



Department for  
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Baroness Stowell of Beeston  
House of Lords  
London  
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Dear Baroness Stowell,

I am writing to you as Chairman of the Communications and Digital Committee now that the Government has confirmed its intention to bring forward a Media Bill in this session. That follows the publication of [‘Up Next: The Government’s vision for the future of the broadcasting sector’](#). I want to take this opportunity to thank you and your Committee for the work you have done that has fed into the Government’s strategic review of the future of public service broadcasting, the culmination of which is this White Paper and the Media Bill.

I know that you and your Committee share the Government’s view that the UK’s public service broadcasters play a key part in developing skills and talent, driving growth right across the creative industries, and delivering distinctive yet instantly recognisable British content.

Rapid changes in technology and viewing habits and the entrance of global players have, however, brought new challenges for British broadcasters. In that context, the Government intends to bring forward the Media Bill to reform decades-old laws to boost our public service broadcasters.

I hope the Committee will welcome our intention to introduce a new prominence regime for on-demand television in the Media Bill, as you have called for.

Within that broader package, the Bill will enable a sale of Channel 4 Television Corporation, and make changes to its remit to ensure the Corporation’s long-term sustainability. The Government shares the Committee’s considered view, set out in your 2021 report on the future of Channel 4, that relaxing the publisher-broadcaster restriction could enable Channel 4 to diversify its revenue streams and bolster its long-term sustainability.

Thank you again for the work the Communications and Digital Committee has undertaken on issues on which the Government has now set out its view. As you will see in the acknowledgements section of the paper, the work of the Committee has been rightly recognised and we are very grateful for it.



I look forward to continuing to engage with you and the Committee as we work towards introduction and passage of the Media Bill.

With best wishes,

Lord Parkinson of Whitley Bay  
**Minister for Arts**