

Declaration of interests – roundtable on media plurality

You are asked to confirm that you will act with objectivity, honesty and independence in attending the expert roundtable and not to act as an advocate for any organisation, company, person or interest.

In addition, please declare any interest that may, or may be seen by a fair minded observer seen to, be relevant to the views you would share at a roundtable on media plurality. This could include but is not limited to:

- a. financial interests (e.g. shareholdings that could be influenced by the outcome of the merger);
- b. family or close personal relationships with someone who would not (by a fair minded observer) be perceived as being impartial in relation to the merger or the parties to the transaction;
- c. involvement in or any relationship with charities, campaigns or other organisations who would not (by a fair minded observer) be perceived as being impartial in relation to the merger or the parties to the transaction; or
- d. public statements, including signing petitions, related to the merger.

Please also supply us with or direct us towards an up-to-date resume, covering at least the past 10 years, setting out any organisations, company, pressure group or public body where you have;

- a. been employed;
- b. provided services to (including paid and unpaid consultancy) or received remuneration from; or
- c. acted as a director, trustee, or held any other form of office or membership.

We are keen to ensure that the inquiry will be as transparent as possible and, in the spirit of openness, therefore intend to publish the information you provide to the above questions. Please let us know if this causes you any concern and we will consider how best to address that concern.

If you have any questions about what may be relevant or should be declared we are happy to discuss this with you. Whether any declared interest or interests prevents you from participating in the expert roundtable will be taken on a case-by-case basis, we hope in most instances it will not.

Alan Renwick – Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Urbs Media

I confirm that I will act with objectivity, honesty and independence in attending the expert roundtable and will not act as an advocate for any organisation, company, person or interest.

I do not have any financial, personal or other interests that would be relevant to the views I would share at a roundtable on broadcasting standards.

My current role is leading a news agency start up – we supply content to any market participant, largely through a distribution arrangement with the Press Association.

Alice Enders – Head of Research, Enders Analysis

I do not have any financial interest in the transaction, owning no shares in the merging parties, nor do my close family relatives own such shares. I am not a member of an organisation opposing the transaction, nor have I signed a petition to this end.

Enders Analysis has supplied for a modest fee two evidence-based reports to the merging parties which are annexed to the submission of Allen and Overy to the CMA on media plurality. One is on the Supply of News and the other on News and Facebook, two subjects covered by our research programme and overlooked by Ofcom in its Public Interest report.

David Elstein – Chairman of Open Democracy

My views on plurality have been on the public record for many years, dating back to 2011. I have produced six papers:

- my analysis of the Ofcom report on the 2010 proposed transaction (27/2/11), published by open Democracy;
- a contribution to a debate ("The Issue of Plurality") at the Institute for Economic Affairs (2/6/11);
- "Measuring Cross-Media Ownership" (a response to an Ofcom consultation, 18/11/11);
- "Mouse? Damp squib? Or just plain common sense?" (20/6/12),
- "Press Freedom in the UK" (published as a paper in volume 2 number 1 2013 of the Journal of Applied Journalism & Media Studies);
- "Towards a Methodology for Measuring Media Plurality" (17/10/13, a paper delivered to a media conference at Jonköping University).

You will already have seen my more recent analysis of the Ofcom report on the current proposed transaction (published by open Democracy), and my letter to the Secretary of State (published on the Departmental website).

I was asked by Ofcom's Chief Executive, Ed Richards, to undertake media appearances on the subject of wholesale prices for Sky's sports channels. Mr Richards also chaired my September 2009 Beesley Lecture.

I have had minimal contact with the organisation, though I have spoken briefly to three members of the Murdoch family - once each - in the last 20 years.

David Levy, Director of the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, University of Oxford – Declaration of interests

- a) Relevant Financial Interests – Small shareholding in BT
- b) Family relationships relevant to the merger – None

- c) Membership of Charities, campaigns etc - Member of UK Board of Reporters without Borders
- d) Public statements/petitions relevant to the merger – None relevant to this particular merger. Co-author of Expert report for New Zealand Commerce Commission re Merger of NZME and Fairfax New Zealand

I confirm that I will act with objectivity, honesty and independence in attending the round table and not act as an advocate for any organisation, company or interest.

Julian Dickens – private adviser to clients in the media and communications industry, 3 More Reasons Ltd.

Other than the contact and interactions within the media industry as a result of Julian's career as a consultant from 1993, I have no financial, family, close personal or any other interest in any company which could be influenced by the outcome of the merger, has no involvement with any charity, campaign or other organisation relating to the merger or the parties to the transaction, and has not made any public statement or signed any petition relating to the merger.

Mathew Horsman – Director of Mediatique

My company, Mediatique, has been active for 15 years in the media consultancy sector in the UK and elsewhere. During that time we have worked with all the major broadcasters, publishers and network operators, in a range of issues (usually on a confidential basis).

In that time, we have worked for, among others, Sky, the BBC, Channel 4, ITV, Channel 5, News UK, Newsworks, Discovery, Scripps, BBC Worldwide, DDCMS and Ofcom.

Relevant work in the space has included our extensive review of news provision in the UK as part of Ofcom's submission to the Leveson Inquiry, a report on online news for the BBC and a significant contribution to work leading to the awarding of a new licence for the successor to the National Readership Survey on behalf of all the major newspaper publishers.

We have had significant experience working with the BBC on how it services its various audiences, and on its contribution to plurality.

We wrote a long report for Ofcom on the past system of regulating the BBC (including how the Trust and Ofcom shared responsibility under the last Charter).

I have also attended meetings with the Reuters Institute to discuss news issues in the online era.

I am the author of a book about Sky (published in 1997), and have often commented as an expert on issues around Sky's business model and its prospects. I have not taken a view in favour or against the transaction.

Mediatique has not worked on any aspect of the current Fox bid (nor indeed the last one); I can also confirm that our work for Sky in the past was limited to research and analysis around TV advertising.

Suzanne Franks – Head of Journalism Department, City University

I declare I have none of the following:

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Stewart Purvis – Non-executive Director, Channel 4

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I have no financial or personal interest that may be seen by a fair-minded observer to be relevant to the views I will share.

On the matter of public statements about the merger I have written one blog post, sent out two tweets and given one radio interview. In my blog www.profpurvis.com I have commented on a range of media subjects including an article called *'Fox/Sky' looks like a done deal but the goings-on at Fox News keep rocking the boat* which I published on April 4 2017. I have also tweeted about the bid from @stewartpurvis on July 6th and September 12th. I was interviewed by LBC about the Secretary of State's decision announced on 12th September.