For Distribution to CPs

Department for Culture, Media and Sport 8t Hon Jeremy Hunt MP Secretary of State

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Your Ref. Our Ref

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Tom Watson MP House of Commons London SW1A 0AA



department for Culture, media and sport

17 May 2011

Dear Tom

Thank you for your letter of 19 April about News Corporation's proposed acquisition of BSkyB.

My previous letter of 8 February set out that Section 67(5) of the Enterprise Act 2002 provides that only one European Intervention Notice can be given in relation to the same relevant merger situation. The Notice can include more than one public interest consideration at the time it is issued, but once issued it cannot have additional public interest considerations added, so cannot be amended as you suggest. However as I said at the Press Gallery lunch. Ofcom is able to remove licences at any time from broadcasters it does not believe to be fit and proper.

I should add that if I referred the case to the Competition Commission for consideration, it would also have to be on the basis of the effect the merger could have on media plurality, and not for any other public interest consideration.

I can assure you that I will only accept the undertakings in lieu if they are legally robust and enforceable.

With best wishes



Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP Secretary of State for Culture, Olympics, Media and Sport





improving the quality of the count