TIME'S UP UK

The Rt Hon Lisa Nandy MP
Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Monday 16 November 2026

Dear Secretary of State,

We are writing to you as co-founders of Time's Up UK.

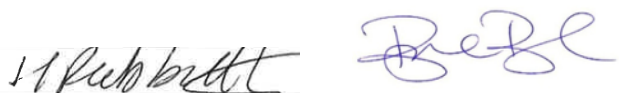
On 9 November, Russell Brand was sentenced to ten and a half years in prison for rape and sexual assault. The case raises the question that when people with power and fame behave badly, where do those around them seek help? You said last weekend that you could not put your hand on your heart and say this is not still happening, and that it is time for the media industry to take it seriously.

In 2021, Times Up UK conceived and developed the idea of an independent standards authority for the creative industries, with the support of leading British talent including Naomie Harris, Keira Knightley, Gemma Chan, Stephen Graham, Ruth Wilson and many others. That idea became the Creative Industries Independent Standards Authority (CIISA). CIISA's aim is to protect our workforce, many of whom are freelancers, most have no HR department and no union rep on set, and every job depends on getting the next one. Yet CIISA still has no secure funding.

Just as other sectors fund independent regulatory and standards bodies through statutory levies or a reserve power, we implore the Government to respond to this critical moment and to establish a sustainable funding mechanism for CIISA, including consideration of long term statutory regulatory fees across the industry's largest organisations - the broadcasters, streamers, studios, publishers and production groups - as part of the wider commitment to improving working conditions, protecting workers and preventing harmful behaviour across the creative industries.

The women who came forward in this case did so at great personal cost. We urgently need your help to ensure that those who come after them are supported from the very first moment they come forward.

Yours sincerely,



Dame Heather Rabbatts DBE, Chair and Co-Founder, Time's Up UK
Barbara Broccoli CBE, Board Director and Co-Founder, Time's Up UK