

British film, high-end television, animation programmes, children's television programmes and video games certification Q1 2016

BFI Research and Statistics Unit

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1. Key Points

- A total of 68 films received final certifications under the cultural test in quarter 1 (Q1) 2016, with a UK spend of £231 million and a total budget of £318 million. No co-productions were certified in this period.
- In the last 12 months, April 2015-March 2016, 273 films received final certification, with a UK spend of £1,161 million and total budget of £1,757 million.
- Of these 261 were cultural test films, with a UK spend of £1,135 million and total budget of £1,683 million; 12 films were co-productions, with a UK spend of £26 million and £74 million
- In the last 12 months, 76 high-end television programmes received final certification under the cultural test, of which 24 received final certification in Q1 2016. Total UK spend and budget in Q1 2016 was £183 million and £207 million respectively. No co-productions received final certification in this period.
- A total of 52 animation programmes received final certification under the cultural test, of which nine received final certification in Q1 2016. These had a UK spend of £6.4 million and total budget of £7.4 million. No co-production received final certification in this quarter.
- For the first full year since the start of tax relief for children's television programmes eight programmes received final certification, all under the cultural test. These had a total budget of £3.7 million, all of which was spent in the UK.
- In Q1 2016, 35 video games received certification under the cultural test, with an EEA/UK spend of £23 million and a total budget of £25 million. Since the inception of the tax relief in April 2014, 152 video games have received final certification, with a EEA/UK spend of £203 million and total budget of £290 million budget

2. Feature film certification

2.1 Certification - numbers of applications and values

2.1.1 Final certifications

A total of 68 films received final certification under the cultural test in quarter 1 (Q1) 2016, up from 45 in Q1 2015. The total UK spend and budget of these films was £231 million and £318 million respectively. UK spend, as a percentage of budget, was the highest since 2013, at 72%. There were no films with final certification as co-productions in Q1 2016, and previous years are not shown for disclosure reasons.

Table 1 Final cultural test certifications for film, Q1 2007 to Q1 2016

Year	Number	UK Spend £ m	Total Budget £m	UK as a % of budget
Q1 2007	32	77.8	92.0	84.6
Q1 2008	16	130.8	250.9	52.1
Q1 2009	31	107.2	144.6	74.1
Q1 2010	38	340.7	363.5	93.7
Q1 2011	40	184.5	253.3	72.8
Q1 2012	41	127.4	144.8	88.0
Q1 2013	47	47.0	49.3	95.3
Q1 2014	70	419.4	658.6	63.7
Q1 2015	45	55.4	80.3	68.9
Q1 2016	68	230.5	318.3	72.4

Source: BFI

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

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 2007. Rolling year data give a broader representation of certification trends. In this release the rolling year period covered is April 2007-March 2008 to April 2015-March 2016.

The number of final certifications has increased rolling year on rolling year since April 2007, peaking at 273 films in April 2015-March 2016 (Table 1 and Figure 1). Overall, there has been an upward trend for UK spend and budget over the period, with April 2011-March 2012 and April 2013-March 2014 as stand-out years (Figure 2). UK spend increased from £544 million in April 2007-March 2008 to £1,161 million in April 2015-March 2016. Total budget of films increased from £857 million to £1,757 million. UK spend peaked at £1,483 million in April 2013-March 2014 and total budget peaked at £2,117 million in April 2011-March 2012. These periods saw a higher than usual number of UK studio-backed films receive final certification, such as *Les Misérables*, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Parts 1 and 2* and *Johnny English Reborn*.

The number of films receiving final certification under the cultural test in April 2015-March 2016 was 261, with a UK spend of £1,135 million and a total budget of £1,683 million (both being the third highest in the time period). As with all final certifications, there was an upward trend over the time period in the number of

cultural test films, UK spend and budget with April 2011-March 2012 (UK spend at £1,421 million) and April 2013-March 2014 (UK spend at £1,414 million) being stand-out years.

April 2015-March 2016 saw 12 official co-productions receive final certification, with a UK spend of £26 million and a combined budget of £74 million. The number of co-productions and total budget has fluctuated over the time period, whereas UK spend has been more stable. Since its peak of £69 million in April 2013-March 2014, UK spend has declined.

