

## **BBC Charter Renewal – supplementary submission**

Thanks for the opportunity to come back with additional evidence after the recent Committee evidence sessions with the Tony Hall and key stakeholders in Scotland.

### **BBC Pact agreement on BBC Studios**

Since our submission to you in November, you may have seen that the BBC and Pact have issued a joint statement and come to an agreement around BBC Studios: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/mediacentre/statements/pact-joint-statement>

Provided that all of the conditions in the Joint Statement and State Aid requirements are met, Pact considers that the creation of BBC Studios offers a pragmatic solution for the future of BBC's television supply arrangements. However, Pact reserves its position to challenge the BBC on this proposal, should it fail to meet the necessary regulatory requirements, or should the terms of the Joint Statement not be fully met and set out in the next Charter and Agreement. Given the Joint Statement between Pact and the BBC management, Pact now looks to the BBC Trust and to the Government to ensure that the appropriate provisions are included in the new Charter and Agreement.

Pact will continue to liaise with the BBC about the likely impact of the roll out of BBC Studios in all of the nations, including in Scotland. Whilst we welcome competition, we still have concerns about how 'separation' of BBC Studios and BBC commissioning will work in practice, particularly in the nations and whether Independent companies in the nations will be able to compete on a level playing field with BBC Studios.

### **NQIs**

Pact noted the discussion around Non Qualifying Indies (NQIs) during one of the evidence sessions and we would underline that out of the production companies in Scotland, the NQIs include STV Productions, 12 Yard (ITV), Lion (All3Media), Objective Scotland (All3Media), Shed (Warner) and Victory (Sony TV).

Please include this evidence with the previous evidence we have submitted.

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