

UK film, high-end television programmes, animation television programmes, children’s television programmes and video games certification¹ Quarter 1 2019

BFI Research and Statistics Unit

02 May 2019

1. Key points

- A total of 96 films received final certifications under the cultural test in quarter 1 (Q1) 2019, with a UK spend of £538 million and a total budget of £803 million. Co-productions are not published for disclosure reasons.
- In the last 12 months, April 2018-March 2019, 375 films received final certification, with a UK spend of £2.3 billion and total budget of £3.8 billion. Of these 366 were cultural test films, with a UK spend of £2.3 billion and total budget of £3.7 billion; nine films were co-productions, with a UK spend of £33 million and total budget of £63 million
- In the last 12 months, 101 high-end television programmes received final certification under the cultural test, of which 24 received final certification in Q1 2019. Total UK spend and total budget in Q1 2019 for cultural test films was £286 million and £433 million respectively. Co-productions are not published for disclosure reasons.
- In the last 12 months, a total of 54 animation television programmes received final certification under the cultural test, of which 17 received final certification in Q1 2019. These had a UK spend of £21 million and total budget of £29 million. Co-productions are not published for disclosure reasons.
- In the last 12 months, 86 children’s television programmes received final certification under the cultural test. Of these 20 received final certification in Q1 2019, with a UK spend of £21.8 million and total budget of £21.9 million. Co-productions are not published for disclosure reasons.
- In the last 12 months, 188 video games received final certification under the cultural test. Of these 42 video games received final certification in Q1 2019, with an EEA/UK spend of £268 million and a total budget of £822 million.

¹ For definition and outline of certification, see Notes.

Table 1 Final certifications for film, high-end television programmes, animation television programmes children’s television programmes and video games Q1 2019

	Film	High-end television	Animation television programmes	Children’s television programmes	Video games
Cultural test (number)	96	24	17	20	42
Co-production (number)	c	c	c	-	N/A*
UK spend £m	537.9	285.9	20.7	21.8	268.3
Total budget £m	803.4	432.9	28.7	21.8	821.9
UK spend as % of budget	67.0%	66.0%	72.3%	99.8%	32.6%

Source: BFI

‘Total Budget’ in the case of cultural test films is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK; in the case of co-productions it is the sum of investments made by all participating countries in the film.

‘c’ Data are suppressed for disclosure reasons, these films’ UK spend and total budget are not included in the overall figures

† Data for cultural test UK spend and budget only, because co-production data has been suppressed.

*There are no video-games co-productions as the legislation only covers certification under the cultural test.

2. Feature film certification

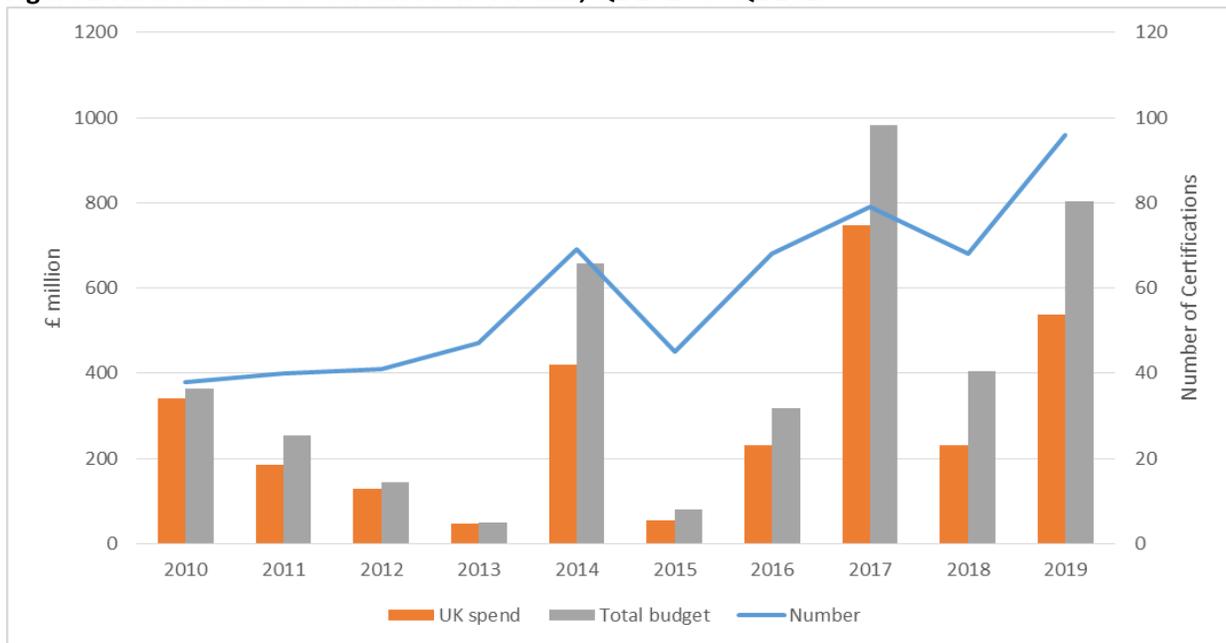
2.1 Certification - numbers of applications and values

2.1.1 Final certifications

A total of 96 films received final certification as British under the cultural test in quarter 1 (Q1) 2019, up from 68 in Q1 2018, and the highest number since certification began (Figure 1). The total UK spend and budget of these films was £538 million and £803 million respectively, an increase on Q1 2018 but less than the highest, Q1 2017, which had a UK spend of £747 million and total budget of £983 million. Even though more films were certified in Q1 2019, 2017 Q1 had more high budget films – the top ten Q1 2017 budgets averaged £86 million whilst the top 10 Q1 2019 budgets averaged £69 million. UK spend, as a percentage of budget, was also down on Q1 2017, at 67%.

Films with final certification as co-productions in Q1 2019 are not shown for disclosure reasons; co-production applications have remained low. Previous years are not shown for disclosure reasons.

Figure 1 Final cultural test certifications for film, Q1 2010 to Q1 2019



Source: BFI

'Total Budget' the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

See Appendix A for supporting data

This release looks at UK spend, total budget and the number of films certified as British in a rolling year highlighting the changes in the number of applications, UK spend and total budget in 12 month periods, from April 2010. Rolling year data give a broader representation of certification trends. In this release the rolling year period covered is April 2009-March 2010 to April 2018-March 2019.

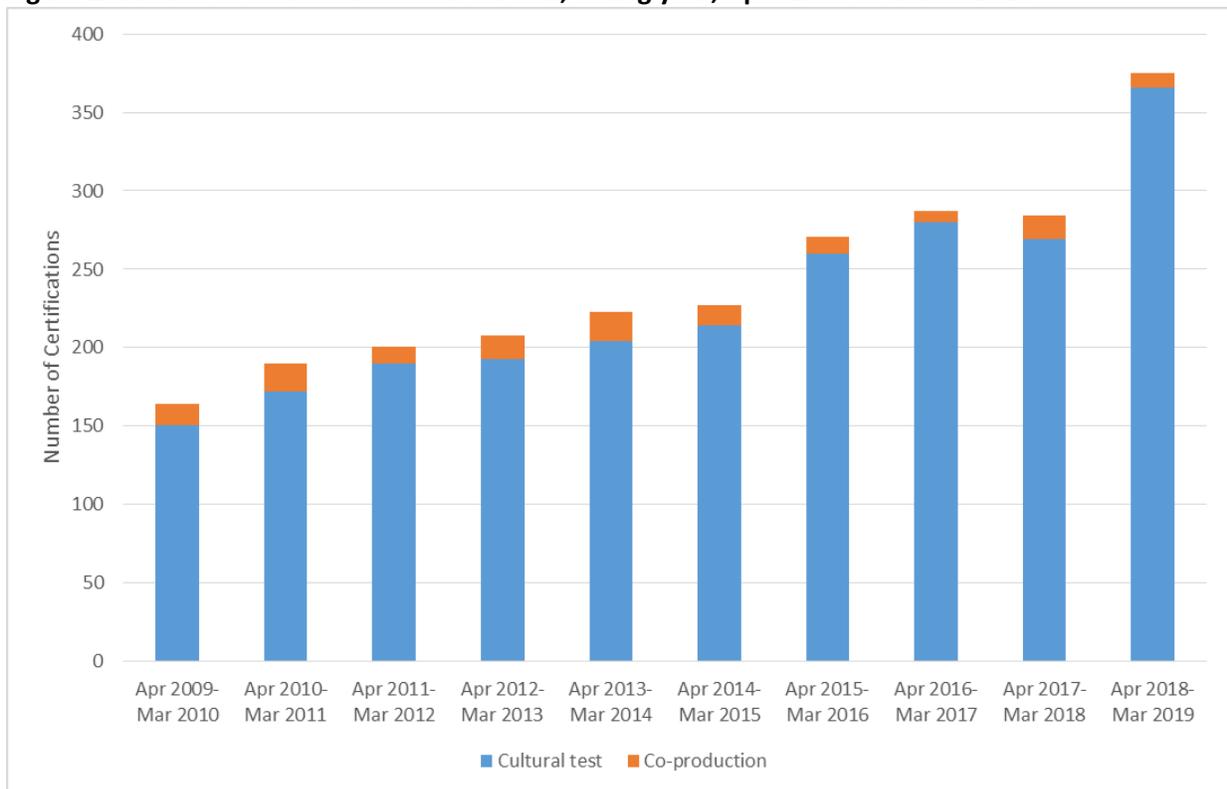
The number of films with final certification has increased rolling year on rolling year since April 2009, except for a slight dip in 2017-18, peaking at 366 films in April 2018-March 2019 (Figure 2). UK spend and total budget in April 2018-March 2019 have increased to £2.3 billion and £3.7 billion respectively from the previous highs of £1.5 billion and £2.2 billion in April 2016-March 2017. Overall, there has been an upward trend for the number of films, UK spend and total budget over the period, with the most

recent period being notably higher than all other year periods (Figure 3). This is driven by the number of films with final certification under the cultural test, as co-productions have remained a small percentage of total certifications.

