

Joan McAlpine MSP
South of Scotland Region

Mr Michael Jermey,
Director of News, Current Affairs and Sport,
ITV plc.
The London Television Centre, Upper Ground
London
SE1 9LT

04 September 2013

Dear Mr Jermey,

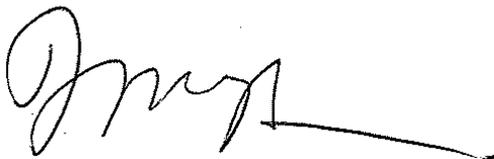
I am writing to you once again to raise concerns that viewers in the Border area won't be able to see the second instalment of the independence debate being broadcast on Thursday night on STV, between Nicola Sturgeon MSP, Deputy First Minister, and Deputy Leader of the Scottish Labour Party, Anas Sarwar.

In your letter to me dated 21 May 2013, you said that ITV are committed to broadcasting the referendum debate extensively on ITV Border, however, the decision not to broadcast Thursday's debate seems to contradict this entirely. You said that ITV would continue to talk to STV about programming they produce and take a view on a case-by-case basis whether to broadcast the same programme on ITV Border. I would be interested to know how the decision not to broadcast this particular programme was reached.

I hope you understand this is an issue that I, my fellow MSPs and many of my constituents in the south of Scotland are passionate about. At such an important political juncture in Scotland's history I do not intend to give in and accept that simply by virtue of geography, viewers on the Scottish side of the ITV Border region should be denied the same access to referendum coverage as someone who, for example, lives 20 miles away in Edinburgh.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Joan McAlpine
MSP for South of Scotland

cc. Alan Stewart, Ofcom
Maria Miller, Secretary of State for Culture Media and Sport