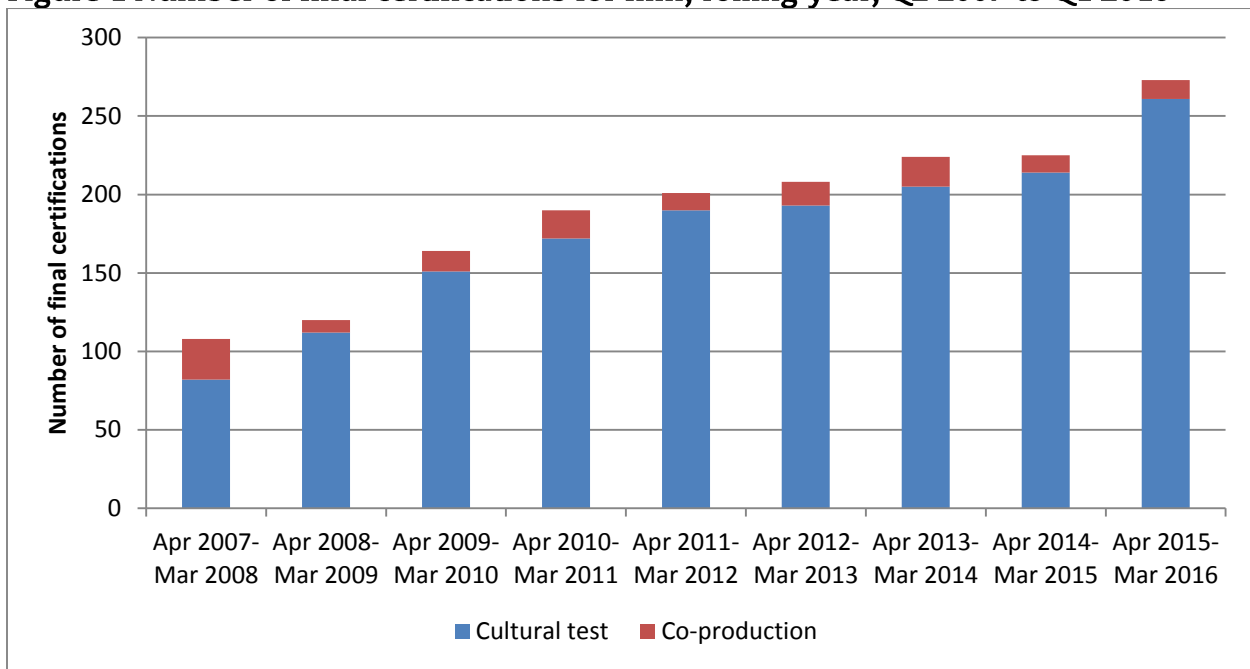
Table 2 Final certifications for film, rolling year, from Q2 2007 to Q1 2016

Type of certification	Apr 2007- Mar 2008	Apr 2008- Mar 2009	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
Cultural Test									
Number	82	112	151	172	190	193	205	214	261
UK spend £m	495.4	564.8	656.5	697.5	1,421.4	753.7	1,413.6	888.9	1,135.0
Total budget £m	720.3	828.8	823.7	891.4	2,009.8	1,074.2	1,962.6	1,277.8	1,682.9
UK spend as a % of total budget	68.8	68.2	79.7	78.3	70.7	70.2	72.0	69.6	67.4
Co-production									
Number	26	8	13	18	11	15	19	12	12
UK spend £m	48.4	40.0	37.9	49.1	39.0	42.8	69.1	35.8	26.4
Total budget £m	136.7	55.2	85.9	122.6	107.6	71.2	120.6	61.8	73.9
UK spend as a % of total budget	35.4	72.6	44.1	40.1	36.3	60.2	57.3	57.9	35.7
All Types									
Number	108	120	164	190	201	208	224	226	273
UK spend £m	543.8	604.9	694.4	746.7	1,460.4	796.6	1,482.8	924.7	1,161.4
Total budget £m	857.0	884.0	909.6	1,014.0	2,117.4	1,145.5	2,083.2	1,339.6	1,756.8
UK spend as a % of total budget	63.5	68.4	76.3	73.6	69.0	69.5	71.2	69.0	66.1