The most recent period, April 2018-March 2019 has broken records thanks to the increase in overall films being certified, which has also seen an increase in high (£10 million+) budget films, with over 75% of these high budget films having a majority UK spend, e.g. *Jurassic World: Hidden Kingdom*, *The Nutcracker and the Four Realms* and *Mary Poppins Returns*.

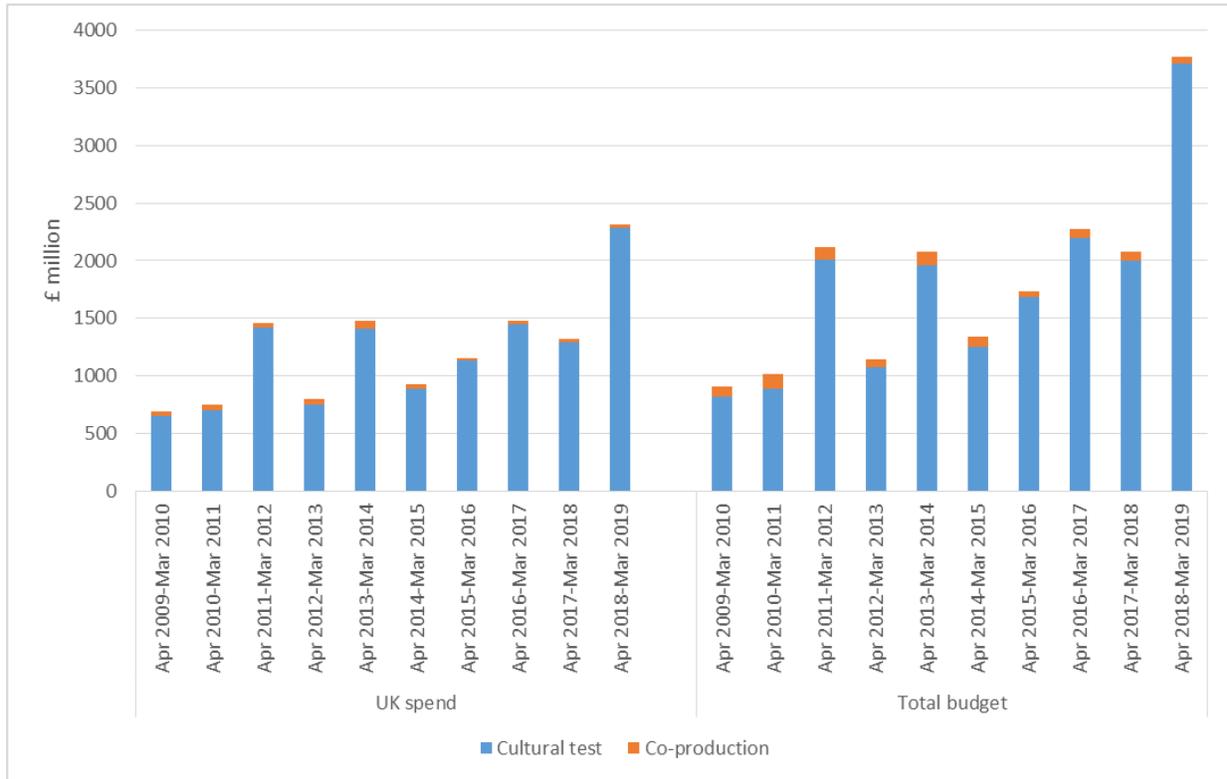
April 2018-March 2019 saw nine official co-productions receive final certification, less than the 15 co-productions certified in the previous period, but saw an increase in UK spend and share with £33 million and 52%, compared to £27 million and 34%. This UK spend is the highest in several years, but is down on all rolling year periods from April 2009-March 2015.

Figure 2 Number of final certifications for film, rolling year, April 2009 to March 2019



Source: BFI
See Appendix A for supporting data

Figure 3 UK spend and total budget of final certifications for film, rolling year, April 2009 to March 2019



Source: BFI

'Total Budget' in the case of cultural test films is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK; in the case of co-production it is the sum of investments made by all participating countries in the film.

See Appendix A for supporting data

2.1.2 Interim certifications

Interim certification indicates the expected future level of official film production. In Q1 2019 a total of 77 films received interim certification, 70 under the cultural test and 7 co-production treaties, with a UK spend and total budget of £480 million and £676 million respectively (Table 2). As a percentage of budget, UK spend was 71%, the highest level since Q1 2010.

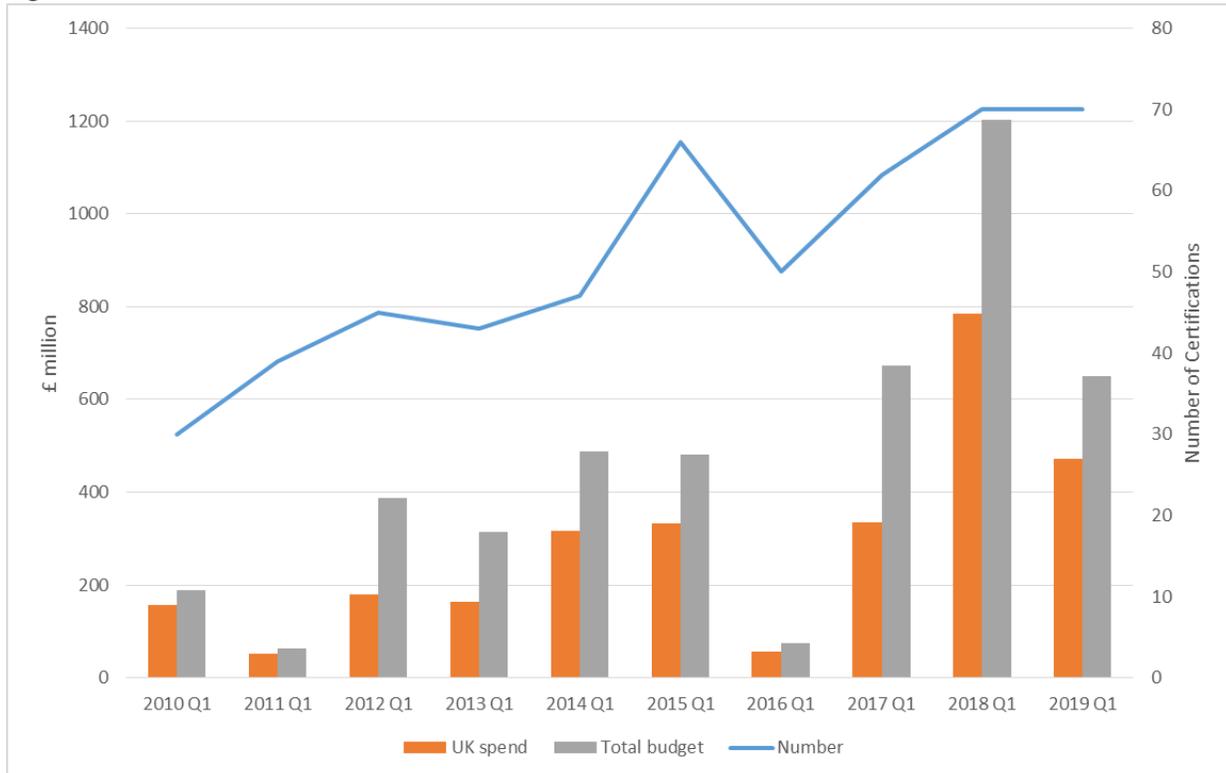
Table 2 Interim cultural test certifications for films, Q1 2019

	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Cultural Test	70	472.4	650.4	72.6%
Co-production	7	7.3	25.3	28.8%
Total	77	479.71	675.78	71.0%

Figure 4 shows the number, UK spend and total budget of films with interim certification under the cultural test. In Q1 2019 70 films received interim certification under the cultural test, with a UK spend of £472 million and total budget of £650 million.

A total of seven co-productions received interim certification, with a UK spend of £7 million and a total budget of £25 million. Co-productions are not compared to previous Q1 periods and are not shown in Figure 4 for disclosure reasons.

