

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

4th January 2017

Dear Constituent,
RE: PROPOSED PURCHASE OF SKY.

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of 21st Century Fox's proposed purchase of Sky.

As you are aware, Sky has stated that it received an approach from 21st Century Fox to acquire the 61 percent share of Sky that it does not already own.

The Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, the Rt. Hon Karen Bradley MP, has powers to intervene in certain media mergers on public interest grounds. These powers derive from legislation which also includes Government guidance on the operation of these public interest merger provisions.

Any transaction will be looked at on its merits, on a case-by-case basis. The guidance makes it clear that the Secretary of State will aim to take an initial decision on whether to intervene within ten working days of formal notification of the merger to the competition authorities, or of the transaction being brought to her attention. Ministers have stated that no such formal notification has yet been received.

While I understand your concerns, the role of the Secretary of State is a quasi-judicial one, and it is important that she acts independently and is not subject to improper influence. It would therefore be inappropriate for the Government to comment further at this time.

Once again, thank you for having taken the time to contact me and if I can ever be of any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

with best wishes,

Tom

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE