

# British film, high-end television, animation programmes, children's television programmes and video games certification January-September (Q1-Q3) 2018

BFI Research and Statistics Unit

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## 1. Key Points

### Feature Film

- Between January-September of 2018 (Q1-Q3) 247 films received final certification under the cultural test, with a UK spend of £1.7 billion and a total budget of £2.7 billion. UK spend was 61% of total budget.

### High-end television programmes

- A total of 82 high-end television programmes received final certification under the cultural test in Q1-Q3 2018, with a UK spend of £846 million and a total budget of £1.2 billion. UK spend was 72% of total budget.

### Animation television programmes

- There were 46 animation programmes with final certification under the cultural test, in Q1-Q3 2018 with a UK spend of £41 million and total budget of £65 million. UK spend was 64% of total budget.

### Children's television programmes

- A total of 72 children's television programmes received final certification under the cultural test in Q1-Q3 2018, with a UK spend of £73 million and a total budget of £75 million. UK spend was just under 97% of total budget.

### Video-games

- In Q1-Q3 2018, 132 video games received final certification with an UK/EEA spend of £94 million and a total budget of £108 million. UK/EEA spend was 87% of total budget.

**Table 1 Final certifications for film, high-end television programmes, animation television programmes children's television programmes and video games Q1-Q3 2018**

	Film	High-end television programmes	Animation television programmes	Children's television programmes	Video games
Cultural test (number)	247	82	46	72	132
Co-production (number)	c	c	c	c	N/A*
UK spend £m	1,673.5 <sup>†</sup>	846.2 <sup>†</sup>	41.3 <sup>†</sup>	72.6 <sup>†</sup>	94.0
Total budget £m	2,725.2 <sup>†</sup>	1,182.4 <sup>†</sup>	64.7 <sup>†</sup>	75.2 <sup>†</sup>	107.9
UK spend as % of budget	61.4 <sup>†</sup>	71.6 <sup>†</sup>	63.8 <sup>†</sup>	96.6 <sup>†</sup>	87.1

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

<sup>†</sup>Data for cultural test UK spend and budget only, because co-production data has been suppressed for disclosure reasons.

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

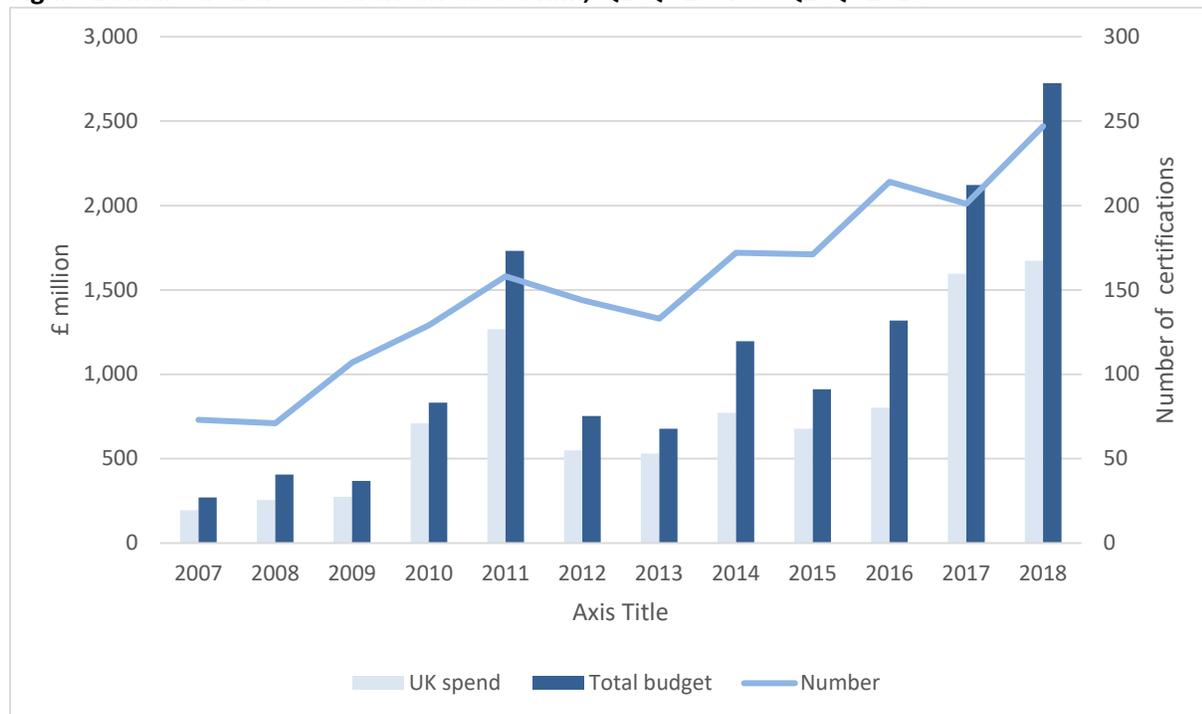
## 2. Feature film certification

### 2.1 Certification - numbers of applications and values

#### 2.1.1 Final certifications

A total of 247 films received final certification under the cultural test in January-September (Q1-Q3) 2018, the highest of the period (Figure 1). The total UK spend and budget of these films was £1.7 billion and £2.7 billion respectively, both the highest of the period, though UK spend was only marginally up on the same period in 2017, despite the increase in number of films receiving final certification. Note that these data are for final certifications, so include films produced over the previous one to three years.<sup>1</sup> Cultural test films include both high budget inward investment films as well as mid-range and low budget UK films, so the aggregate budget is influenced by the number and timing of inward investment UK/USA productions. Films with final certification as an official co-production are not shown for disclosure reasons.

**Figure 1 Final cultural test certifications for film, Q1-Q3 2007 to Q1-Q3 2018**



Source: BFI

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

Q1-Q3 is the first nine months of the year, i.e. 1 January to 30 September.

