BBC Scotland (Gaelic) and BBC Wales (Welsh), BBC Northern Ireland is in the most anomalous position of having no Irish language news service. A web-based and text-based service, similar to that of BBC Scotland's 'Naidheachdan' web service, needs to be initiated in the upcoming Charter period.
- No changes are necessary
- Unsure or no opinion

**Question 17. Thinking about the next Charter period, what role, if any, do you think the BBC should have in ensuring UK citizens can recognise and access trusted and accurate information?** Please provide any relevant evidence to support your response.

- [200 word text box]
  The BBC news service is much valued throughout the UK, but the lack of news in Irish is totally anomalous and erodes trust in the BBC within the minority language community in Northern Ireland and throughout the UK.

**Question 18. The BBC's international output showcases the UK, its culture and its values to a global audience. This includes the BBC World Service, which seeks to provide access to trusted news around the world in an increasingly challenging international environment. To what extent do you agree it is important that the BBC continues to perform these roles internationally?**

- Strongly agree - The BBC must continue to provide this role internationally.
- Agree - The BBC should continue to provide this role internationally.
- Neither agree nor disagree - No opinion either way.
- Disagree - The BBC should not continue to provide this role internationally.
- Strongly Disagree - The BBC must not continue to provide this role internationally.
- Unsure

**Chapter 3: Driving growth across the UK**

**Question 19. What, if anything, do you value about the BBC being UK-wide?** (Please select all that apply)

- Bringing people together from different communities across the UK, including its nations and regions
- Representing people from across the UK
- Telling local stories to a national audience
- Providing local news and information
- Money spent in local areas

- Stimulating local creative clusters (e.g. MediaCity in Greater Manchester, BBC's new headquarters in the West Midlands), including through supporting the independent production sector.
- Jobs and skills development for local people
- Other, please specify [free text limited to 200 words]
  Northern Ireland is ideally positioned to be one of the UK's powerhouses of the UK's creative economy with 'creative corridors' towards all of the UK's main creative clusters and also to the creative clusters in the Republic of Ireland. Irish language media production has the potential to be a key factor in the growth of Northern Ireland's creative economy. Irish language audiovisual creativity has achieved global recognition over the last few years with the Oscar nomination of 'An Cailín Ciúin/ The Quiet Girl', the UK audience success of 'Crá' and the impact of the 'Kneecap' film with young UK audiences and industry critics. As well as recognising the need to properly serve the Irish language community in Northern Ireland, and the need to bring Irish language creativity to broader Northern Ireland and UK audiences, the BBC must seize the opportunity afforded by Irish language media to add growth and wealth to Northern Ireland's creative industry.
- None of the above
- Unsure

**Question 20. (1) To what extent do you agree or disagree that the BBC should be required to spread more of its spending, activities, and decision-making across nations and regions of the UK?**

- Strongly agree - The BBC should definitely do more to spread its spending, activities and decision making across nations and regions of the UK.
- Agree - The BBC should probably do more to spread its spending, activities and decision making across nations and regions of the UK.
- Neither agree nor disagree - No opinion either way.
- Disagree - The BBC should probably not do more to spread its spending, activities and decision making across nations and regions of the UK.
- Strongly disagree - The BBC should definitely not do more to spread its spending, activities and decision making across nations and regions of the UK.
- Unsure

**Question 20. (2) Which option(s), if any, would you support for spreading the BBC's economic impact and role supporting the production sector across the UK nations and regions?** (Please select all that apply).

- Requiring the BBC to develop long-term strategies for regional creative sector development
- Further quotas or obligations for producing content outside London and the M25
- New quota targets for basing staff involved in commissioning content across the UK nations and regions

- Governance changes to give regional or local leads for commissioning content more control over their budget and decision-making
- Changing the rules so location is factored into decision-making around commissioning content from independent production companies
- Other: please specify
- None of the above
- Unsure or no opinion

**Question 21. What, if anything, do you think the BBC could do to fill skills gaps in the creative sector?** Please provide any relevant evidence, where possible.

- [Free-text box; 200 words]
  BBC should continue and deepen their collaboration with NI Screen's ILBF and Ireland's TG4 regarding the development of new Irish-speaking talent in the creative sector.
- Unsure or no opinion

**Question 22. If you represent an organisation that has worked with the BBC in the past, please share your reflections and provide evidence on your experience of how your partnership has worked and how it could be improved.** You may wish to consider how you aligned vision and goals for the partnership, trust, communication, transparency, decision-making, or other aspects of partnership working.

- What went well? [Free-text box; 350 words]
- What could be improved? [Free-text box; 350 words]

**Question 23. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation with an interest in R&D (e.g. a production company, university, a technology hardware company), how would you like to see the BBC supporting innovation?** Please provide relevant evidence, where possible. In your answer, you may wish to consider any specific areas where you think it should focus its leadership; what point of the R&D lifecycle is the BBC's support most valuable; and how would you like the BBC to partner with organisations like yours in R&D.

- [Free-text box; 350 words]
  As stated above, the collaboration, expertise and BBC proprietary Irish language recordings would help bring forward 'speech to text' and 'text translation' solutions based on new technology, serving existing audiences and opening the door to new audiences.
- Unsure or no opinion

**Question 24. If you represent an organisation in the creative industries, please share your reflections on your experience of the current market impact regulation process and how it could be improved.** Please provide relevant evidence, where possible.

