

Rhona Parry
PSB Review
Ofcom
Riverside House
2A Southwark Bridge Road
London SE1 9HA

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Dear Ms Parry

OFCOM REVIEW OF PUBLIC SERVICE BROADCASTING

The East Anglian Film Archive, a part of the University of East Anglia, is the custodian of a large amount of news and programme material produced by Anglia TV from 1959 onwards. As digital technology increasingly enables us to unlock access to this major collection and we can begin to understand its importance for use in academic research and education, I want to emphasise the enormous contribution that ITV Anglia's news programmes have made – and continue to make – to the culture and identity of this region. I believe this to be the case in every ITV region and that the ITV news and local programme services are more closely associated with regional identities over the last 50 years than are their BBC counterparts.

I am acutely aware that the provision of regional ITV news services at the current level is commercially unsustainable in the contemporary broadcasting landscape, and that the changes to regional news delivery by ITV are inevitable. In this context I believe that ITV's proposal to reduce the regional news services in England and Wales from seventeen to nine (with sub regional opts) is an imaginative solution to the challenge of sustaining a strong regional news structure in a more cost effective way.

I fully support this proposal for ITV to continue to provide a high quality news service in this region beyond digital switchover in 2012 and I do hope that the plan receives Ofcom's support.

Yours sincerely

Richard Taylor
Director