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the department for Enterprise

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The Rt. Hon. Lord Young of Graffham Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

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BSB LEVY

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 1 November to Nigel Lawson.

BSB have a major task ahead of them to raise their £700m second round financing next year. It is clearly right that they should be given some publicly usable guidance about their future levy position. This needs to be as positive as possible, without, as you say, offering any unnecessary hostages to fortune. I therefore fully agree with the line you propose to take.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister and other members of MISC 128, and to Sir Robin Butler.

P.s.

Catopriso

