

## GLOBAL RADIO/GMG MERGER INQUIRY

### Disclosures of interest

This letter discloses interests of Group members carrying out the above review.

**19 October 2012**

#### ***Members' interests***

Simon Polito was a Consultant with Hogan Lovells from 2008 until the end of November 2011; and a partner with Lovells for 26 years from 1982 to 2008. Historically Hogan Lovells/Lovells has acted for The Guardian Group and GMG. However, Mr Polito has not advised either of them on any matters for more than ten years.

When he was at Hogan Lovells/Lovells, Simon Polito acted for Granada before its merger with Carlton in 2004 and thereafter acted for ITV; during this time, until 2006, Sir Charles Allen was Chief Executive of Granada and Executive Chairman of ITV. Mr Polito has met Charles Allen, Chairman of Global Radio, in a professional capacity, but over two years ago.

Stephen Oram represents the Newspaper Publishers Association (NPA) as non-executive Chairman of SHOPS (the national newspaper Safe Home Ordering Protection Scheme). The seven members of the NPA are the seven publishing companies of national newspapers (including the Guardian Media Group, but excluding the Express Group).

The members mentioned above and the Competition Commission do not believe that any of these matters will prejudice the ability of the Group to discharge its functions in an independent and impartial manner.

Register of interests: [Simon Polito](#), [Stephen Oram](#).

#### **Update to disclosures on 12 December 2012**

#### ***Disclosure of academic panellist's interests***

Professor Andrew Sweeting, a member of the CC's academic panel, has been asked to assist the Group in an advisory capacity.

Professor Sweeting is an Associate Professor in Economics at Duke University and a member of the NBER (National Bureau of Economic Research). He has published research articles on the US radio industry, including one that looks at the effects of mergers: The Effects of Horizontal Mergers on Product Positioning: Evidence from the Music Radio Industry, *RAND Journal of Economics*, 41(2), 372–397, Summer 2010.

A full list of publications is available on Professor Sweeting's [academic website](#).

The Competition Commission does not believe that the matters referred to above will prejudice the ability of Professor Sweeting to discharge his function as an independent economic adviser to the Group in this inquiry in an independent and impartial manner, or prejudice the ability of the CC to discharge its functions in an independent and impartial manner.

## **Update to disclosures on 4 January 2013**

### ***Disclosure of staff interests***

Daniel Gordon has recently been appointed as Chief Economist to the CC. He was previously employed by Ofcom and, in his previous role, he was a member of the Broadcast Competition Steering Group which considered the implications of the merger, in particular for media plurality and the need for application of the Ofcom Local Media Assessment Guidelines to the merger.

He will not act as the Economics Director or as a member of the case team which is primarily responsible for advising members of this inquiry. However, as a member of the senior management team at the CC and leader of the economic advisory team, he will have a supervisory and management oversight role which would potentially include peer review in relation to the economic advice given to the Group.

The CC is satisfied that this will not prejudice the ability of the CC to discharge its functions in an independent and impartial manner.

## **Update to disclosures on 11 November 2013**

### ***Disclosure of members' interests***

Stephen Oram has identified a conflict of interest as regards advisers to one of the candidate purchasers of the divestiture businesses. He has therefore recused himself from the Group's discussions and decision as to the suitability of the candidate purchasers for the purposes of the divestiture remedy.

The CC is satisfied that this will not prejudice the ability of the CC to discharge its functions in an independent and impartial manner.