

*"Working for quality  
and diversity in  
British broadcasting"*



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## **BBC Licence Fee**

Voice of the Listener & Viewer does not agree with David Cameron that the BBC licence fee should be frozen. The cost of the present licence was the result of very tough negotiations with the Government which left the BBC with much less than it thought necessary. Mr Cameron says he supports the licence fee, but to interfere now with the contract that was agreed in 2007 for the following six years would call the whole licence fee system into question.

Said Richard Lindley, Chairman of Voice of the Listener & Viewer:

*'David Cameron suggests that because commercial broadcasters are having such a tough time – as they and their employees undoubtedly are – the BBC budget must be made to suffer too. But that would just mean more people being sacked, more independent production companies going bust and fewer quality programmes being made for the people who pay the licence fee. Does that really help in the present economic situation? Surely the best thing for us all is for the BBC to continue to make the best possible use of the licence fee that has been agreed, and maintain the high standard of British broadcasting that brings profits from abroad, as well as admiration.'*

(ends)