

[Redacted]

News International file

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 02 October 2001 17:39
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted] BUSH BILL; MACKENZIE RUTH
Subject: RE: Briefing Request - Meeting with Leslie Hinton

BD 10/22/2001/4

I went to a meeting Kim Howells had with Les Hinton and Alison Clark (News international's Director of Corporate Affairs) to discuss media ownership in July.

They said nothing News International hadn't already said in their response to the White Paper, ie. that convergence and digital technology mean that a plurality of media owners and a diversity of content are now guaranteed without the need for special rules. They have a particular problem with foreign ownership rules, which they suggest are arbitrary and out of line with international trends (not true - see US, Australian and French examples). They want all media ownership restrictions abandoned in favour of a reliance on competition law, and think that cross-media rules in particular stifle investment and will prevent British companies from fully exploiting the potential of convergence.

They subsequently wrote to us, repeating these arguments in greater detail. I'll send you a copy if you give me your address, and then you can suggest what you'd like in the way of further briefing/Q+A from me.

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 01 October 2001 16:03
To: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: Briefing Request - Meeting with Leslie Hinton

Please deal.

-----Original Message-----

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 01 October 2001 10:05
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted] BUSH BILL; MACKENZIE RUTH
Subject: FW: Briefing Request - Meeting with Leslie Hinton

[Redacted] you may wish to contribute from our knowledge of what leslie hinton is likely to say

Department for Culture Media and Sport
2-4 Cockspur Street
London SW1Y 5DH

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 September 2001 17:12
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Briefing Request - Meeting with Leslie Hinton

[REDACTED]

Would you be the best person to prepare this briefing - if so I would suggest for both Secretaries of State.

In any event it doesn't fall to me.

[REDACTED]

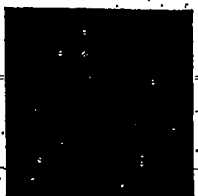
-----Original Message-----

From: Hewitt MPST
Sent: 28 September 2001 15:51
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Briefing Request - Meeting with Leslie Hinton

<<Briefing Req Meeting with Les Hinton.doc>>

Please see my attached minute.

[REDACTED]



To:

[Redacted]

CII

Ci:

[Redacted]

From:

[Redacted]

APS/Secretary of State
For Trade & Industry
Room 823
1 Victoria Street

E-Mail HEWITT MPST

28 September 2001

**SECRETARY OF STATE'S MEETING WITH LESLIE HINTON OF
NEWS INTERNATIONAL: 26 NOVEMBER 2001**

The Secretary of State has agreed to meet Leslie Hinton with Tessa Jowell at 1500 on Monday 26 November.

I would be grateful if two copies of appropriate briefing could be submitted to this office by 1600 Thursday 22 November along with details of those officials who will be attending the meeting.

[Redacted]