See Appendix A for supporting data

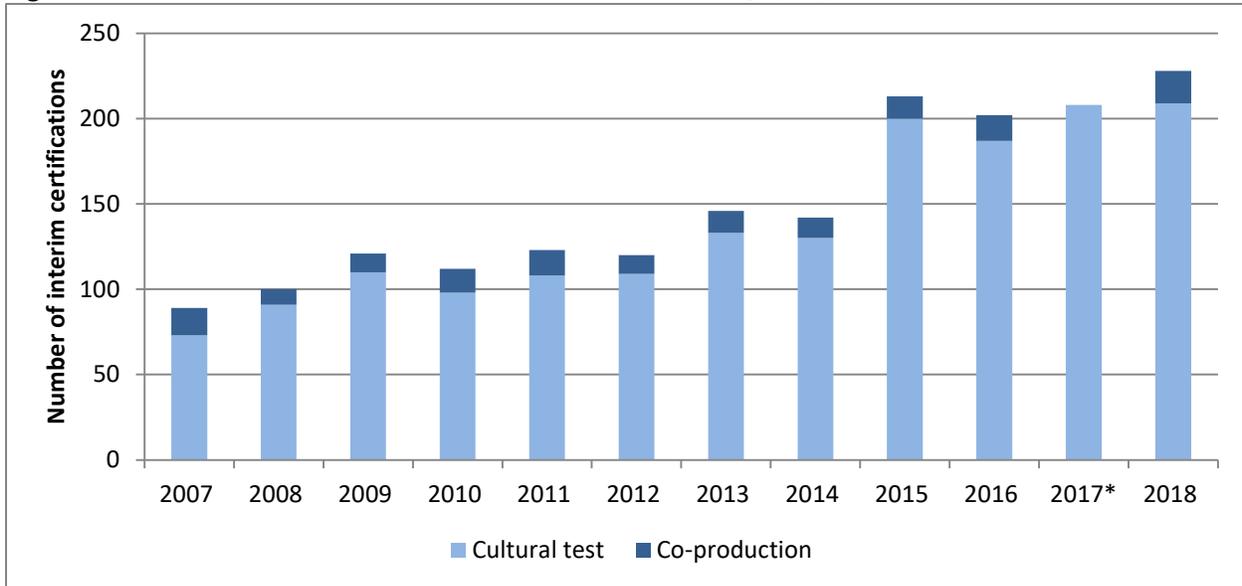
#### 2.1.2 Interim certifications

Figures 2 and 3 show the number, UK spend and total budget of films with interim certification under the cultural test and as an official co-production. The number of interim-certified cultural test films in Q1-Q3 2018 was 209, the second highest of the period, and marginally up from 208 in Q1-Q3 2017. The expected UK spend of interim-certified films under the cultural test was £1.2 billion and total budget

<sup>1</sup> The latest production statistics are published separately in *Film and other screen sectors production in the UK: Q3 2018* available at <https://www.bfi.org.uk/education-research/film-industry-statistics-research/official-statistics-release-calendar>

was £1.7 billion, both the third highest of the period, but down compared with 2017. The number of films with interim certification as a co-production was 19, the highest of the period. These productions had a UK spend of £22 million and a total budget of £61 million.

**Figure 2 Number of Interim cultural test certifications for film, Q1-Q3 2007 to Q1-Q3 2018**



Source: BFI

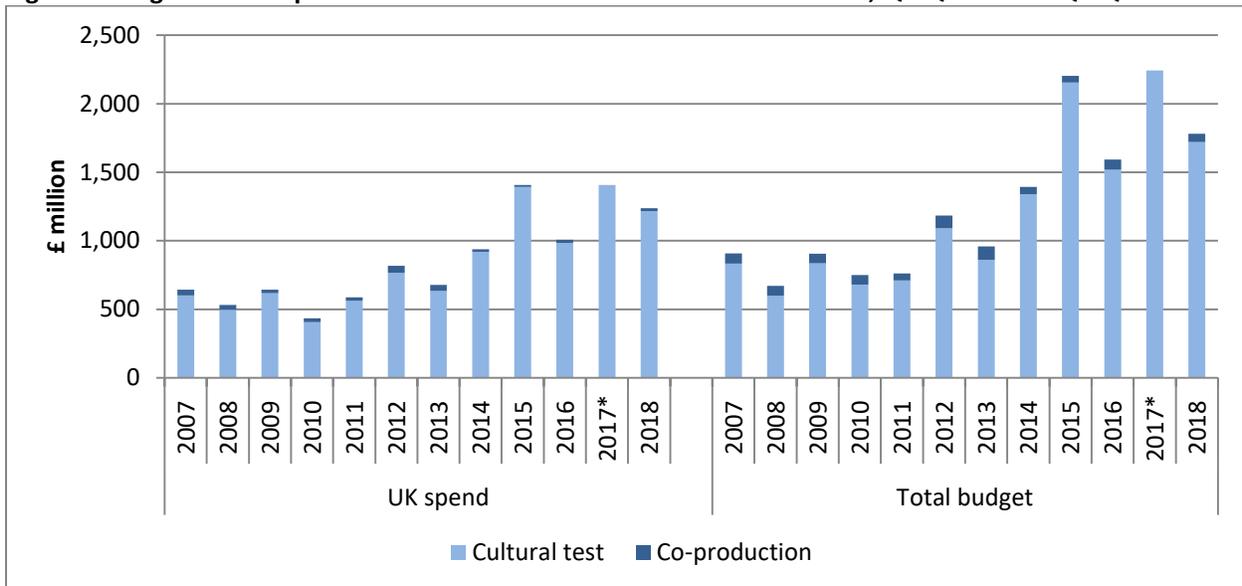
\* Number of co-productions not shown for disclosure reasons.

Number of co-productions for 2008-2012 and 2014-2015 are disclosive; the values are kept in the table because it has been in the public domain for at least a year, following the guidance of the UK Statistics Authority Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Q1-Q3 is the first nine months of the year, i.e. 1 January to 30 September.

See Appendix A for supporting data

**Figure 3 Budget and UK spend of Interim cultural test certifications for film, Q1-Q3 2007 to Q1-Q3 2018**



Source: BFI

\* Number of co-productions not shown for disclosure reasons.

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

Q1-Q3 is the first nine months of the year, i.e. 1 January to 30 September.

See Appendix A for supporting data

## 2.2 Total Budgets

The median budget for interim cultural test certifications decreased from £1.8 million in 2007 to £0.7 million in 2013 and since then has stayed around £0.9 million, rising slightly to just under £1.0 million in Q1-Q3 2018 (Table 2).

**Table 2 Median budgets of interim cultural test certifications**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Median budget £m</b>
2007	1.8
2008	1.6
2009	1.0
2010	1.1
2011	0.9
2012	1.0
2013	0.7
2014	0.9
2015	0.9
2016	0.8
2017	0.8
Q1-Q3 2018	1.0

Source: BFI

Interim cultural test certifications have only been issued since 2007, when the film tax relief came into effect.