Source: BFI

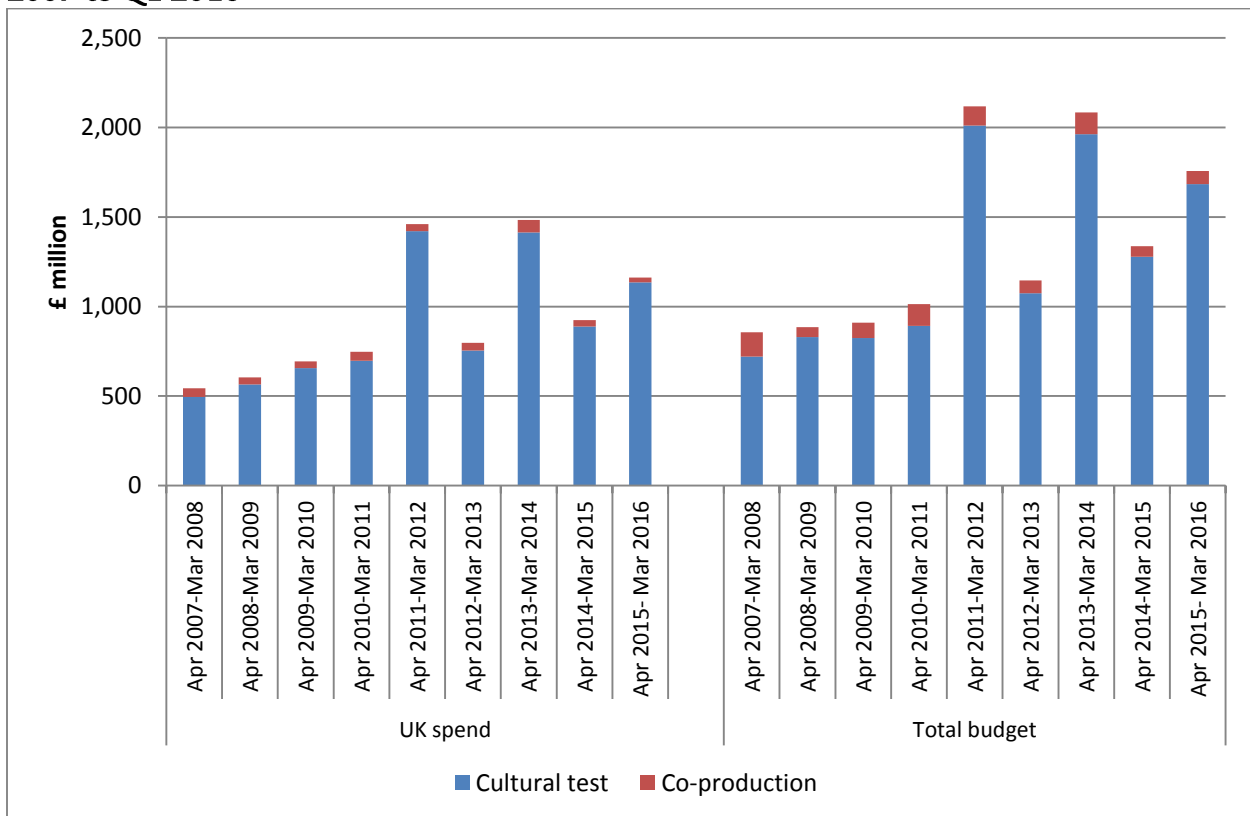
'Total Budget' in the case of cultural test films is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK; in the case of co-production it is the sum of investments made by all participating countries in the film.

Figure 1 Number of final certifications for film, rolling year, Q2 2007 to Q1 2016



Source: BFI

Figure 2 UK spend and total budget of final certifications for film, rolling year, Q2 2007 to Q1 2016



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.

2.1.2 Interim certifications

A total of 51 films received interim certification under the cultural test in Q1 2016, down from 69 in Q1 2015. The total UK spend and budget of these films was £58 million and £77 million respectively. UK spend, as a percentage of budget, was highest since 2011, at 76%. Films certified as co-productions are not shown for disclosure reasons.

Table 3 Interim cultural test certifications for film, Q1 2007 to Q1 2016

Year	Number	UK Spend £ m	Total Budget £m	UK as a % of budget
Q1 2007	16	140.8	251.8	55.9
Q1 2008	28	100.0	153.8	65.0
Q1 2009	25	33.7	37.7	89.4
Q1 2010	30	156.9	187.8	83.5
Q1 2011	39	52.2	64.0	81.6
Q1 2012	47	181.0	389.0	46.5
Q1 2013	44	164.8	315.6	52.2
Q1 2014	48	316.7	487.7	64.9
Q1 2015	69	333.8	483.5	69.0
Q1 2016	51	58.3	77.0	75.7

Source: BFI

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

The number of films with interim certification increased from 131 films in April 2007-March 2008 to 175 in April 2011-March 2012, and then fluctuated until April 2015-March 2016, which had 269 films (Table 4 and Figure 3).

For the latest 12 month period, UK spend was £1,529 million, the highest recorded, with total budget at £2,452 million (Figure 4). Similar to films with final certification, there were two peak years prior to 2015/16: April 2009- March 2010 (UK spend at £1,435 million) and April 2011- March 2012 (UK spend at £1,453 million); this anticipates the peak years outlined for final certifications.