- What went well? [Free-text box; 350 words]
- What could be improved? [Free-text box; 350 words]

**Chapter 4: Sustainable and fair funding**

**Question 25. To what extent do you agree that the licence fee should continue to fund a wide range of services and output that aim to inform, educate and entertain audiences?**

- Strongly agree - The licence fee should definitely fund a wide range of services and output that aim to inform, educate, and entertain.
- Agree - The licence fee should fund a wide range of services and output that aim to inform, educate, and entertain.
- Neither agree nor disagree - No opinion either way.
- Disagree - The licence fee should not fund a wide range of services and output that aims to inform, educate, and entertain.
- Strongly disagree - The licence fee should definitely not fund a wide range of services and output that aims to inform, educate, and entertain.
- Unsure

**Question 26. To what extent do you agree that the BBC should use the funding it receives through the licence fee to deliver a broad range of benefits to the UK?** This could include objectives such as investing in the nations and regions to drive growth across the UK, and developing skills that support the creative economy.

- Strongly agree - The BBC should definitely use the licence fee to fund a broad range of benefits to the UK and the creative economy.
- Agree - The BBC should use the licence fee to fund a broad range of benefits to the UK and the creative economy.
- Neither agree nor disagree - No opinion either way.
- Disagree - The BBC should not use the licence fee to fund a broad range of benefits to the UK and the creative economy.
- Strongly disagree - The BBC should definitely not use the licence fee to fund a broad range of benefits to the UK and the creative economy.
- Unsure

**Question 27. To what extent do you agree that the scope of the licence fee should be reformed to support the BBC's long term sustainability, which could involve requiring more households to pay but with each paying less?**

- Strongly agree - The licence fee should definitely be reformed to support the BBC's long term sustainability.
- Agree - The licence fee should be reformed to support the BBC's long term sustainability.
- Neither agree nor disagree - No opinion either way.

- Disagree - The licence fee should not be reformed to support the BBC's long term sustainability.
- Strongly disagree - The licence fee should definitely not be reformed to support the BBC's long term sustainability.
- Unsure

**Question 28. To what extent do you agree or disagree that BBC content or services should carry advertising, bearing in mind how this could provide a new income stream for the BBC, how it might impact the audience experience and the impact on other broadcasters?**

- Extensive advertising - The BBC should carry advertising on all of its content and services, including live TV and radio.
- Limited advertising - The BBC should carry limited advertising on some of its online content and services, but not on live TV or radio.
- No advertising - The BBC should not carry any advertising on its content and services.
- Neither agree nor disagree - No opinion either way.
- Unsure

**Question 29. Would you be willing to pay for a BBC top-up subscription service focused on premium and entertainment content, in addition to your licence fee, assuming it was a similar price to other popular video-on-demand subscription services?**

- Strongly agree - I would definitely be willing to pay for a BBC top-up subscription service focused on premium and entertainment content.
- Agree - I would be willing to pay for a BBC top-up subscription service focused on premium and entertainment content.
- Neither agree nor disagree - No opinion either way.
- Disagree - I would not be willing to pay for a BBC top-up subscription service focused on premium and entertainment content.
- Strongly disagree - I would definitely not be willing to pay for a BBC top-up subscription service focused on premium and entertainment content.
- Unsure

**Question 30. To what extent do you agree or disagree that new concessions for households facing significant financial pressures should be introduced?**

- Strongly agree - The government should definitely introduce new TV licence concessions for households facing significant financial pressures, even if other households have to pay more or the quality of BBC services is reduced.

- Agree - The government should introduce new TV licence concessions for households facing significant financial pressures only if there are no negative impacts on the BBC or higher costs for other households.
- Neither agree nor disagree - No opinion either way.
- Disagree - The government should not introduce new TV licence concessions for households facing significant financial pressures.
- Strongly disagree - The government should definitely not introduce new TV licence concessions for households facing significant financial pressures.
- Unsure

**Question 31. To what extent do you agree or disagree that technology should be used to support compliance, for example by requiring households using BBC iPlayer to enter details from their TV licence?**

- Strongly agree - Technology should definitely be used to support compliance, for example the BBC iPlayer login system should definitely require households using the service to enter details from their TV licence.
- Agree - Technology should be used to support compliance, for example the BBC iPlayer login system should require households using the service to enter details from their TV licence.
- Neither agree nor disagree - No opinion either way.
- Disagree - Technology should definitely not be used to support compliance, for example the BBC iPlayer login system should not require households using the service to enter details from their TV licence.
- Strongly disagree - Technology should definitely not be used to support compliance, for example the BBC iPlayer login system should definitely not require households using the service to enter details from their TV licence.
- Unsure

**Question 32. Do you have any other views on the BBC's funding model that you wish to share?** In your response, you may wish to explain why you agree or disagree with the potential changes above or suggest a different funding model.

- [Free-text box]
  The continuous creative challenge of BBC Gaeilge, as a minority language content provider, is to attractively and compellingly serve audiences and, by doing this, to support minority language bilingualism within Northern Ireland. This needs to be done with a realistic budget, comparable to resources allocated by the BBC to Welsh and Gaelic. The role of BBC management at a UK level, BBC NI management, Ofcom, and the UK government is to recognise the unique value, and definitely-endangered context, of Irish as an indigenous minority language, a living community language, and an integral part of 'Britain's story'. The imbalance in the BBC's treatment of these three 'sister languages' has become deeply perturbing and there is now an incontrovertible imperative to adequately fund the output of

BBC Gaeilge. As stated in our submission, there are significant linguistic, cultural and economic rewards to be gained, for Northern Ireland and for all of the United Kingdom.

ENDS.