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Mr Michael Darlow

Thank you for your letter of 6 January setting out in detail progress on the negotiations between independent producers and the BBC and ITV companies, and your suggestions for reforming the ITV levy to give ITV companies a greater incentive to use independent producers.

I can assure you that your representations will be carefully considered in the run-up to the Budget. However, I hope that you will understand that it would be inappropriate for me to comment further at this stage.

Nigel Lawson

NIGEL LAWSON