

CY YOUNG

When I was first elected in 2009 it was 'seventh time lucky' in over a decade of campaigning, so my commitment to serve the best interests of the BFI and its membership base is on record. I have never sought the Governorship merely to enhance my *curriculum vitae*.

Last year, although I was a clear 'first past the post' winner, due to an experimental change in the rules - the introduction in 2011 of a 10% turn-out threshold - this result was not recognised, and the 2012 Member Governor Election was therefore declared null and void. Since then, I have occupied a seat on the Board with no official status as your elected representative.

However, like any responsible Governor, I have continued to engage with matters reflecting on the BFI's public image, such as the recent price increases, a decision to allow consumption of food in NFT's 1, 2 and 3 for a trial period, and how best to accommodate late-comers to performances with a minimum of inconvenience for audiences. I also supported the many enthusiasts disappointed at the cancellation of this year's Archive Cricket Evening, a popular event and guaranteed money-spinner that has been running for more than 30 years.

Most important externally have been the South Bank Centre's proposals for a Festival Wing extension, with significant implications for BFI Southbank's estate and profile. Throughout this year, I have made it my business to attend the public meetings at which the SBC has presented its plans, including a Q & A with Jude Kelly for 'Friends of the South Bank Centre', and two local South Bank Forums hosted by Kate Hoey MP, where Simon Hughes MP was amongst the speakers. I continue to maintain a watching brief on newspaper coverage and website announcements.

Drawing on all these sources of information, on 5th July I circulated a document to our Chairman, fellow Governors, and the BFI Executive, outlining a radical alternative plan to that which the SBC has presented, and would like the opportunity to follow this up in a second term as Governor.

Finally, some context for the 10% threshold. This was originally introduced on the understanding that there would be a significant increase in the level of publicity at the 2011 Election, with the intention of encouraging a larger turn-out. When the promised additional publicity was, for various reasons, not delivered, I persuaded the Board - before the results were known - that we should, in these circumstances, review the validity of insisting on 10%. As a result of my intervention, the candidate who polled the most votes on that occasion, Peter Kosminsky, was ratified in the seat, the turn-out being a fraction over 9% of those eligible to vote.

That's all, folks!

456 words