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

Table 3 shows the median budget of interim co-productions since 2007. In Q1-Q3 2018 the median budget was £2.2 million, the third lowest of the period. Overall median budgets have fluctuated over the time period with 2016 having the lowest median budget, at £1.9 million, and 2012 having the highest median budget at £6.1 million. Whilst 2012 did not deliver the highest volume of interim co-productions, there were a higher than usual number with a budget between £5.0 million and £9.9 million.

**Table 3 Median budgets of interim co-production certifications**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Median budget £m</b>
2007	3.7
2008	5.6
2009	3.3
2010	3.7
2011	2.1
2012	6.1
2013	4.0
2014	3.4
2015	2.8
2016	1.9
2017	5.2
Q1-Q3 2018	2.2

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.

### **2.3 Co-production treaties**

In Q1-Q3 2018, the final co-production certifications for films were under the European Convention of Cinematographic Co-production (ECCC) and the UK/Australia, UK/Canada and UK/France co-production treaties. The interim co-production films qualifying as official co-productions were under the ECCC and the UK/Australia, UK/Brazil, UK/Canada, UK/China, UK/Morocco and UK/New Zealand co-production treaties.

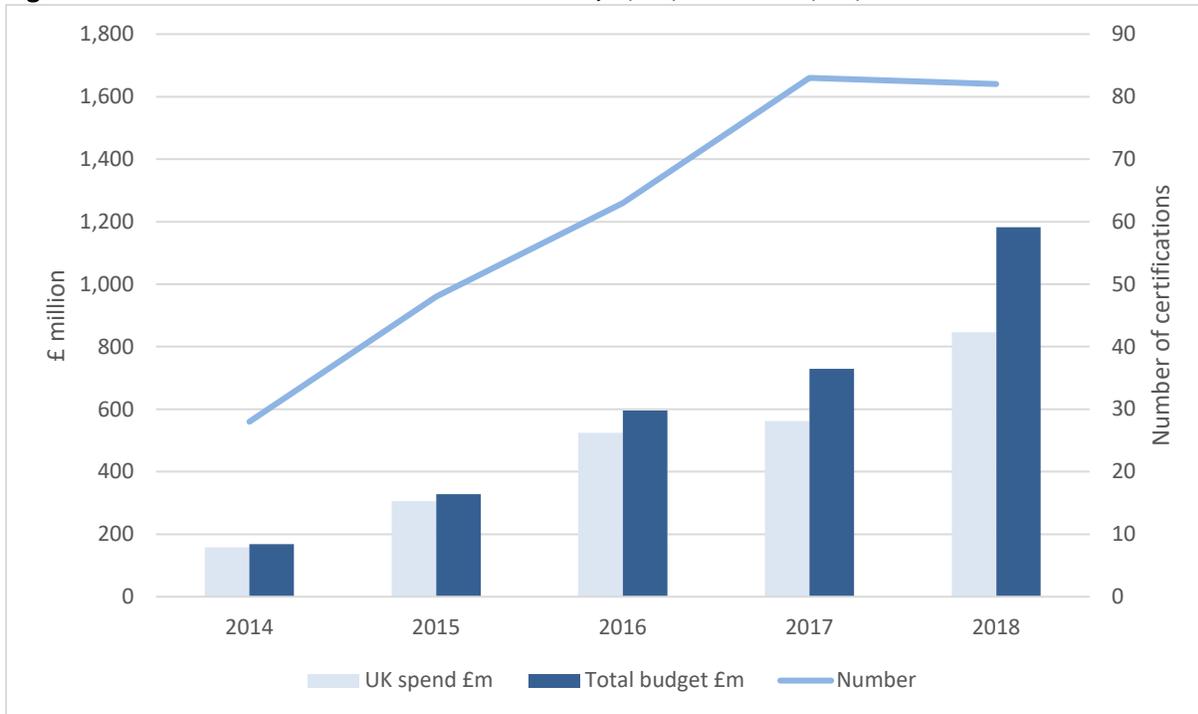
### 3. High-end television programmes

#### 3.1 Certification – numbers of applications and values

##### 3.1.1 Final certifications

In Q1-Q3 2018, a total of 82 HETV programmes received final certification under the cultural test, the second highest of the period and more or less on par with the same period last year. These programmes had a UK spend of £846 million and a total budget of £1.2 billion, the highest of the period, and considerably more than last year with an increase of 50% and 62% respectively from Q1-Q3 2017 (Figure 4). This is due to 31 programmes in 2018 with a total budget of over £10 million, including five with a budget of over £50 million, the highest of any Q1-Q3 period. There were no co-productions with final certification in Q1-Q3 2014 and Q1-Q3 2016 and co-productions for Q1-Q3 2015, Q1-Q3 2017 and Q1-Q3 2018 are not shown for disclosure reasons.

