

RT. HON. HARRIET HARMAN Q.C. M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

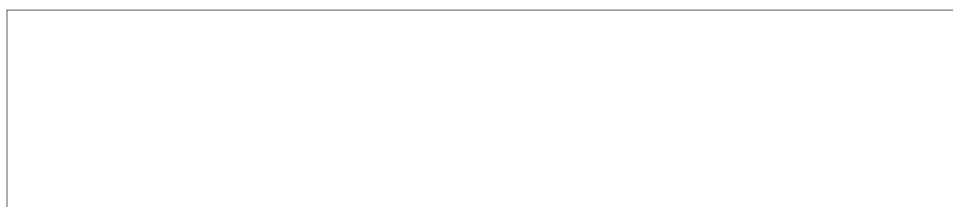
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR CAMBERWELL AND PECKHAM
SHADOW SECRETARY OF STATE FOR CULTURE, MEDIA AND SPORT
SHADOW DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER

strong legal advice' not to meet representatives of News Corporation that day and 'the Permanent Secretary has now also been involved'. What was that involvement?

The necessity of your having to be 'involved' and the 'very strong legal advice' apparently given to Mr Hunt suggests that you had concerns about Mr Hunt's contacts with News Corporation even before the Prime Minister transferred responsibility for the bid to DCMS (in December 2010). Did you think it was appropriate for Mr Hunt to take responsibility for this quasi-judicial decision, and if not, did you raise your concerns with anyone?

Finally, in view of the fact that this was a quasi-judicial decision, why did you think it was appropriate for Mr Hunt's Special Adviser, his political appointee, to act as a contact point with News Corporation?

Yours sincerely,



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