



Kennedy

From the Director, Policy & Legal

7 July 2003

The Rt Hon Tessa Jowell MP
Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport
Department for Culture, Media and Sport
2-4 Cockspur Street
LONDON SW1Y 5DH

Dear Tessa,

CARRIAGE OF BBC DIGITAL CHANNELS ON ANALOGUE CABLE

Thank you for copying to us your letter to Simon Duffy of 18 June.

As you know from our previous letters, the BBC shares your concern that any carriage of our digital channels on ntl's analogue cable network should not have an adverse impact upon the take up of digital television and should not render any other channels economically unviable by removing them from the platform in order to accommodate our channels. But we feel that these are concerns to which ntl is better placed to respond than we are.

Subject to those concerns, it remains our position that, since a large number of licence payers who have ntl's analogue cable service would benefit, we are happy to offer our channels to ntl, and other analogue cable networks if they request it. This would, however, be on the understanding that it will not be technically possible to offer any interactivity, digital text or audio description services to analogue cable customers and that the cable companies should take all our digital channels, without any payment from us for their carriage, and without making any additional charge to their viewers.

We therefore await ntl's response to your letter

best wishes,

Caroline

Caroline Thomson

Department for Culture, Media and Sport	
DATE RECEIVED	10 JUL 2003
Minister	<i>SOS</i>
Lead	<i>J. SEW</i>
Action	Advice & Draft Reply by /
	Advice as Appropriate by <i>24/07</i>
	For information only
Permanent Secretary	Cc:
Director (A.V.)	
Director of Strat. & Com.	
Private Secretary (A.T.)	
Diary Secretary ()	
PCU Reference No.	<i>03/0751</i>