**Figure 4 Final cultural test certifications for HETV, Q1-Q3 2014 to Q1-Q3 2018**

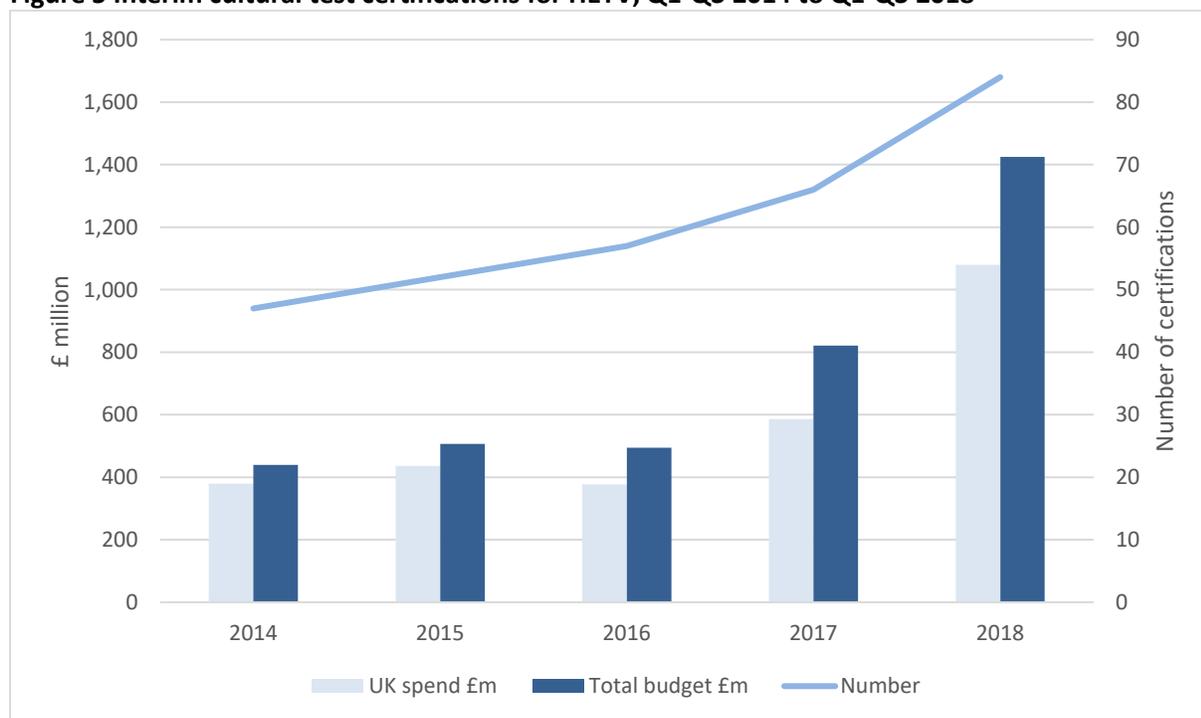


Source: BFI  
See notes to Figure 1

##### 3.1.2 Interim Certifications

A total of 84 HETV programmes received interim certification in Q1-Q3 2018, the highest of the period and all under the cultural test (Figure 5). UK spend and total budget were also the highest of the period at £1.1 billion and £1.4 billion respectively. The increase in UK spend in total budget is due, in part, to 36 programmes with a budget of over £10 million, including seven with a budget of over £50 million, the highest of any Q1-Q3 period. There were no co-productions with interim certification between Q1-Q3 2015 and Q1-Q3 2018 and co-productions are not shown for Q1-Q3 2014 for disclosure reasons.

**Figure 5 Interim cultural test certifications for HETV, Q1-Q3 2014 to Q1-Q3 2018**



Source: BFI  
See notes to Figure 1

### 3.2 Total Budgets

This release presents the median total budget per minute of content for HETV instead of median total budget, as with film and video games<sup>2</sup>. The median total budget of interim cultural test HETV projects for Q1-Q3 2018 was £25,081 (Table 4), slightly down from £25,663 in 2017 and second highest of the period. Due to the very low numbers of co-productions since the inception of HETV tax relief, the median budgets for co-production are not shown.

**Table 4 Median budgets of interim cultural test certifications**

Year	Median budget per minute £ <sup>1</sup>
2013*	20,592
2014	21,817
2015	23,729
2016	22,177
2017	25,663
Q1-Q3 2018	25,081

Source: BFI

<sup>1</sup> 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.

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

<sup>2</sup> Certification applications are received for one-off programmes as well as series, this median provides a better representation of the average HETV programme budget. Advice was obtained from Pact regarding appropriate median budgets.

### ***3.3 Co-production treaties***

As there were no co-productions with interim or final certification in Q1-Q3 2018, co-production treaties are not referenced. .

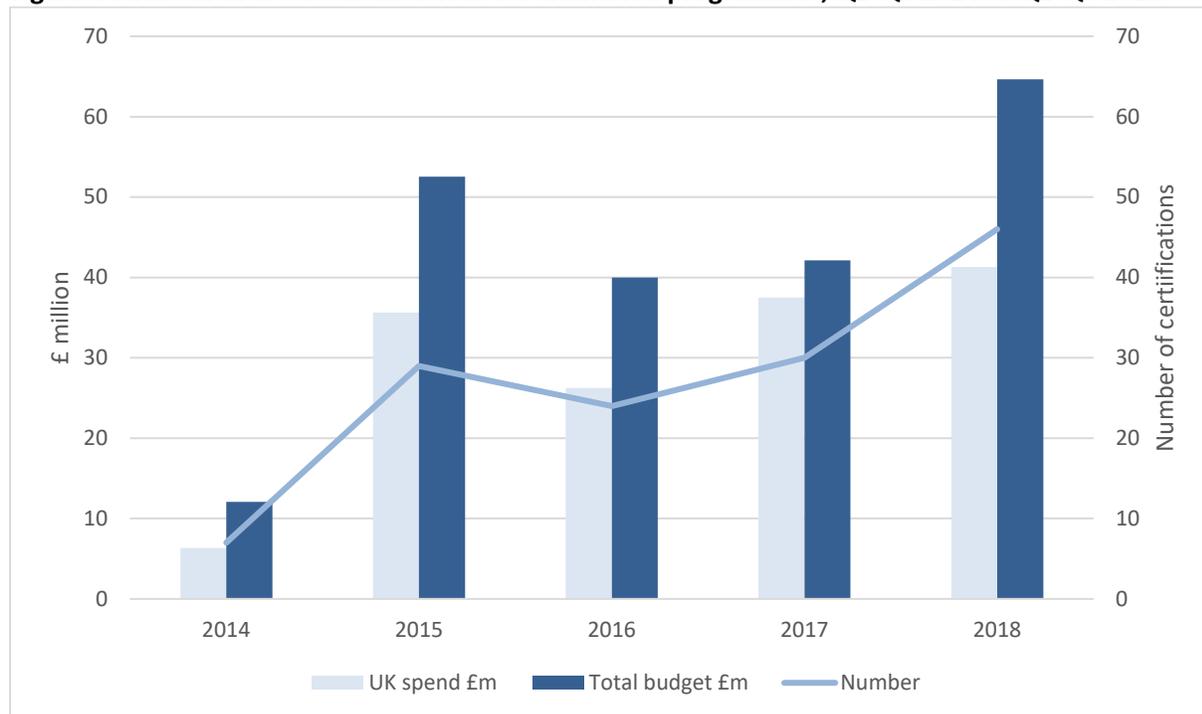
## 4. Animation programme certifications

### 4.1 Certification – numbers of applications and values

#### 4.1.1 Final certifications

A total of 46 animation programmes received final certification under the cultural test in Q1-Q3 2018, with a UK spend of £41 million and a total budget of £65 million, all of which were the highest of the period and representing significant increases from the previous year. (Figure 6). Total budget increased by 53% from £42 million in Q1-Q3 2017, whereas UK spend increased by 10% from £38 million; UK spend as a percentage of total budget was 64% in Q1-Q3 2018 compared to 89% in Q1-Q3 2017. Whilst the majority of these programmes had a budget of above £1 million, in Q1-Q3 2018, the lower level of increase in UK production spend is due to a larger number of programmes where UK spend is less than 50% of total budget. Co-productions with final certification in Q1-Q3 2016, Q1-Q3 2017 and Q1-Q3 2018 are not shown for disclosure control reasons. There were no co-productions with final certification in Q1-Q3 2014 and Q1-Q3 2015.

