VARIATION NUMBER 9 DATED 21 DECEMBER 2009


WHEREAS

A. Ofcom is required by the Communications Act (section 264) to review the extent to which public service broadcasters have fulfilled the purposes of public service television broadcasting in the UK and to prepare a report with a view to maintaining and strengthening the quality of such broadcasting.

B. Ofcom, having carried out its second PSB review, published its final report on 21 January 2009 which included Ofcom’s statement on short term regulatory decisions and set out a number of changes to the Licensee’s programming obligations.

C. In order to give effect to its decisions, Ofcom has decided to vary the Licence in the manner set out below.

D. In accordance with section 3(4)(b) of the Broadcasting Act 1996, the Licensee has been given a reasonable opportunity to make representations to Ofcom concerning the proposed variations.

NOW THEREFORE the Licence shall be varied in the following manner:

1. Paragraph 5 of Part 1 of the Annex (“Current Affairs”) shall be removed and replaced with the following:

   “Current Affairs”

5. The Licensee must broadcast a total of at least 43 hours per calendar year of high quality national and international current affairs programmes between 9.25 am and midnight of which at least 35 hours must be shown in peak viewing time.
2. This variation to the Licence shall come into force on 01 January 2010.

3. This document shall be construed as if it formed part of the Licence and shall be governed by English Law.

SIGNED FOR OFCOM ON 21 DECEMBER 2009

Kathleen Stewart
Manager, Television Broadcast Licensing