Figure 4 Interim cultural test certifications for film, Q1 2010 to Q1 2019



Source: BFI

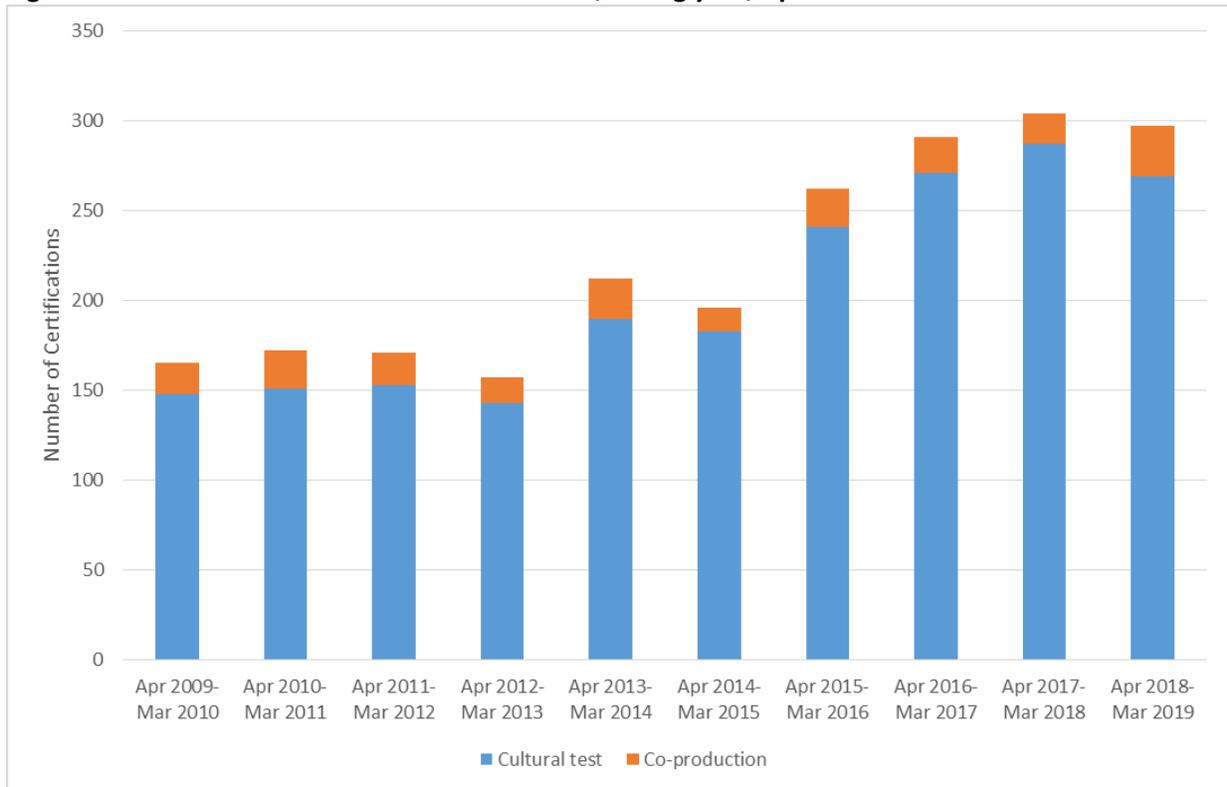
'Total Budget' is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

See Appendix A for supporting data

There were 297 films with interim certification in April 2018-March 2019, up from 291 films in April 2016-March 2017 but down from 304 films in April 2017-March 2018; UK spend was £1.4 billion and total budget was £1.9 billion. This is down substantially on Q1 2018, and is broadly due to the number of films with high budgets – the top 10 April 2017-March 2018 budgets averaged £2.34 billion whilst the top 10 April 2018-March 2019 budgets £1.17 billion. (Figure 5.)

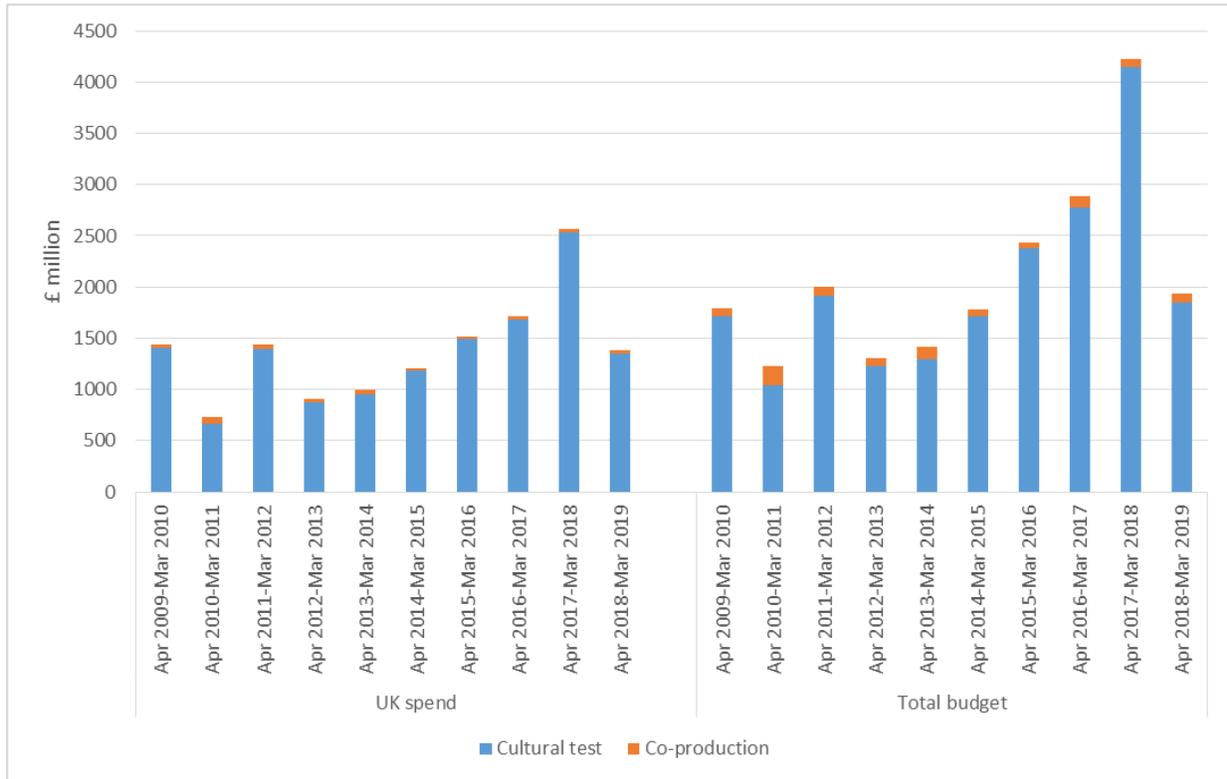
28 official co-productions received interim certification in April 2018-March 2019, the highest number in any April-March period. These films had a UK spend of £35 million and a total budget of £95 million, higher than April 2017-March 2018 which had £34 million and £75 million respectively, but with a smaller UK share (36% compared with 46%).

Figure 5 Number of interim certifications for film, rolling year, April 2009 to March 2019



Source: BFI
See Appendix A for supporting data

Figure 6 UK spend and total budget of interim certifications for film, rolling year, April 2009 to March 2019



Source: BFI

'Total Budget' is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK; in the case of co-productions it is the sum of investments made by all participating countries in the film.

See Appendix A for supporting data

2.2 Total budgets

The median budget for interim cultural test certifications has plateaued at around £0.8-£1.1 million.

Table 3 Median budgets of interim cultural test certifications

Year	Median budget £m		Year	Median budget £m
2010	1.1		2015	0.9
2011	0.9		2016	0.8
2012	1.0		2017	0.8
2013	0.7		2018	1.0
2014	0.9		Q1 2019	0.8

Source: BFI

The 'median' is the middle value, i.e. half the productions have higher budgets than the median; the other half have lower budgets.

For disclosure reasons, the median budget for co-productions is not presented.

2.3 Co-production treaties

The co-productions given final and interim certification in Q1 2019, qualified under the European Convention on Cinematographic Co-production, UK/Morocco and UK/Canada treaties.

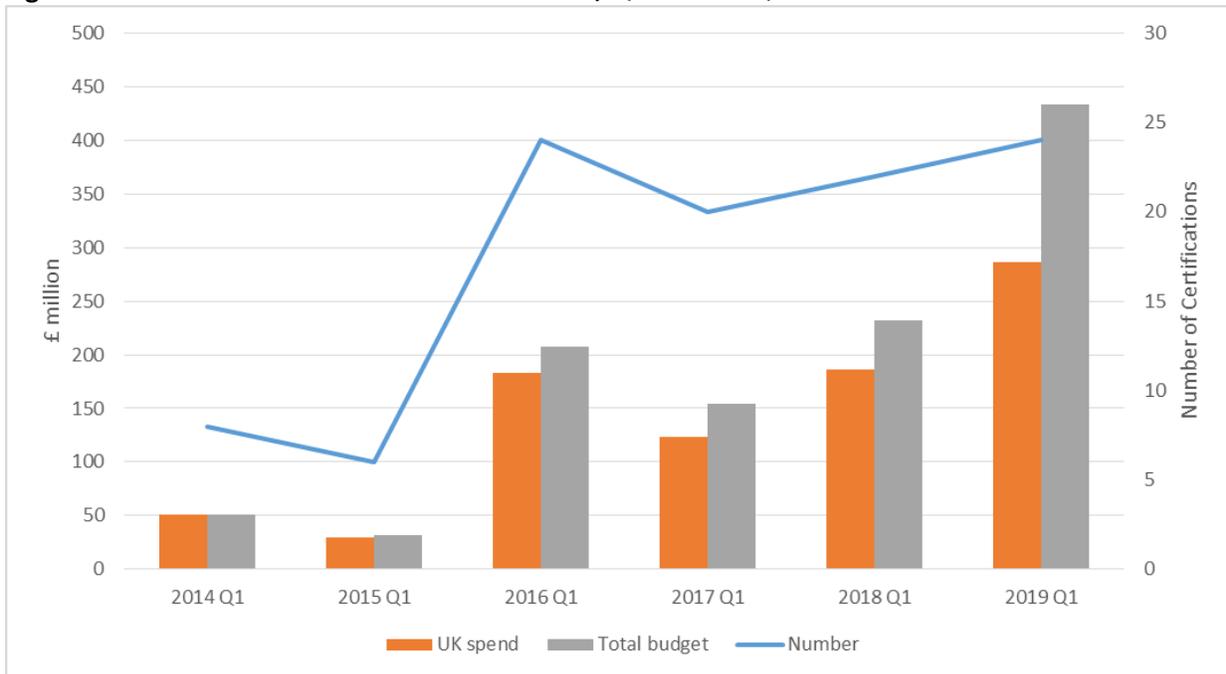
3. High-end television programme certifications