**Figure 6 Final cultural test certifications for animation programmes, Q1-Q3 2014 to Q1-Q3 2018**



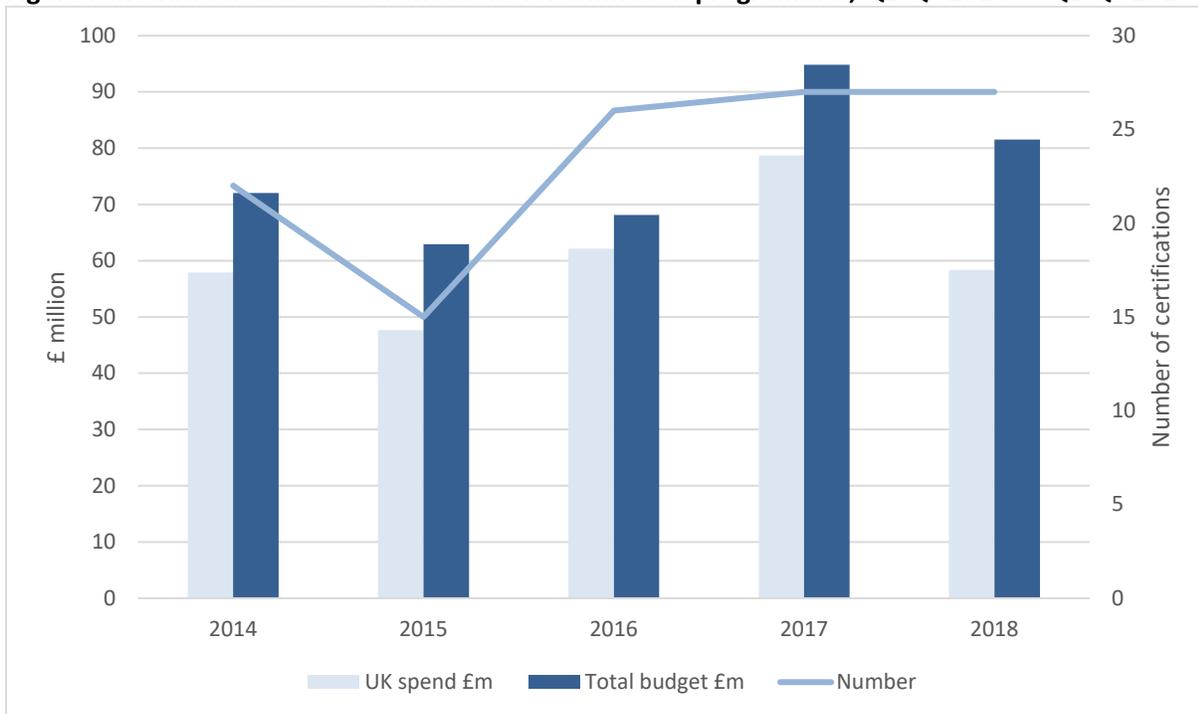
Source: BFI

See notes to Figure 1

#### 4.1.2 Interim Certifications

A total of 27 animation programmes received interim certification under the cultural test in Q1-Q3 2018, the same number as Q1-Q3 2017. Programmes had a UK spend of £58 million and a budget of £82 million, both down on Q1-Q3 2017 with UK spend being at a similar level as in Q1-Q3 2014 (Figure 7). This is in part due to the higher number of programmes with a UK spend of less than 50% of total budget as well as a fall in the number of large budget (above £5 million) programmes. No co-productions received interim certification in Q1-Q3 2018; previous Q1-Q3 periods are not shown for disclosure reasons.

**Figure 7 Interim cultural test certifications for animation programmes, Q1-Q3 2014 to Q1-Q3 2018**



Source: BFI  
See notes to Figure 1

#### 4.2 Total Budgets

As with HETV, this release presents the median total budget per minute of content for animation programmes instead of median total budget<sup>3</sup>. The median budget per minute of interim cultural test certifications for Q1-Q3 2018 was £8,378; although down from 2017, this was the second highest of the period, 2013 to Q1-Q3 2018 (Table 5). Median budgets for co-productions are not shown for disclosure reasons.

**Table 5 Median budgets of interim cultural test certifications**

Year	Median budget per minute £ <sup>1</sup>
2013*	6,284
2014	8,202
2015	7,867
2016	7,708
2017	9,761
Q1-Q3 2018	8,378

Source: BFI

<sup>1</sup> 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.

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

<sup>3</sup> Certification applications are received for one-off programmes as well as series, this median provides a better representation of the average animation programme budget. Advice was obtained from Pact regarding appropriate median budgets.

### ***4.3 Co-production Treaties***

The animation television programmes with final certification as an official co-production in Q1-Q3 2018 were all certified under the UK/Canada co-production treaty.

## 5. Children’s television programme certifications

### 5.1 Certification – numbers of applications and values

#### 5.1.1 Final certifications

In Q1-Q3 2018, 72 children’s television (CTV) programmes received final certification under the cultural test, with a UK spend of £73 million and a total budget of £75 million, making UK spend 97% of total budget (Table 6). UK spend and total budget has more than doubled compared to Q1-Q3 2017. This is mainly due to an increase in the number of programmes with large budgets (above £5 million) where all of the budget is spent in the UK. Co-productions with final certification in Q1-Q3 2017 and Q1-Q3 2018 are not shown for disclosure control reasons. There were no co-productions with final certification in Q1-Q3 2016.

**Table 6 Final Cultural test certification for CTV programmes, Q1-Q3 2016 to Q1-Q3 2018**

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Q1-Q3 2016	30	19.5	19.9	98.3
Q1-Q3 2017	52	34.1	34.5	98.9
Q1-Q3 2018	72	72.6	75.2	96.6

Source BFI.

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

Q1-Q3 is the first nine months of the year, i.e. 1 January to 30 September.

#### 5.1.2 Interim Certification

In Q1-Q3 2018, 39 CTV programmes received interim certification under the cultural test. These had a UK spend of £50.7 million and total budget of £51 million; UK spend was just under 100% of total budget. No co-productions received interim certification in Q1-Q3 2017 and Q1-Q3 2018; co-productions with interim certification for Q1-Q3 2016 are not shown for disclosure reasons.

