

11 February 2013

Sandra McLellan TD
Sinn Féin
Teach Laighean
Sráid Chill Dara
Baile Átha Cliath 2

Re: IRFU/Sky/RTÉ contracts 2014-2017 Rugby Internationals

Dear Ms McLellan,

Thank you for your letter of 6 February to which I am replying in the absence on leave of the Director General.

It is correct that RTÉ will have to black our coverage of IRFU Autumn International Rugby matches on Freeview in Northern Ireland. RTÉ does look to broadcast its sporting coverage in Northern Ireland; however sometimes this is not possible for contractual or commercial reasons. Under the new contract awarded by the IRFU, RTÉ will be required to black our coverage of International games on Freeview in Northern Ireland from 2014 to 2017. RTÉ were awarded the rights for the Republic of Ireland only by the IRFU. The IRFU awarded the rights for the UK to Sky.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David McKenna', is written over a horizontal line.

David McKenna
Head of Broadcast Compliance