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PRIME MINISTER

NETWORKING OF ITV PROGRAMMES

There is a need to review the arrangements for networking of ITV programmes.

The Home Secretary has suggested that the IBA might be invited to devise a different system. Lord Young thinks they are too interested a party and suggests a quick but thorough independent review, perhaps by "3 wise men". The Chancellor in his turn believes that it would be difficult for an independent review to take account of other changes the Government wish to see to the ITV system and suggests that officials should carry out the review.

Brian Griffiths suggests supporting the Chancellor so long as the review is interdepartmental (i.e. not just the Home Office) and that it might be worthwhile to add someone for example from the competition policy side of DTI.

Agree?

David Norgrove

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Broadcasting