**Table 7 Interim Cultural test certification for CTV programmes, Q1-Q3 2016 to Q1-Q3 2018**

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Q1-Q3 2016	24	21.2	22.0	96.2
Q1-Q3 2017	28	38.8	41.1	94.3
Q1-Q3 2018	39	50.7	51.0	99.5

Source BFI.

See notes to Table 6

## 5.2 Total Budgets

This release presents the median total budget per minute of content for CTV programmes instead of median total budget, as with HETV and animation programmes<sup>4</sup>. The median total budget per minute of interim cultural test CTV programmes in Q1-Q3 2018 was £2,670, slightly down from £2,878 in 2017 (Table 8). As less than five CTV programmes have received interim certification as a co-production, median budget per minute is not reported for disclosure reasons.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

**Table 8 Median budgets of interim cultural test certifications**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Median budget per minute £<sup>1</sup></b>
2015*	2,379
2016	2,700
2017	2,878
Q1-Q3 2018	2,670

Source: BFI

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

\*As the tax relief for children's television programmes commenced in April 2015, median budget for 2013 is for Q2-Q4.

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

#### ***5.4 Co-production treaties***

Co-productions with final certification were all certified under the UK/Canada treaty. As no co-production received interim certification, there are no co-production treaties to report.

## 6. Video Game certification

### 6.1 - numbers of applications and values

#### 6.1.1 Final certifications

A total of 132 video games received final certification in Q1-Q3 2018, with an EEA/UK spend of £94 million and a total budget of £108 million, all down on Q1-Q3 2017 (Table 9). Apart from fewer video games being certified, the other possible reason for a lower UK spend and budget is because there were no video games with a budget over £10 million certified in 2018 whereas in Q1-Q3 2017 there were a small number with budgets over £10 million.

**Table 9 Final Cultural test certification for video games, Q1-Q3 2015 to Q1-Q3 2018**

Year	Number	EEA/UK spend £m	Total budget £m	EEA/UK spend as a % of total budget
Q1-Q3 2015	77	46.6	49.0	95.1
Q1-Q3 2016	129	142.2	159.6	89.1
Q1-Q3 2017	161	136.8	159.5	85.8
Q1-Q3 2018	132	94.0	107.9	87.1

Source BFI.

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

Q1-Q3 is the first nine months of the year, i.e. 1 January to 30 September.

#### 6.1.2 Interim certifications

110 video games received interim certification in Q1-Q3 2018, with an EEA/UK spend of £346 million and a budget of £926 million (Table 10). Despite the total number of interim certified games falling in comparison with the same period last year, total budget increased, by a substantial 190% year on year, whereas EEA/UK spend increased by only 17%. Whilst there appear to be a significant number of high budget video games applying for interim certification in Q1-Q3 2018, a lower proportion of their budget is spent in the EEA/UK hence contributing to an overall fall in this spend as a percentage of the total budget.

**Table 10 Interim Cultural test certification for video games, Q1-Q3 2015 to Q1-Q3 2018**

Year	Number	EEA/UK spend £m	Total budget £m	EEA/UK spend as a % of total budget
Q1-Q3 2015	95	415.2	458.7	90.5
Q1-Q3 2016	144	303.9	361.3	84.1
Q1-Q3 2017	128	296.28	318.9	92.9
Q1-Q3 2018	110	346.5	926.1	37.4

Source BFI.

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

Q1-Q3 is the first nine months of the year, i.e. 1 January to 30 September.

## 6.2 Total Budgets

The median total budget for interim certifications was £0.4 million in Q1-Q3 2018, staying at a similar level as previous two years. Median budgets peaked at just over £0.6 million in 2015.

**Table 15 Median budgets of interim cultural test certifications**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Median budget £m</b>
2014*	0.2
2015	0.6
2016	0.4
2017	0.4
Q1-Q3 2018	0.4

Source: BFI

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

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

## Appendix A –Data Tables

**Table A1 Final certifications for film, Q1-Q3 2007 to Q1-Q3 2018**

Type of certification	Q1-Q3											
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>Cultural Test</b>												
Number	73	71	107	129	158	144	133	172	171	214	201	247
UK spend	194.9	256.2	273.4	709.7	1267.9	548.6	531.0	772.0	677.8	802.5	1596.5	1,673.5
Total budget	270.2	405.4	369.3	831.8	1,731.2	752.4	678.3	1,196.3	911.4	1,318.0	2122.1	2,725.2
UK spend as a % of total budget	72.1	63.2	74.0	85.3	73.2	72.9	78.3	64.5	74.4	60.9	75.2	61.4
<b>Co-production</b>												
Number	53	3*	6	14	12	10	9	11	9	5	c	c
UK spend £m	119.6	9.9	20.2	43.7	47.3	28.4	13.7	35.8	20.1	21.9	c	c
Total budget £m	348.7	14.1	44.7	101.4	77.8	43.4	35.2	54.2	56.6	65.1	c	c
UK spend as a % of total budget	34.3	70.1	45.3	43.1	60.7	65.5	38.8	66.0	35.5	33.6	c	c
<b>All Types</b>												
Number	126	74	113	143	170	154	142	183	180	219	c	c
UK spend £m	314.5	266.1	293.7	753.4	1,315.1	577.0	544.7	807.8	698.0	824.3	c	c
Total budget £m	618.9	419.5	413.9	933.2	1,809.0	795.8	713.5	1,250.5	968.0	1,383.1	c	c
UK spend as a % of total budget	50.8	63.4	70.9	80.7	72.7	72.5	76.3	64.6	72.1	59.6	c	c

Source : BFI

\* Number of co-productions for Q1-Q3 2008 is less than the disclosure control threshold of five, the value is kept in the table because it has been in the public domain since 2010, following the guidance of the UK Statistics Authority Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

c data suppressed for disclosure reasons.

The data for co-productions for Q1-Q3 periods in 2008, 2010, 2011 and 2013-2015 are disclosive; the values are kept in the table because it has been in the public domain for at least a year, following the guidance of the UK Statistics Authority Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

'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.

Q1-Q3 is the first nine months of the year, i.e. 1 January to 30 September.

