

News Corporation  
K.R. Murdoch  
First Statement  
"KRM4"  
12 April 2012

**IN THE MATTER OF THE LEVESON INQUIRY INTO THE CULTURE, PRACTICES AND ETHICS  
OF THE PRESS**

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**EXHIBIT "KRM4"**

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This is the exhibit marked "KRM4" referred to in the witness statement of Keith Rupert Murdoch dated the 12<sup>th</sup> day of April 2012.

## CHRONOLOGY COVERING THE FOUNDING AND DEVELOPMENT OF SKY AND BSKYB

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
1983	Acquisition of 80% of Satellite Television UK and subsequent renaming as Sky Channel. Relunched as Sky Television in 1989.
1990	British Sky Broadcasting Group plc ("BSkyB") formed from merger of British Satellite Broadcasting and Sky Television. News Corporation ownership 50%
1994	BSkyB IPO – reduction of News Corporation ownership to 40% (currently 39.14% with 37.19% voting rights)
1996	Joint venture, Granada Sky Broadcasting, with Granada Media Group Limited (BSkyB owning 40%)
1997	Joint venture, British Digital Broadcasting Plc ("BDB"), with Carlton Communications Plc and Granada Group Plc; sale of BSKyB's shares in BDB to other parties due to UK Independent Television Commission concerns
1997	Joint venture, MUTV Limited, with Manchester United PLC and Granada Group Plc (each party owning a 33.33% equity interest in MUTV Limited)
1997	Joint venture, Sky Five Text Limited, with Channel 5
1997/98	Joint venture, British Interactive Broadcasting Limited ("BiB"), with British Telecommunications Holdings Limited, Midland Bank plc and Matsushita Electric Europe (Headquarters) Limited
1998	Music Choice Europe joint venture with Warner Music and Sony Digital Radio Europe Limited
1998	Acquisition of an additional 9.5% in Granada Sky Broadcasting
1998	Acquisition of approximately 11% of, and failed bid for, Manchester United PLC
1998	Sale of 30% of Playboy TV UK/Benelux UK
1998	Acquisition of 19.9% stake in Open/Interactive TV (BiB)
1999	Subscription for approximately 9% of Leeds Sporting PLC
1999	Acquisition of 9.9% of Manchester City PLC
2000	Acquisition of approximately 9% of Leeds United PLC
2000	Acquisition of 4.8% of Sunderland PLC
2000	Acquisition of 7.5% of Toyzone.co.uk Limited
2000	Acquisition of approximately 10% of Static 2358 Limited
2000	Acquisition of 7.5% of Gameplay Ltd
2000	Acquisition of 5.4% of Sportal Investment Ltd
2000	Acquisition of 14% stake in Streets OnLine Limited

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<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
2000	Acquisition of 17.9% stake in Mykindaplace.com Limited
2000	Acquisition of 9.9% of Chelsea Village PLC
2000	Acquisition of Sports Internet Group plc
2000	Acquisition of 20% of Medical Information and Broadcasting Limited
2001	Acquisition of 47.6% of Open/Interactive TV (BiB)
2001	Aborted sale of Surrey Sports to proposed joint venture with Ladbroke Group
2001	Acquisition of remaining 5% stake in WAP TV Limited
2001	Joint venture, AtTheRaces', between Arena Leisure plc, BSkyB, Channel Four Television Corporation and The Racecourse Association Limited
2001	Sale of approximately 9% stake in Static 2358 Holdings Limited
2001	Acquisition of approximately 3% of Shine Entertainment Limited
2001	Joint venture with Chelsea Village plc and Chelsea Digital Media Limited to establish Chelsea TV
2002	Sale of stake in Toyzone plc
2002	Sale of stake in Gameplay plc
2003	Stake in Mykindaplace increased to 26%
2003	Sale of entire stake in Open TV
2003	Sale of 9.9% stake in Chelsea Village PLC
2003	Sale of 9.9% stake in Manchester United PLC
2003	Sale of stake in Streetsonline
2003	Sale and lease of certain Opta Index Limited assets
2003	Acquisition of a 50% stake in Artsworld Channels Limited
2003/04	Acquisition of Planetfootball.com Limited
2004	Sale of 20% stake in QVC (UK), operator of QVC - The Shopping Channel
2004	Sky and Arena Leisure plc acquired Channel 4's shares in At The Races, increasing the BSkyB's shareholding to 50%
2004	Sale of 49.5% stake in Granada Sky Broadcasting Limited
2005	Sale of 35.8% stake in Music Choice Europe plc
2005	Acquisition of further 50% of Artsworld Channels Limited
2005	Sale of 4.76% stake in Sunderland Football Club plc
2006	Acquisition of Easynet Group plc
2006	Acquisition of the remaining share capital of Mykindaplace Limited
2006	Acquisition of 17.9% stake in ITV plc

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<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
2006	Acquisition of News Optimus Limited
2006/07	Acquisition of YouMeTV Limited
2006/07	Acquisition of Aura Sports Limited
2006/07	Acquisition of Wisden Cricketer Publisher (Holding) Limited
2007	Acquisition of 365 Media Group PLC
2007	Acquisition of Amstrad plc
2007	Exchange of 100% stake in BSKyB Nature Limited for 21% stakes in NGC Network International LLC and NGC Network Latin America LLC
2008	Acquisition of a further 8% stake in Shine Limited (later reduced from 11% to 8%)
2009	Acquisition of additional 5% stake in Shine Limited
2010	Forced sale of 10.4% stake in ITV plc
2010	Acquisition of Virgin Media Television Limited, Virgin Media Television Rights Limited, and the assets and liabilities of the Virgin Media television channels
2010	News Corporation proposal to make an offer under paragraph 2.4 of the Takeover Code for the BSKyB shares that it did not already own
2010	Sale of Easynet Global Services
2011	Sale of approximately 13% stake in Shine
2011	Acquisition of The Cloud Networks Limited
2011	Acquisition of the trade and assets of a marketing database services business belonging to Experian plc
2011	Withdrawal of News Corporation proposal to make an offer under paragraph 2.4 of the Takeover Code for the BSKyB shares that it did not already own

### **Government Involvement**

Under the Enterprise Act 2002 (implemented in June 2003), government decision making plays no part in the regulatory approval of the vast majority of mergers. Instead this responsibility rests with the Office of Fair Trading, and, where appropriate, with the Competition Commission. However, the Secretary of State Secretary of State for Culture, Olympics, Media and Sport ("SoS") retains decision-making powers under the Enterprise Act in certain mergers on the basis of public interest considerations specified within the Enterprise Act (such as plurality of the media). In such merger cases involving plurality issues, the SoS may issue a public interest intervention notice, request a report from Ofcom, refer the merger to the Competition Commission for further investigation and take the final decision as to whether to clear the merger, accept undertakings or make an adverse public interest findings. There have been only two media public interest interventions: BSKyB/ITV and News Corporation/BSkyB.

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Prior to the introduction of the Enterprise Act, decision making as to whether or not to intervene in or otherwise approve a transaction rested with the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry. Whilst not statutorily required to do so, the Secretary of State in practice tended to follow the recommendation of the independent regulatory bodies in merger situations generally, being the Office of Fair Trading and, where relevant, Monopolies and Mergers Commission.