3.1 Certification – numbers of applications and values

3.1.1 Final certifications

A total of 24 HETV programmes received final certification under the cultural test in Q1 2019, this is an increase from 22 in Q1 2018. The number of HETV programmes has stayed at a similar level since Q1 2016. UK spend and total budget for programmes in Q1 2019 was £286 million and £433 million respectively (Figure 7). Total budget and UK spend were at the highest level for the period, but UK spend was 66% of total budget, where the previous average for this period was 85%. One HETV co-production has been awarded final certification in Q1 2019, details will not be reported for disclosure control reasons.

Figure 7 Final cultural test certifications for HETV, Q1 2014 to Q1 2019



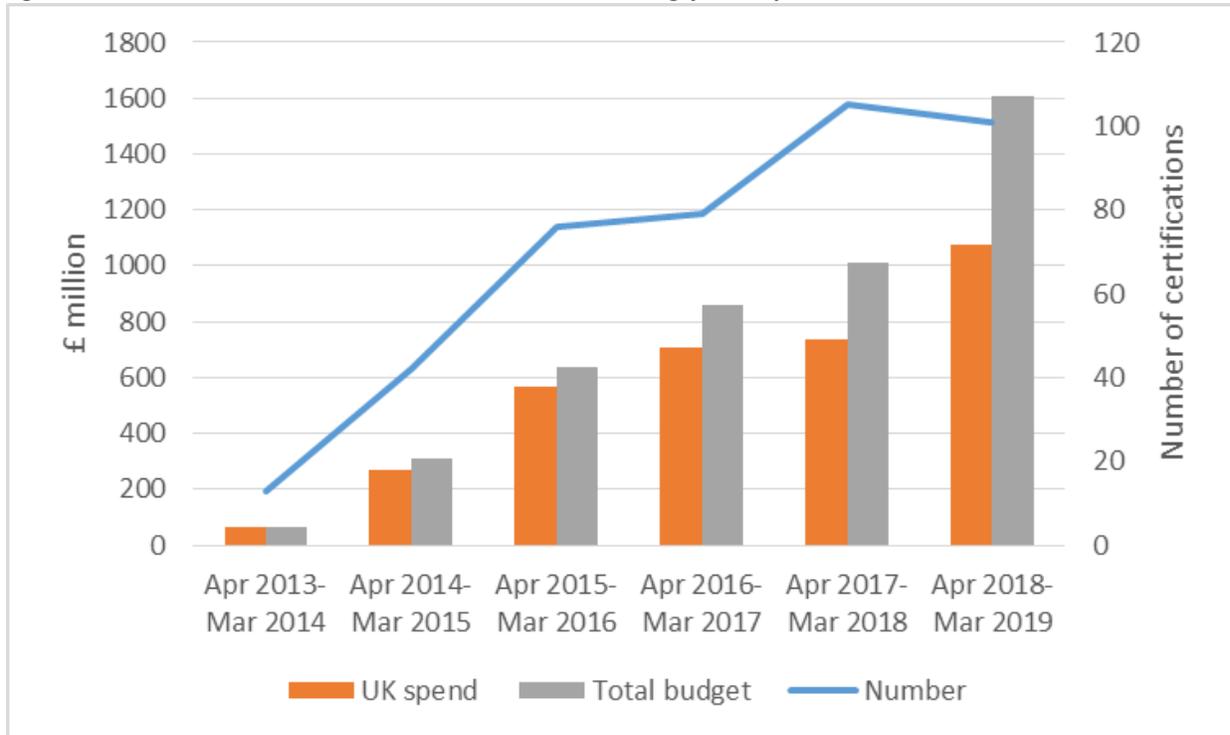
Source: BFI

'Total Budget' is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

See Appendix A for supporting data

In the rolling years from April 2013 to March 2019 there has been a general year-on-year increase in the number, and associated UK spend and total budget of HETV programmes receiving final certification under the cultural test. In April 2018-March 2019 a total of 101 programmes received final certification under the cultural test, with a UK spend of £1,075 million and a total budget of £1,607 million (Figure 8). This is a slight decrease from 105 programmes in April 2017-March 2018, but a substantial increase from a UK spend of £739 million and total budget of £1,012 million. UK spend as a percentage of total budget fell from 73% to 67%.

Figure 8 Cultural test final certifications for HETV, rolling year, April 2013 to March 2019



Source BFI.

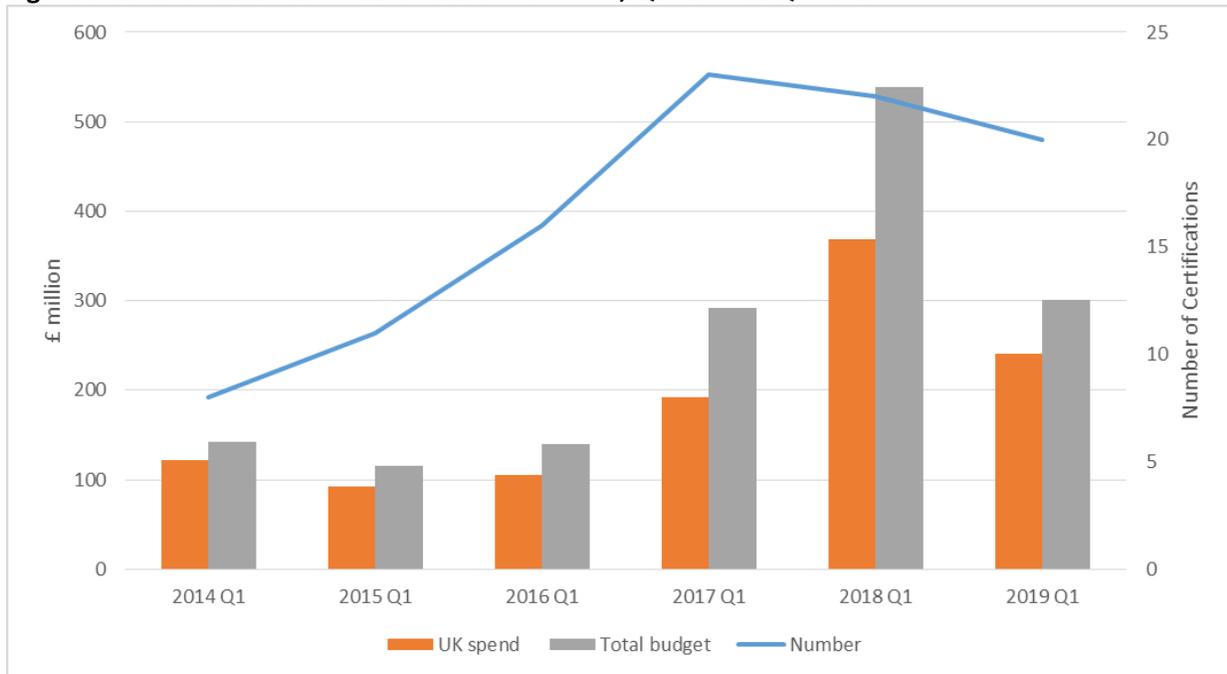
'Total budget' is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

See Appendix for supporting data

3.1.2 Interim certifications

As with film, interim certifications indicate the expected future level of official UK HETV production. For number of HETV programmes with interim certification and associated UK spend and total budget, there is an overall upward trend. In Q1 2019, a total of 20 HETV programmes received interim certification under the cultural test, slightly less than in the Q1 2017 when the number of programmes peaked at 23. UK spend and total budget are the second highest of the period at £241 million and 301 million respectively, compared to £368 million and £538 million (Figure 9). Since Q1 2016 UK spend and total budget have almost doubled. Numbers of HETV co-productions that have been awarded interim certification are not shown for disclosure reasons.

