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the department for Enterprise

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7 September 1989

Dear Douglas

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In his letter of 31 August to the Prime Minister, Tim Renton set out proposals for ending the Radio/TV Times duopoly on television programme listings which would form the basis of provisions to be included in the forthcoming broadcasting legislation.

In view of the close interest which my Department has taken in the resolution of this problem, notably in those aspects affecting competition and copyright policy and where the European Commission has been involved, I thought it appropriate to confirm that I am content with your proposals. The increased consumer choice which should result from the compulsory licensing of programme schedules in the way suggested is greatly to be welcomed.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, to members of MISC 128, to E(CP) Ministers and to Sir Robin Butler.

Jones

Butler



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