

From The Chairman

The Lord Pearson of Rannoch  
107 Leadenhall Street  
London  
EC3A 4AF

20 August 2009

Our ref: 16816350

Dear Malcolm,

Thank you for your letter of 5 August.

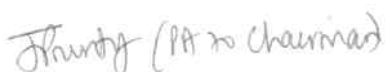
You have made clear that you feel the BBC is editorially biased on two issues, global warming and the European Union. I should explain however that it would not be appropriate for me to comment on the questions you have raised regarding the first issue, as I understand this forms part of the complaint which you have raised with the Trust's Editorial Standards Committee.

In terms of the second issue, I am sorry that your earlier points have not yet been answered. As it is also appropriate that the Director-General provide you with a response to the further points that you raise in your latest letter, I have asked his office to arrange a swift response to both for you. As I mentioned in my last letter the BBC's complaints procedure, agreed by the Trust, stipulates that the BBC's management be first given an opportunity to reply to complaints.

I am aware, however, that the Director-General did address the issue of climate change in discussion with you when we met on July 14, and explained that the BBC believes its reporting to be balanced.

As you know, the BBC's complaints procedure allows complainants to raise any concerns about breaches of impartiality in the BBC's reporting initially with the BBC's management and then on appeal to the Trust's Editorial Standards Committee. Should the Trust find that there had been a breach, they would then require the BBC Executive to take appropriate action.

Yours sincerely



PP Sir Michael Lyons  
Chairman