Figure 9 Cultural test interim certification for HETV, Q1 2014 to Q1 2019



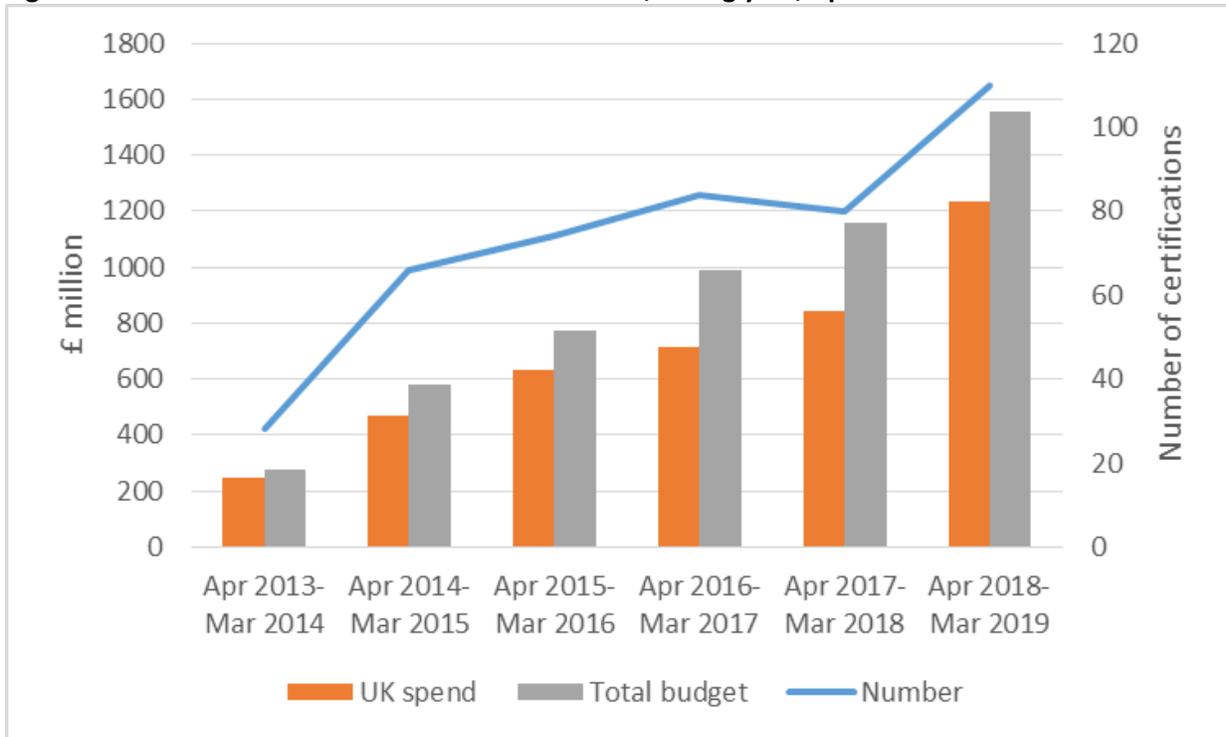
Source: BFI

'Total Budget' is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

See Appendix A for supporting data

Looking at the rolling year periods, the number of HETV programmes with interim cultural test certification broadly increased year on year to a current peak of 110 in April 2018-March 2019. UK spend and total budget has increased period on period, being £1,235 million and £1,555 million respectively in April 2018-March 2019 (Figure 10). UK spend as a percentage of total budget was 79% in the most recent period, the highest since April 2015-March 2016 with 82%. HETV co-productions are not shown for disclosure control reasons.

Figure 10 Cultural test interim certifications for HETV, rolling year, April 2013 to March 2019



Source: BFI

'Total Budget' is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

See Appendix A for supporting data

3.2 Total budgets

This release presents the median total budget per minute of content for HETV. The median budget per minute of interim cultural test HETV projects Q1 2019 was £32,448, the highest since the relief began (Table 4). Overall there has been a gradual upward trend in median budget.

Table 4 Median budget per minute of interim HETV cultural test certifications

Year	Median budget per minute £¹
2013*	21,002
2014	21,788
2015	23,985
2016	22,233
2017	26,177
2018	28,348
Q1 2019	32,448

Source: BFI

¹ Median budget is actual amount, unlike film and video games certification median budget which is reported in £ million

*As the tax relief for HETV programmes commenced in April 2013, median budget for 2013 is for Q2-Q4.

For disclosure control reasons, median budget per minute for interim co-productions is not provided.

3.3 Co-production treaties

There were two co-productions with final or interim certification in Q1 2019, both qualified under the UK/Canada treaty.

4. Animation television programme certifications

4.1 Certification – numbers of applications and values

4.1.1 Final certifications

Number of certifications, and total budget peaked in Q1 2018, where a total of 20 animation programmes received final certification (over double the number certified in Q1 2017) with a total budget of £36 million, compared to 17 programmes with a total budget of £28.7 million in Q1 2019 (Table 5). UK spend was at its highest point in Q1 2019 with £20.7 million, but as a percentage it was second to Q1 2016, with 72% compared to 87%.

Table 5 Final cultural test certifications for animation television programmes, Q1 2015 to Q1 2019

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Q1 2015	8	12.6	19.7	64.1%
Q1 2016	9	6.4	7.4	86.8%
Q1 2017	9	5.3	8.4	63.0%
Q1 2018	20	19.5	36.2	53.7%
Q1 2019	17	20.7	28.7	72.3%

Source: BFI

'Total budget' is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

The number of certifications, UK spend and total spend has varied throughout the period April 2014-March 2015 to April 2018-March 2019. In the last 12 months, April 2018-March 2019, a total of 54 animation programmes received final certification under the cultural test with a UK spend of £55 million and total budget of £69 million (Table 6). This was the highest number of programmes certified, and the third highest level of UK spend and total budget in the period after April 2015-March 2016 and April 2017-March 2018. UK spend as a percentage of total budget was at its highest in last 12 months. Data for April 2013-March 2014 and co-production data are not shown for disclosure reasons.

Table 6 Cultural test final certifications for animation television programmes, April 2014 to March 2019

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Apr 2014-Mar 2015	21	22.7	40.8	55.7%
Apr 2015-Mar 2016	52	56.0	74.1	75.6%
Apr 2016-Mar 2017	38	43.4	63.3	68.6%
Apr 2017-Mar 2018	50	57.0	78.0	73.1%
Apr 2018-Mar 2019	54	53.8	68.5	78.5%

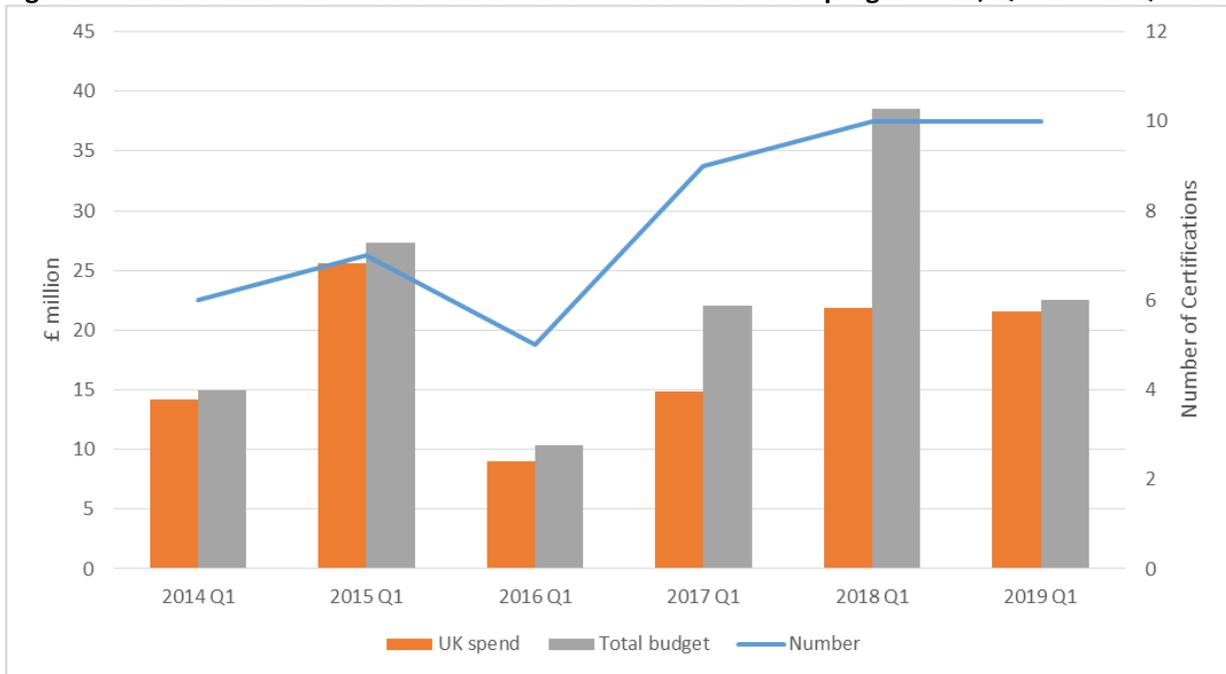
Source BFI.

'Total budget' is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

4.1.2 Interim certifications

As with film and HETV, interim certifications indicate the expected future level of official UK animation television programme production. Across the period, Q1 2014 to Q1 2019, there is generally an upward trend in the number of animation programmes with interim certifications, but UK spend and total budget is more varied. A total of 10 animation programmes received interim certification under the cultural test in Q1 2019, with a UK spend of £22 million and a total budget of £23 million (Figure 11). This is similar to Q1 2018, which also saw 10 animation television programmes receive interim certification, with a UK spend of £22 million, but Q1 2018 had a larger overall total budget. Animation television programme co-productions are not shown for disclosure reasons.