**Table A2 Final certifications for film, rolling year, from October 2007 to September 2018**

Type of certification	Oct 2007-Sept 2008	Oct 2008-Sept 2009	Oct 2009-Sept 2010	Oct 2010-Sept 2011	Oct 2011-Sept 2012	Oct 2012-Sept 2013	Oct 2013-Sept 2014	Oct 2014-Sept 2015	Oct 2015-Sept 2016	Oct 2016-Sept 2017	Oct 2017-Sept 2018
<b>Cultural Test</b>											
Number	96	133	166	199	175	176	221	237	280	256	325
UK spend £m	503.7	605.7	859.2	1,411.9	759.2	816.6	1,282.2	1,158.6	1,083.6	1,730.4	1,885.2
Total budget £m	696.6	899.0	1,067.3	1,901.1	1,139.5	1,095.6	1,871.3	1,571.1	1,850.6	2,336.8	3,142.9
UK spend as a % of total budget	72.3	67.4	80.5	74.3	66.6	74.5	68.5	73.7	58.6	74.0	60.0
<b>Co-production</b>											
Number	6	11	16	17	12	12	19	13	11	10	c
UK spend £m	13.4	44.4	45.0	54.9	36.2	29.6	87.4	24.3	31.4	21.2	c
Total budget £m	22.1	75.8	104.8	113.8	96.9	65.3	131.7	70.6	93.0	63.4	c
UK spend as a % of total budget	60.8	58.5	43.0	48.2	37.3	45.2	66.4	34.4	33.8	33.4	c
<b>All Types</b>											
Number	102	144	182	216	187	188	240	250	291	266	c
UK spend £m	517.1	650.1	904.3	1,466.8	795.3	846.2	1,369.6	1,182.9	1,115.0	1,751.6	c
Total budget £m	718.7	974.8	1,172.1	2,014.9	1,236.5	1,160.9	2,003.0	1,641.7	1,943.6	2,400.3	c
UK spend as a % of total budget	72.0	66.7	77.2	72.8	64.3	72.9	68.4	72.1	291	266	c

Source: BFI

c data suppressed for disclosure reasons.

The data for Co-productions for Oct 2007-Sept 2008, Oct 2009-Sept 2010, Oct 2011-Sept 2013, Oct 2014-Sept 2015 and Oct 2016-Sept 2017 are disclosive; the values are kept in the table because they have been in the public domain for at least a year, following the guidance of the UK Statistics Authority Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

'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.

**Table A3 Interim cultural test certifications for film, Q1-Q3 2007 to Q1-Q3 2018**

Type of certification	Q1-Q3											
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>Cultural Test</b>												
Number	73	91	110	98	108	109	133	130	200	187	208	209
UK spend	601.4	498.1	619.0	405.8	563.5	767.6	635.3	918.9	1392.7	985.8	1406.8	1216.9
Total budget	834.8	599.2	836.5	680.8	711.3	1091.9	862.7	1339.0	2154.0	1518.0	2242.4	1721.0
UK spend as a % of total budget	72.0	83.1	74.0	59.6	79.2	70.3	73.6	68.6	64.7	64.9	62.7	70.7
<b>Co-production</b>												
Number	16	9	11	14	15	11	13	12	13	15	c	19
UK spend £m	41.1	33.5	25.8	28.6	24.0	49.5	43.3	19.2	14.2	22.1	c	21.9
Total budget £m	72.4	72.2	68.8	70.6	50.7	92.4	95.5	53.4	49.1	74.1	c	60.7
UK spend as a % of total budget	56.8	46.3	37.4	40.4	47.4	53.6	45.4	35.9	29.0	29.8	c	36.0
<b>All Types</b>												
Number	89	100	121	112	123	120	146	142	213	202	c	228
UK spend £m	642.5	531.5	644.7	434.4	587.5	817.1	678.6	938.1	1,406.918	1,007.862	c	1,238.8
Total budget £m	907.2	671.4	905.3	751.5	762.0	1,184.4	958.2	1,392.5	2,203.1	1,592.1	c	1,781.7
UK spend as a % of total budget	70.8	79.2	71.2	57.8	77.1	69.0	70.8	67.4	63.9	63.30	c	69.53

Source: BFI

c data suppressed for disclosure reasons.

The data for co-productions for 2008-2012 and 2014-2015 are disclosive; the values are kept in the table because they have been in the public domain for at least a year, following the guidance of the UK Statistics Authority Code of Practice for Official Statistics

'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.

**Table A4 Interim certifications for film, rolling year, from October 2007 to September 2017**

Type of certification	Oct 2007- Sept 2008	Oct 2008- Sept 2009	Oct 2009- Sept 2010	Oct 2010- Sept 2011	Oct 2011- Sept 2012	Oct 2012- Sept 2013	Oct 2013- Sept 2014	Oct 2014- Sept 2015	Oct 2015- Sept 2016	Oct 2016- Sept 2017	Oct 2017- Sept 2018
<b>Cultural Test</b>											
Number	117	138	131	152	148	169	183	234	244	280	282
UK spend £m	674.6	784.3	1,070.3	924.2	1,470.4	751.9	1,078.6	1,638.9	1,367.0	1,820.8	1899.0
Total budget £m	837.0	1,093.7	1,407.8	1,195.8	1,974.3	1,065.7	1,594.1	2,535.7	2,147.3	2,904.7	3135.6
UK spend as a % of total budget	80.6	71.7	76.0	77.3	74.5	70.6	67.7	64.6	63.7	62.7	60.6
<b>Co-production</b>											
Number	13	16	17.0	24	14	18	18	17	23	c	c
UK spend £m	53.9	37.5	30.9	66.5	54.0	53.6	26.1	17.8	31.7	c	c
Total budget £m	106.5	101.9	76.6	167.8	104.4	117.5	74.5	66.9	94.2	c	c
UK spend as a % of total budget	50.7	36.8	40.3	39.6	51.7	45.6	35.0	26.7	33.7	c	c
<b>All Types</b>											
Number	130	154	148	176	162	187	201	251	267	c	c
UK spend £m	728.5	821.8	1,101.2	990.7	1,524.3	805.5	1,104.6	1,656.7	1,398.7	c	c
Total budget £m	943.5	1,195.6	1,484.3	1,363.6	2,078.7	1,183.2	1,668.6	2,602.6	2,241.5	c	c
UK spend as a % of total budget	77.2	68.7	74.2	72.7	73.3	68.1	66.2	63.7	62.4	c	c

Source: BFI

c data suppressed for disclosure reasons.

The data for Co-productions for Oct 2007-Sept 2008, Oct 2009-Sept 2010, Oct 2011-Sept 2012 and Oct 2014-Sept 2015 are disclosive; the values are kept in the table because they have been in the public domain for at least a year, following the guidance of the UK Statistics Authority Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

'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.

