

Business in the

Community

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Rhona Parry
PSB Review
Ofcom
Riverside House
2a Southwark Bridge Road
London
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Dear Ms Parry

I am writing to you regarding the provision of regional news services, which I understand is being considered under the current consultation on the future of public service broadcasting.

Although I fully appreciate the need to streamline services in the light of the current financial pressures facing ITV, I believe that it is essential to maintain a local news alternative to the BBC in the regions, and especially here in the North East.

I understand that ITV's proposal is to reduce its current service to nine regional services, with a single pan-regional news service for the North East and Cumbria and various opt-outs both at 6pm and after News at Ten. This strikes me as an acceptable (and commercially feasible) compromise, and would still be more than that the BBC is offering viewers in the North East and Border region. I would therefore strongly support the ITV proposal, and very much hope it is given serious consideration.

Yours sincerely



KAREN WILKINSON-BELL
Regional Director