Figure 11 Cultural test interim certification for animation television programmes, Q1 2014 to Q1 2019



Source BFI.

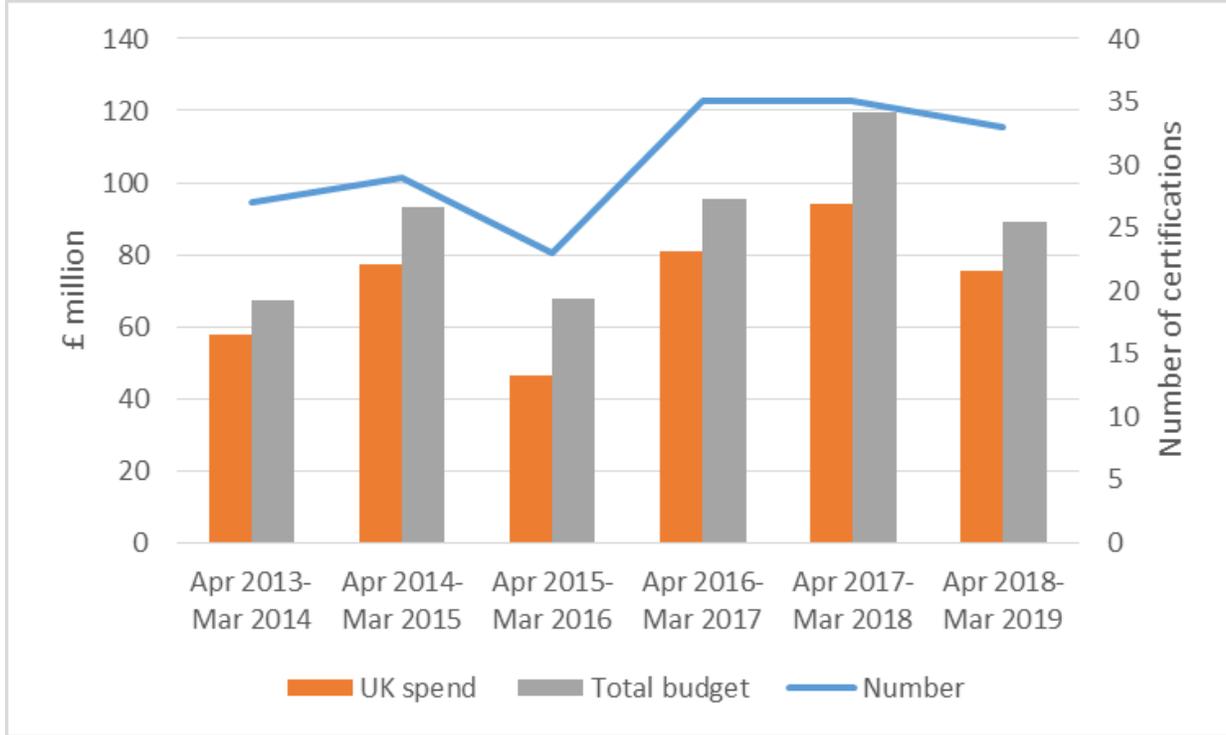
'Total budget' is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

See Appendix A for supporting data

In the last 12 months, 33 programmes were awarded interim certification, with a UK spend of £76 million and a total budget of £90 million (Figure 12). This is down from April 2017-March 2018 where there were 35 programmes with a UK spend of £94 million and a total budget of £120 million. UK spend as a percentage of total budget is at 85%, just below 86% in the April 2013-March 2014 period.

A small number of animation television programmes have been awarded interim certification as a co-production since April 2013-March 2014, details are not shown for disclosure reasons.

Figure 12 Cultural test interim certifications for animation television programmes, April 2013 to March 2019



Source BFI.
 'Total budget' is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.
 See Appendix A for supporting data

4.2 Total budgets

As with HETV programmes, this release presents the median total budget per minute of content for animation television programmes instead of median total budget². The median budget per minute of interim cultural test animation television programmes in Q1 2019 was £12,751, the highest of the period, although this is just for the first quarter (Table 7).

Table 7 Median budget per minute of interim animation programme cultural test certifications

Year	Median budget per minute £¹
2013*	6,274
2014	10,330
2015	7,873
2016	7,859
2017	9,761
2018	8,459
Q1 2019	12,751

Source: BFI

¹ Median budget is actual amount, unlike film and video games certification median budget which is reported in £ million

*As the tax relief for animation programmes commenced in April 2013, median budget for 2013 is for Q2-Q4.

For disclosure control reasons, median budget per minute for interim co-productions is not provided.

4.3 Co-production treaties

One co-production received final certification in Q1 2019, under the UK/Canada treaty. As there were no co-productions with interim certification in Q1 2019, no interim co-production treaties can be reported.

² Certification applications are received for one-off programmes as well as series (that can be any length of time), this median provides a better representation of the average animation programme budget. Advice was obtained from Pact regarding appropriate median budgets.

5. Children's television programme certifications

5.1 Certification – numbers of applications and values

5.1.1 Final certifications

In Q1 2019, 20 children's television (CTV) programmes received final certification under the cultural test, down from 25 in Q1 2017. Q1 2019's UK spend and total budget were £21.8 million and £21.9 million respectively, both up from Q1 2017 (Table 8). In Q1 2018, UK spend was almost 100% of total budget, higher than previous quarters. Q1 2016 data is not published here for disclosure reasons.

Table 8 Cultural test final certification for CTV programmes, Q1 2017 to Q1 2019

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Q1 2017	25	11.5	11.7	98.3%
Q1 2018	21	19.6	19.9	98.6%
Q1 2019	20	21.8	21.8	99.8%

In April 2018-March 2019, the number of CTV programmes awarded final certification under the cultural test and their associated UK spend and total budget were the highest since reporting began in April 2015: 86 programmes had a UK spend of £88 million and a total budget of £91 million (Table 9). This is up from 61 programmes with a UK spend and total budget of £54 million and £58 million respectively in April 2017-Mar 2018.

Table 9 Cultural test final certifications for CTV programmes, April 2015 to March 2019

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Apr 2015-Mar 2016	8	3.7	3.7	100.0%
Apr 2016-Mar 2017	54	33.5	34.1	98.3%
Apr 2017-Mar 2018	61	54.3	58.0	93.5%
Apr 2018-Mar 2019	86	88.4	91.0	97.1%

Source BFI.

'Total budget' is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

5.1.2 Interim certifications

As with the other tax reliefs, interim certifications indicate the expected future level of official UK CTV programme production. In Q1 2019, a total of six CTV programmes received interim certification under the cultural test, with a UK spend and total budget each of £8.2 million, making UK spend 100% of total budget (Table 10). This is an increase from four programmes with a UK spend and total budget of £7.5 million each in Q1 2018. A small number of CTV programmes have been awarded interim certification as a co-production since April 2013-March 2014, details are not shown for disclosure reasons.

Table 10 Cultural test interim certification for CTV programmes, Q1 2016 to Q1 2019

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Q1 2016	6	3.9	4.1	95.4%
Q1 2017	8	11.7	11.7	99.9%
Q1 2018	4	7.5	7.5	100.0%
Q1 2019	6	8.2	8.2	100.0%

Source BFI.

'Total budget' is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

April 2018-March 2019 has seen the highest number of CTV programmes, along with the largest UK spend, total budget and UK spend as a percentage of the total budget, since the tax relief was introduced (Table 11).

Table 11 Cultural test interim certification for CTV programmes, April 2015 to March 2019

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Apr 2015-Mar 2016	20	16.7	20.3	82.2%
Apr 2016-Mar 2017	31	40.9	41.6	98.3%
Apr 2017-Mar 2018	34	52.9	69.2	76.4%
Apr 2018-Mar 2019	50	71.3	71.6	99.6%

Source BFI.

'Total budget' is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

5.2 Total budgets

As with HETV and animation television programmes, this release presents the median total budget per minute of content for CTV programmes instead of median total budget³. The median budgets have stayed relatively stable around £2400-£2900 per minute, but the latest result shows an increase, although this is just for the first quarter (Table 12).

Table 12 Median budget per minute of interim CTV programme cultural test certifications

Year	Median budget per minute £
2015*	2433.5
2016	2820.0
2017	2909.5
2018	2709.0
Q1 2019	3441.9

Source: BFI

1 Median budget is actual amount, unlike film and video games certification median budget which is reported in £ million

*As the tax relief for animation programmes commenced in April 2015, median budget for 2015 is for Q2-Q4.

As there are a very low number of co-productions since the inception of the tax relief, median budget per minute for these productions cannot be reported for disclosure reasons.

5.3 Co-production treaties

One co-production received final certification in Q1 2018, under the UK/Canada treaty. As there were no co-productions with interim certification in Q1 2018, no co-production treaties can be reported.

³ Certification applications are received for one-off programmes as well as series (that can be any length of time), this median provides a better representation of the average CTV programme budget. Advice was obtained from Pact regarding appropriate median budgets.

6. Video Games Certification

6.1 Certification – numbers of applications and values

6.1.1 Final certifications

A total of 42 video games received final certification in Q1 2019, down from 60 in Q1 2017 and 49 in Q1 2018, but EEA/UK⁴ spend and total budget, at £268 million and £822 million respectively, are much higher than before due to a small number of very high budget video games (Table 13). There are no co-production treaties for video games, as such no statistics are available. Q1 2015 data are not shown for disclosure reasons.

