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Dear Tom

**Sky / Fox merger**

As you know, on Thursday 16 March I announced my decision to intervene in the proposed acquisition of Sky plc by 21st Century Fox Inc on the media public interest grounds of media plurality and commitment to broadcasting standards by issuing a European Intervention Notice (EIN).

The EIN triggered the requirement for Ofcom to report to me on the public interest grounds specified and for the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) to report to me on jurisdiction and to provide their reports to me in response to the EIN by Tuesday 16 May. On receipt of these reports, my quasi-judicial decision-making role in relation to this merger would resume.

I am writing to let you know that, given the proximity of these reports and the consequent decision-making role to the forthcoming general election and following discussions with the parties, Ofcom, the CMA and the Cabinet Office Propriety and Ethics team, I have today written to Ofcom and the CMA to extend the period by which these reports should be submitted. The revised deadline is Tuesday 20 June.

I will release a written ministerial statement in the Houses on Monday to this effect but given the House is not sitting today I wanted to bring this to your attention at the earliest opportunity.

I am writing in similar terms to the Leaders of both Houses, the Speakers of both Houses, the Chair of the Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee, and the Chair of the House of Lords Select Committee on Communications.

I will place a copy of this letter in the libraries of both Houses.

**Rt Hon Karen Bradley MP**

Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport

