Department for Business Innovation & Skills

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03 May 2016

Dear Sarah,

Sarah Albon

London

SW1P 2HT

The Insolvency Service 4 Abbey Orchard Street

Inspector General and Chief Executive

You will be aware that considerable public concern has been expressed following BHS entering into Administration. I know that you would expect a report from the administrators within 3 months of the date of administration, and in the majority of cases would await this report before deciding whether a further investigation is required. However, in the circumstances I consider that it is appropriate that immediate action is taken and I am therefore instructing you to ensure that the investigation is commenced without delay.

I understand that the authority for such an investigation is s7 of the Company Directors Disqualification Act. Under that Act you will consider the extent to which the conduct of the Directors of BHS led to the insolvency of BHS and/or caused detriment to its creditors (including any employees of BHS who are owed money and the pension protection fund).

I would be grateful if you could confirm my understanding and that you will commence the investigation without delay.

SAJID JAVID The Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills and President of the Board of Trade