Table 13 Cultural test final certification for video games, Q1 2016 to Q1 2019

Year	Number	EEA/UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Q1 2015	18	14.3	15.1	95.2%
Q1 2016	35	22.5	24.7	90.8%
Q1 2017	60	41.1	58.6	70.0%
Q1 2018	49	40.1	43.7	91.8%
Q1 2019	42	268.3	821.9	32.6%

Source: BFI

'Total Budget' is the sum of development activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

In the last year, April 2018-March 2019, 188 video games received final certification, down from 201 in April 2017-March 2018 and 214 in April 2016-March 2017 (Table 14). EEA/UK spend increased to £430 million from £248 million and total budget increased from £263 million to £1,042 million, whilst UK spend as a percentage of total budget decreased to 41%, again due to a small number of very high budget video games.

Table 14 Cultural test final certification for video games, April 2014 to March 2019

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Apr 2014-Mar 2015	19	14.3	15.1	95.2%
Apr 2015-Mar 2016	133	189.0	275.3	68.7%
Apr 2016-Mar 2017	214	220.8	258.3	85.5%
Apr 2017-Mar 2018	201	247.8	262.6	94.4%
Apr 2018-Mar 2019	188	430.1	1042.1	41.3%

Source: BFI

'Total Budget' is the sum of development activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

⁴ As the regulations for video-games refers to spend not just in the UK but also in the European Economic Area (EEA), we report UK/EEA spend rather than only UK spend.

6.1.2 Interim certifications

For interim certification, in Q1 2019 34 video games received interim certification under the cultural test, with an EEA/UK spend at £153 million and total budget at £240 million (Table 15). Total budget in Q1 2018 is much larger than other quarters, including the latest quarter, mainly due to one development with a very large budget and an additional three developments with budgets over £10 million. EEA/UK spend as a percentage of total budget in Q1 2019 is up on that in Q1 2018, 64% compared to 32%, but down compared to mid-90% figures of 2015-2017.

Table 15 Cultural test interim certification for video games, Q1 2015 to Q1 2019

Period	Number	EEA/UK spend		EEA/UK spend as a % of total budget
		£m	Total budget £m	
Q1 2015	25	114.1	121.4	94.0%
Q1 2016	40	141.8	148.9	95.2%
Q1 2017	51	152.3	164.2	92.8%
Q1 2018	53	258.4	809.6	31.9%
Q1 2019	34	152.6	240.2	63.5%

Source: BFI

'Total Budget' is the sum of development activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

In April 2018-March 2019 151 video games received interim certification with an expected EEA/UK spend of £412 million and a total budget of £537 million (Table 16). This is a decrease on the number of video games with interim certification, EEA/UK spend and total budget in April 2017-March 2018 (181, £540 million and £1,107 million respectively), but an increase on UK spend as a percentage of total budget (77% compared to 49%).

Table 16 Cultural test interim certification for video games, April 2014-March 2019

Year	Number	EEA/UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Apr 2014-Mar 2015	47	157.57	166.32	94.7%
Apr 2015-Mar 2016	136	575.75	631.22	91.2%
Apr 2016-Mar 2017	187	412.27	482.22	85.5%
Apr 2017-Mar 2018	181	540.43	1107.17	48.8%
Apr 2018-Mar 2019	151	411.91	536.96	76.7%

Source: BFI

'Total Budget' is the sum of development activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

6.2 Total budgets

Median budget in Q1 2019 was £1.0 million, double the amount in 2018, although this is only for the first quarter of the year (Table 17).

Table 17 Median budgets of interim video game cultural test certifications

Year	Median budget £m
2014*	0.2
2015	0.6
2016	0.4
2017	0.4
2018	0.5
Q1 2019	1.0

Source: BFI

*As the tax relief for video games commenced in April 2014, median budget for 2014 is for Q2-Q4.

Appendix A

Table A1 Final cultural test certifications for film, Q1 2010 to Q1 2019

Year	Number	UK Spend £ m	Total Budget £m	UK as a % of budget
Q1 2010	38	340.7	363.5	93.7%
Q1 2011	40	184.5	253.3	72.8%
Q1 2012	41	127.5	144.8	88.0%
Q1 2013	47	47.0	49.3	95.2%
Q1 2014	69	419.2	658.4	63.7%
Q1 2015	45	55.4	80.3	68.9%
Q1 2016	68	230.5	318.3	72.4%
Q1 2017	79	747.1	982.8	76.0%
Q1 2018	68	229.8	404.6	56.8%
Q1 2019	96	537.9	803.3	67.0%

Source: BFI

'Total Budget' the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

Table A2 Final certifications for film, rolling year, from April 2009 to March 2019

Type of certification	Apr 2009- Mar 2010	Apr 2010- Mar 2011	Apr 2011- Mar 2012	Apr 2012- Mar 2013	Apr 2013- Mar 2014	Apr 2014- Mar 2015	Apr 2015- Mar 2016	Apr 2016- Mar 2017	Apr 2017- Mar 2018	Apr 2018- Mar 2019
Cultural Test										
Number	151	172	190	193	204	214	260	280	269	366
UK spend £m	656.5	697.6	1421.4	753.7	1413.5	888.9	1134.2	1452.9	1296.3	2283.5
Total budget £m	823.7	891.5	2009.8	1074.3	1962.5	1277.8	1682.0	2197.3	1995.2	3707.5
UK spend as a % of total budget	79.7%	78.3%	70.7%	70.2%	72.0%	69.6%	67.4%	66.1%	65.0%	61.6%
Co-production										
Number	13	18	11	15	19	13	11	7	15	9
UK spend £m	37.9	49.1	39.1	42.8	69.1	42.7	19.5	23.9	27.2	32.6
Total budget £m	85.9	122.6	107.6	71.2	120.6	84.3	51.3	75.4	79.4	63.3
UK spend as a % of total budget	44.1%	40.1%	36.3%	60.2%	57.3%	50.6%	38.0%	31.7%	34.3%	51.6%
All Types										
Number	164	190	201	208	223	227	271	287	284	375
UK spend £m	694.4	746.7	1460.5	796.6	1482.5	931.6	1153.6	1476.8	1323.5	2316.1
Total budget £m	909.6	1014.1	2117.4	1145.5	2083.0	1338.8	1733.3	2272.6	2074.6	3770.7
UK spend as a % of total budget	76.3%	73.6%	69.0%	69.5%	71.2%	69.6%	66.6%	65.0%	63.8%	61.4%

Source: BFI

'Total Budget' in the case of cultural test films is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK; in the case of co-production it is the sum of investments made by all participating countries in the film.

Table A3 Interim cultural test certifications for film, Q1 2010 to Q1 2019

Year	Number	UK Spend £ m	Total Budget £m	UK as a % of budget
2010 Q1	30	156.9	187.8	83.5%
2011 Q1	39	52.2	64.1	81.5%
2012 Q1	45	179.5	387.4	46.3%
2013 Q1	43	164.6	315.4	52.2%
2014 Q1	47	316.4	487.3	64.9%
2015 Q1	66	333.0	481.7	69.1%
2016 Q1	50	55.8	73.9	75.4%
2017 Q1	62	335.0	672.7	49.8%
2018 Q1	70	785.6	1203.1	65.3%
2019 Q1	70	472.4	650.5	72.6%

Source: BFI

'Total Budget' is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

Table A4 Interim certifications for film, rolling year, from April 2007 to March 2019

Type of certification	Apr 2009- Mar 2010	Apr 2010- Mar 2011	Apr 2011- Mar 2012	Apr 2012- Mar 2013	Apr 2013- Mar 2014	Apr 2014- Mar 2015	Apr 2015- Mar 2016	Apr 2016- Mar 2017	Apr 2017- Mar 2018	Apr 2018- Mar 2019
Cultural Test										
Number	148	151	153	143	190	183	241	271	287	269
UK spend £m	1406.66	661.93	1393.53	869.33	946.80	1181.78	1496.69	1679.03	2530.82	1350.04
Total budget £m	1713.50	1041.60	1917.07	1223.03	1289.69	1715.09	2375.56	2779.05	4149.07	1842.33
UK spend as a % of total budget	82.1%	63.5%	72.7%	71.1%	73.4%	68.9%	63.0%	60.4%	61.0%	73.3%
Co-production										
Number	17	21	18	14	22	13	21	20	17	28
UK spend £m	28.73	67.10	50.02	40.83	49.11	19.03	20.71	36.22	34.03	34.54
Total budget £m	78.10	185.47	89.85	78.41	127.81	67.64	58.93	109.50	74.65	94.85
UK spend as a % of total budget	36.8%	36.2%	55.7%	52.1%	38.4%	28.1%	35.1%	33.1%	45.6%	36.4%
All Types										
Number	165	172	171	157	212	196	262	291	304	297
UK spend £m	1435.39	729.03	1443.55	910.16	995.91	1200.81	1517.40	1715.25	2564.85	1384.58
Total budget £m	1791.60	1227.07	2006.92	1301.44	1417.50	1782.73	2434.49	2888.55	4223.72	1937.18
UK spend as a % of total budget	80.1%	59.4%	71.9%	69.9%	70.3%	67.4%	62.3%	59.4%	60.7%	71.5%

Source: BFI

'Total Budget' in the case of cultural test films is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK; in the case of co-production it is the sum of investments made by all participating countries in the film.

