

Lord Pearson of Rannoch



Fran O'Brien
Head of Editorial Standards
BBC Trust
Room 211
35 Marylebone High Street
London W1U 4AA

16th December 2008

Dear Fran —

Thank you for your letter of 27th November, which was sent to my Scottish address, so I didn't catch up with it until 5th December. The best address for me is really c/o the Lords, or via maxinenesbitt@aol.com.

I trust you got my letter of 2nd December, in which I mentioned the closure of Post Offices being a result of our EU membership (because Brussels required the Royal Mail to sell off its profitable business trade). I now enclose a transcript of *Today's* coverage of this issue yesterday morning, from which you can see that once again they do not mention the root cause of the closures.

I believe that David Keighley has now sent you a detailed analysis as to why 'cherry picking', or single programme complaints, are unlikely to succeed with the BBC executive. It was good of you to offer to discuss this further with him.

It is also good to hear that the EU module for training BBC journalists is being revised for re-launch in April. I fear it won't be much use if it doesn't include the information we have been discussing, starting with the big idea which gave birth to the EU. And I also fear it won't have much effect unless all the existing editors, producers and journalists who will deal with the subject understand it.

I am still trying to meet up with David Jordan and will keep you posted, if I may.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Malcolm'.

Lord Pearson of Rannoch