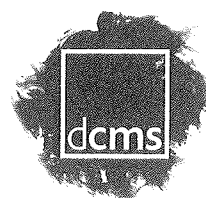
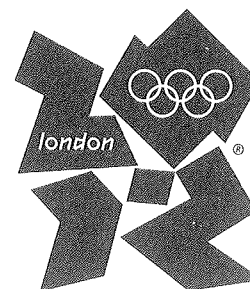


CMS 155968/DC

Sir Michael Lyons  
Chair  
BBC Trust  
180 Portland Street  
LONDON  
W1W 5QZ



department for  
culture, media  
and sport



host government  
department

8 October 2010

*Dear Michael,*

Following our meeting on 14 September at which we discussed NAO access to the BBC's accounts, the Government has now announced that agreement has been reached with the BBC on how this is to be achieved.

As agreed, under the new arrangements it will be the NAO rather than the BBC Trust, which has the final say on the areas of BBC expenditure that will be subject to its value for money studies. Furthermore, the NAO will have a right of access to the information it requires. I must make it clear that the BBC's editorial policy will be safeguarded.

My officials will now work with your staff to amend the BBC Agreement in order to formalise the new arrangements.

I am grateful to you and your staff for your input in securing this important Government commitment.

*Yours ever*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeremy'.

**JEREMY HUNT**

**Secretary of State for Culture, Olympics, Media and Sport**