Table A5 Final cultural test certifications for HETV programmes, Q1 2014 to Q1 2019

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Q1 2014	8	50.6	50.6	100.0%
Q1 2015	6	30.1	31.6	95.2%
Q1 2016	24	183.0	207.1	88.4%
Q1 2017	20	122.9	154.6	79.5%
Q1 2018	22	185.9	231.7	80.2%
Q1 2019	24	285.9	432.9	66.0%

Source: BFI

'Total Budget' is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

Table A6 Final cultural test certifications for HETV programmes, rolling year, from April 2013 to March 2019

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Apr 2013-Mar 2014	13	63.8	63.8	100.0%
Apr 2014-Mar 2015	42	267.7	308.0	86.9%
Apr 2015-Mar 2016	76	565.7	640.2	88.4%
Apr 2016-Mar 2017	79	708.8	858.9	82.5%
Apr 2017-Mar 2018	105	738.5	1012.3	73.0%
Apr 2018-Mar 2019	101	1074.7	1607.4	66.9%

Source: BFI

'Total Budget' is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

Table A7 Interim cultural test certifications for HETV programmes, Q1 2014 to Q1 2019

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Q1 2014	8	121.9	142.4	85.7%
Q1 2015	11	92.8	114.9	80.8%
Q1 2016	16	105.7	139.4	75.8%
Q1 2017	23	192.7	291.6	66.1%
Q1 2018	22	368.4	538.0	68.5%
Q1 2019	20	240.9	300.8	80.1%

Source: BFI

'Total Budget' is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

Table A8 Interim cultural test certifications for HETV programmes, rolling year, from April 2013 to March 2019

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Apr 2013-Mar 2014	28	245.3	274.3	89.4%
Apr 2014-Mar 2015	66	471.7	581.1	81.2%
Apr 2015-Mar 2016	74	630.9	773.2	81.6%
Apr 2016-Mar 2017	84	716.4	991.9	72.2%
Apr 2017-Mar 2018	80	841.9	1156.8	72.8%
Apr 2018-Mar 2019	110	1234.6	1554.8	79.4%

Source: BFI

'Total Budget' is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

Table A9 Cultural test interim certification for animation television programmes, Q1 2014 to Q1 2019

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Q1 2014	6	14.2	15.0	94.7%
Q1 2015	7	25.6	27.4	93.4%
Q1 2016	5	9.1	10.3	87.7%
Q1 2017	9	14.8	22.0	67.3%
Q1 2018	10	21.9	38.5	56.9%
Q1 2019	10	21.6	22.5	95.9%

Source: BFI

'Total Budget' is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

Table A10 Cultural test interim certifications for animation television programmes, April 2013 to March 2019

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Apr 2013-Mar 2014	27	57.9	67.2	86.1%
Apr 2014-Mar 2015	29	77.3	93.4	82.8%
Apr 2015-Mar 2016	23	46.5	68.0	68.4%
Apr 2016-Mar 2017	35	81.1	95.5	84.9%
Apr 2017-Mar 2018	35	93.9	119.6	78.5%
Apr 2018-Mar 2019	33	75.5	89.3	84.6%

Source BFI.

'Total budget' is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

Notes:

1. **British film, high-end television programmes (HETV), animation television programmes, children's television programmes (CTV) and video games certification statistics collected and reported by the BFI**

The British film, high-end television programmes, animation television programmes, children's television programmes and video games certification statistics in this report are based on data collected by the BFI's Certification Unit, on behalf of DCMS. The data reported are all British films, HETV programmes, animation television programmes, CTV programme and video games certified as British in the reference period, not a sample. This release is complemented by the Creative Industries Statistics produced by HMRC which can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/creative-industries-statistics>

The BFI Certification Unit assesses all British films, HETV programmes, animation television programmes, CTV programmes and video games certification applications on behalf of DCMS and makes recommendations to the Secretary of state. The certificates are then issued by the BFI Certification Unit. Certification may occur some time after both the production/development and release (theatrical or broadcast in the case of films, HETV, animation television programmes and CTV programmes or supply in the case of video games) of the film, television programme or video game.

2. **Definitions**

Cultural test films are British films certified under the cultural test (as amended in April 2014 in the Films Act 1985). To qualify under this definition, films commencing principal photography on or after 1 April 2014 must pass a UK cultural test awarding points for UK and EEA elements in the story, setting and characters, cultural contribution and for where and by whom the film was made.

On the basis of recommendations made by the BFI, the Secretary of State grants interim certification prior to the completion of the film to those films that meet the criteria and final certification once the film has been completed and final documents submitted. Under the cultural test, applicants are not obliged to apply for interim certification and can apply just for final certification when the film is complete.

Cultural test high-end television programmes are British television programmes certified under the cultural test, Schedule 16 to the Finance Act 2013. To qualify under this definition, television programmes commencing principal photography on or after 1 April 2013 must pass a UK cultural test awarding points for UK and EEA state elements in the story, setting and characters, cultural contribution and for where and by whom the television programme was made.

On the basis of recommendations made by the BFI, the Secretary of State grants interim certification prior to the completion of the HETV programmes to those programmes that meet the criteria and final certification once the programme has been completed and final documents submitted. Under the cultural test, applicants are not obliged to apply for interim certification and can apply just for final certification when the HETV programme is complete.

A HETV programme is a drama (which includes comedy) or documentary production that is intended for broadcast and has core expenditure per hour of slot length of not less than £1 million. The slot length in

relation to the HETV programme must also be greater than 30 minutes. Slot length in relation to a television programme means the period of time which the programme is commissioned to fill.

Cultural test animation television programmes are British animation programmes certified under the cultural test, Schedule 16 to the Finance Act 2013. To qualify under this definition, animation programmes commencing principal photography on or after 1 April 2013 must pass a UK cultural test awarding points for UK and EEA state elements in the story, setting and characters, cultural contribution and for where and by whom the animation television programme was made.

On the basis of recommendations made by the BFI, the Secretary of State grants interim certification prior to the completion of the animation television programmes to those programmes that meet the criteria and final certification once the programme has been completed and final documents submitted. Under the cultural test, applicants are not obliged to apply for interim certification and can apply just for final certification when the animation programme is complete.

Cultural test children's television programmes are British children's television programmes certified under the cultural test, Schedule 16 to the Finance Act 2013. To qualify under this definition, animation programmes commencing principal photography on or after 1 April 2015 must pass a UK cultural test awarding points for UK and EEA state elements in the story, setting and characters, cultural contribution and for where and by whom the children's television programme was made.

On the basis of recommendations made by the BFI, the Secretary of State grants interim certification prior to the completion of the CTV programmes to those programmes that meet the criteria and final certification once the programme has been completed and final documents submitted. Under the cultural test, applicants are not obliged to apply for interim certification and can apply just for final certification when the animation programme is complete.

Cultural test video games are British video games certified under the cultural test, Schedule 17 and 18 to the Finance Act 2013. To qualify under this definition, video games commencing principal development on or after 1 April 2014 must pass a UK cultural test awarding points for UK and EEA elements in the story, setting and characters, cultural contribution and for where and by whom the video game programme was made.

On the basis of recommendations made by the BFI, the Secretary of State grants interim certification prior to the completion of the video game to those video games that meet the criteria and final certification once the video game has been completed and final documents submitted. Under the cultural test, applicants are not obliged to apply for interim certification and can apply just for final certification when the video game is complete.

Official UK co-productions are British films, HETV programmes, animation television programmes or CTV programmes certified under one of the UK's official co-production treaties. Interim certification is granted in conjunction with the co-producing party competent authority or authorities for multi-lateral projects prior to the start of principal photography to films, HETV, animation television programmes or CTV programmes that meet the criteria and final certification once the film, HETV, animation television programme or CTV programme has been completed and final documents submitted. Films, HETV programmes, animation television programmes or CTV programmes made as official co-productions are not required to pass the film, HETV programme, animation television programme, or CTV programmes cultural tests.

For full details for the cultural test, co-productions and other information on British film certification see <http://www.bfi.org.uk/film-industry/british-certification-tax-relief>.

UK spend is the value of the production or development activities in the UK cultural tests and UK expenditure for co-productions (bilateral and European Convention of Cinematographic Co-production). UK spend for co-productions may include some expenditure on UK goods and services which took place outside the UK.

3. Revisions

As the status and certification dates of individual films, HETV programmes, animation television programmes CTV programmes or video games may change as a result of changing circumstances, the numbers published in this release are subject to revision. Each release in this series includes revisions of previous quarter, so the latest release should be referred to as the most accurate summation available of the certification numbers.

4. Disclosing individual film, HETV programme, animation programme, children's television programme and video games information

Film, HETV programme, animation television programme, CTV programme and video game data (number of films, programmes and video games, UK spend, UK/EEA spend and total budget) are not disclosed when the number of films, programmes or video games is five or fewer.

5. Feedback

We welcome feedback from users of our statistics releases to help us improve what we do. If you have any feedback on these statistics or if you wish to make a complaint, in the first instance please contact us using the named contact details listed below.

6. Statistical contact details

This release was prepared by John Sandow, Research and Statistics Unit, BFI, rsu@bfi.org.uk

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