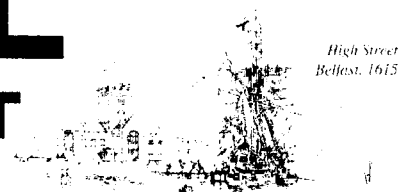


GLENRAVEL

LOCAL HISTORY PROJECT



There is no more fruitful form of education than to arouse the interest of a people in their own surroundings

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

11th June 2008

Dear Rhona

Re: Glenravel Local History Project, Belfast response to the consultation: Ofcom's Second Public Service Broadcasting Review – Phase One: The Digital Opportunity consultation

The overall aim of the Glenravel Local History Project is to create a new community based interest in the history of our city and to achieve this various articles are written by members of the group and published in numerous newspapers and magazines. Today many people are extremely interested in the history of their area. Many are coming together to find out about this and in different parts of our country there are community programmes set up to explore the subject. We are a registered historical charity whose advice is constantly sought from other groups throughout Ireland.

In response to your consultation and in relation to your main objective of furthering the interests of citizen-consumers; in particular, developing "a new broadcasting licensing regime to foster self-regulation and broaden citizen/consumer choice" we would recommend that Ofcom considers acceptance of local community television as public service broadcasters.

We have worked closely with Northern Visions/NvTv on local history programming and we appreciate the social benefits, which community media and local television can deliver. Empowering citizens to become content providers and creating media which reflects and raises awareness of local issues and interests constitutes a valuable public service. It enhances skills, encourages a sense of place and ownership of the city and has the potential to foster greater citizenship.

In relation to the development of local television in Belfast, we should be grateful if Ofcom would support NvTv being carried on Freeview as a local public service broadcaster. Such a development would ensure that everyone in the city has access to a valuable local service and would support the efforts of all of us who are working to create a socially inclusive society as well as nurturing the city's cultural and creative assets and talent.

Yours sincerely

Joe Baker
Director

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