**Table A5 Cultural test final certifications for HETV, Q1-Q3 2014 to Q1-Q3 2018**

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number	28	48	63	83	82
UK spend £m	158.6	306.1	524.3	562.7	846.2
Total budget £m	168.7	328.3	595.49	729.2	1182.4
UK spend as a % of total budget	94.0	93.2	88.0	77.2	71.6

Source BFI.

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

Co-productions not shown for disclosure reasons

**Table A6 Cultural test final certifications for HETV, rolling year, October 2013 to September 2017**

	Oct 2013- Sept 2014	Oct 2014- Sept 2015	Oct 2015- Sept 2016	Oct 2016- Sept 2017	Oct 2017- Sept 2018
Number	31	64	73	103	102
UK spend £m	168.9	435.7	631.0	807.3	959.0
Total budget £m	179.0	486.5	731.9	1,045.2	1,388.3
UK spend as a % of total budget	94.4	89.6	86.2	77.24	69.2

Source BFI.

See notes to Table A5

**Table A7 Cultural test interim certifications for HETV, Q1-Q3 2014 to Q1-Q3 2018**

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number	47	52	57	66	84
UK spend £m	379.6	436.1	377.6	585.6	1,080.0
Total budget £m	439.8	506.9	494.9	821.6	1,424.9
UK spend as a % of total budget	86.3	86.0	76.3	71.3	75.8

Source BFI.

See notes to Table A5

**Table A8 Cultural test interim certifications for HETV, rolling year, October 2013 to September 2017**

	Oct 2013- Sept 2014	Oct 2014- Sept 2015	Oct 2015- Sept 2016	Oct 2016- Sept 2017	Oct 2017- Sept 2018
Number	56	68	74	86	99
UK spend £m	444.6	557.3	559.6	837.3	1,160.6
Total budget £m	509.5	675.7	736.7	1,166.5	1,513.7
UK spend as a % of total budget	87.3	82.5	76.0	71.8	76.7

Source BFI.

See notes to Table A5

**Table A9 Cultural test final certifications for animation television programmes, Q1-Q3 2014 to Q1-Q3 2018**

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number	7	29	24	28	46
UK spend £m	6.3	35.6	26.2	35.3	41.3
Total budget £m	12.1	52.5	40.0	39.9	64.7
UK spend as a % of total budget	52.3	67.9	65.6	88.4	63.9

Source BFI.

See notes to Table A5

**Table A10 Cultural test final certifications for animation television programmes, rolling year, October 2013 to September 2017**

	Oct 2013- Sept 2014	Oct 2014- Sept 2015	Oct 2015- Sept 2016	Oct 2016- Sept 2017	Oct 2017- Sept 2018
Number	9	36	46	42	57
UK spend £m	6.7	39.9	52.8	53.6	48.8
Total budget £m	12.5	61.9	73.9	62.1	74.9
UK spend as a % of total budget	53.9	64.4	71.4	86.2	65.2

Source BFI.

See notes to Table A5

**Table A11 Cultural test interim certifications for animation television programmes, Q1-Q3 2014 to Q1-Q3 2018**

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number	22	15	26	27	27
UK spend £m	57.9	47.7	62.2	78.7	58.4
Total budget £m	72.1	62.9	68.1	94.8	81.6
UK spend as a % of total budget	80.4	75.8	91.3	83.0	71.6

Source BFI.

See notes to Table A5

**Table A12 Cultural test interim certifications for animation television programmes, rolling year, October 2013 to September 2017**

	Oct 2013- Sept 2014	Oct 2014- Sept 2015	Oct 2015- Sept 2016	Oct 2016- Sept 2017	Oct 2017- Sept 2018
Number	29	21	36	32	34
UK spend £m	71.3	55.7	77.5	91.8	66.5
Total budget £m	87.5	71.8	90.2	110.4	89.9
UK spend as a % of total budget	81.5	77.6	85.9	83.1	74.0

Source BFI.

See notes to Table A5

**Table A13 Cultural test final certifications for children's television programmes, rolling year, October 2013 to September 2017**

	Oct 2015-Sept 2016	Oct 2016-Sept 2017	Oct 2017-Sept 2018
Number	c	58	85
UK spend £m	c	39.6	84.7
Total budget £m	c	40.0	90.6
UK spend as a % of total budget	c	98.9	93.5

Source BFI.

See notes to Table A5

c data suppressed for disclosure reasons.

**Table A14 Cultural test interim certifications for children’s television programmes, rolling year, October 2015 to September 2017**

	<b>Oct 2015-Sept 2016</b>	<b>Oct 2016-Sept 2017</b>	<b>Oct 2017-Sept 2018</b>
Number	38	35	49
UK spend £m	34.0	50.8	69.0
Total budget £m	38.2	53.2	83.3
UK spend as a % of total budget	88.9	95.5	82.9

Source BFI.

See notes to Table A5

**Table A15 Cultural test final certifications for video games, rolling year, October 2013 to September 2017**

	<b>Oct 2014-Sept 2015</b>	<b>Oct 2015-Sept 2016</b>	<b>Oct 2016-Sept 2017</b>	<b>Oct 2017-Sept 2018</b>
Number	77	168	221	183
UK spend £m	46.6	276.6	196.8	206.0
Total budget £m	49.0	376.3	224.4	225.9
UK spend as a % of total budget	95.1	73.5	87.7	91.2

Source BFI.

‘Total budget’ is the sum of production activity in the EEA/UK and production activity outside the EEA/UK.

**Table A16 Cultural test interim certifications for video games, rolling year, October 2013 to September 2017**

	<b>Oct 2014-Sept 2015</b>	<b>Oct 2015-Sept 2016</b>	<b>Oct 2016-Sept 2017</b>	<b>Oct 2017-Sept 2018</b>
Number	112	170	160	161
UK spend £m	450.3	436.65	394.1	484.5
Total budget £m	495.0	506.2	424.6	1068.8
UK spend as a % of total budget	91.0	86.3	92.83	45.33

Source BFI.

See notes to Table A15

## 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.

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 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>.

**In comparison to film and other screen sector production statistics**, certification statistics are based on date on which the film, programme or video games received certification, whereas production statistics are based on date of principal photography

**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, total budget and median) are not disclosed when the number of films, programmes or video games is five or fewer. In the case where data that would be disclosive has already been released into the public domain, this data is shown within the release, with an accompanying note.

### **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**

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