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Dear Paul

MISC 128. BROADCASTING

I understand that at the next meeting of MISC 128 on 6 June there will be two papers - one dealing with the allocation of licenses for Channel 3 and the other presenting further options for the funding of Channel 4 following the rejection by MISC 128 of the Home Secretary's earlier proposals.

Mr Baker has a substantial interest in both these papers. It has already been agreed that Channel 3 companies will be required to provide programmes for schools; he is likely to want to contribute to discussion on how the proposed arrangements for the allocation of licenses will bear on this requirement.

Mr Baker is also concerned that broader educational programming should be maintained on Channel 4. The way in which this Channel is funded bears directly on this issue.

Mr Baker has already indicated his interest in these topics through his letter of 17 April to the Home Secretary, copied to the Prime Minister and members of MISC 128. I would be grateful if arrangements could be made for an invitation to be issued for him to attend on 6 June.

Yours,
Tom
T B JEFFERY
Private Secretary