



DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY  
1-19 VICTORIA STREET  
LONDON SW1H 0ET

TELEPHONE DIRECT LINE 01-215 5422  
SWITCHBOARD 01-215 7877

PS/ Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

16 December 1987

P J C Mawer Esq  
Private Secretary to the  
Home Secretary  
Home Office  
50 Queen Anne's Gate  
LONDON SW1H 9AT

Dear Philip

INDEPENDENT TELEVISION PRODUCERS

Thank you for copying to me your letter of 11 December to David Norgrove. As I told Colin Miller, Lord Young would prefer MISC 128 to discuss the issues before coming to a final view on how the Government should respond to Michael Darlow.

He agrees that the Government ought not to intervene in matters which are properly for the parties to resolve in detailed discussion but he did wonder whether we ought not be more positive in steering the independents towards the OFT. He was also unsure whether the reference to legislation was quite right. He thought that mentioning how long it would take for the legislation to come into force might make the ITV companies less willing to be accommodating.

Michael Darlow has written a further letter to Lord Young about the progress that has been made with the BBC. I understand he has also written to Mr Hurd but I am circulating his letter for the information of other MISC 128 colleagues.

I am copying this letter to David Norgrove, to Private Secretaries to other members of MISC 128 and to Trevor Woolley and Shaun Munday (Cabinet Office).

Yours

Jeremy Godfrey

JEREMY GODFREY  
Private Secretary

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