There were 246 cultural test films in April 2015-March 2016, up from 187 films in April 2014-March 2015. UK spend was £1,506 million and total budget was £2,386 million. In the period prior to 2015/16 there were two stand out years, April 2009-Q1 2010 and April 2011-March 2012, which anticipate final cultural test UK spend and budget. There were 23 official co-productions that received interim certification in April 2015-March 2016, the lowest of the time period. These films had a UK spend of £23 million and a total budget of £66 million.

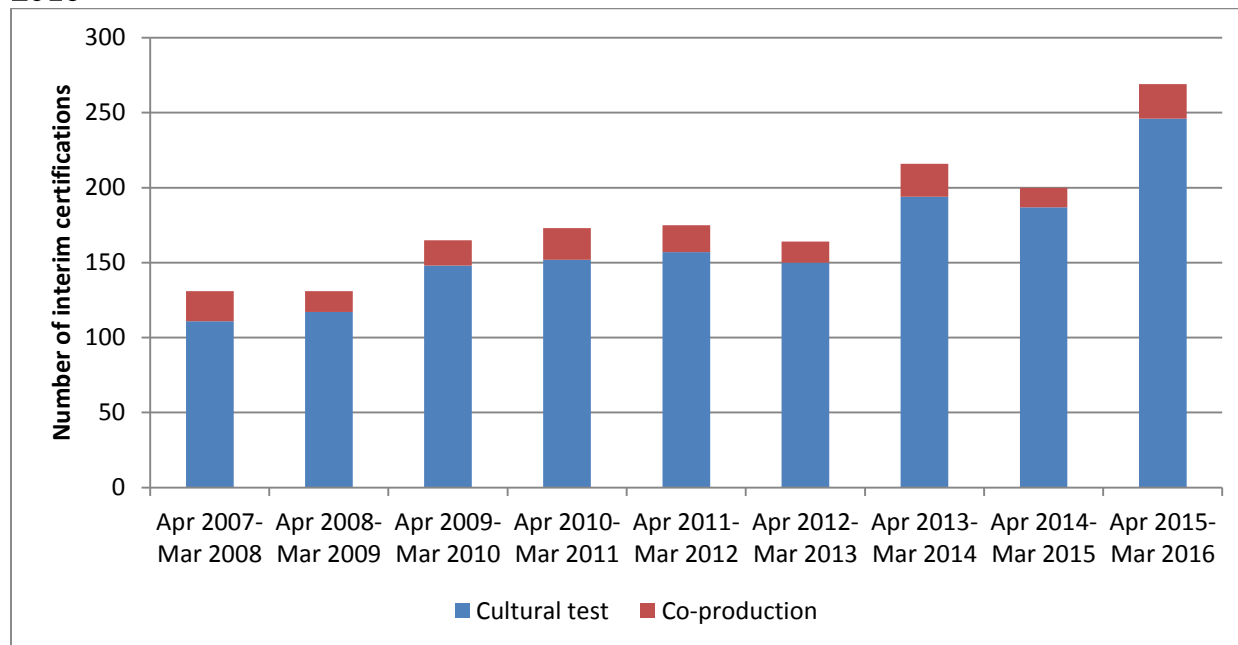
Table 4 Interim certifications for film, rolling year, from Q2 2007 to Q1 2016

Type of certification	Apr 2007- Mar 2008	Apr 2008- Mar 2009	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
Cultural Test									
Number	111	117	148	151	157	150	193	187	246
UK spend £m	737.2	598.1	1,406.7	661.9	1,402.5	904.6	958.4	1,182.7	1,506.2
Total budget £m	974.6	741.4	1,713.5	1,041.6	1,928.3	1,267.1	1,302.9	1,717.6	2,386.4
UK spend as a % of total budget	75.6	80.7	82.1	63.5	72.7	71.4	73.6	68.9	63.1
Co-production									
Number	20	14	17	21	18	14	22	13	23
UK spend £m	69.5	39.4	28.7	67.1	50.0	40.8	49.1	19.0	23.2
Total budget £m	120.0	90.6	78.1	185.5	89.8	78.4	127.8	67.7	66.0
UK spend as a % of total budget	57.9	43.5	36.8	36.2	55.7	52.1	38.4	28.1	35.2
All Types									
Number	131	131	165	172	175	164	215	200	269
UK spend £m	806.6	637.5	1,435.4	729.0	1,452.6	945.5	1,007.5	1,201.7	1,529.4
Total budget £m	1,094.6	832.0	1,791.6	1,227.0	2,018.2	1,345.5	1,430.7	1,785.3	2,452.4
UK spend as a % of total budget	73.7	76.6	80.1	59.4	72.0	70.3	70.4	67.3	62.4

Source: BFI

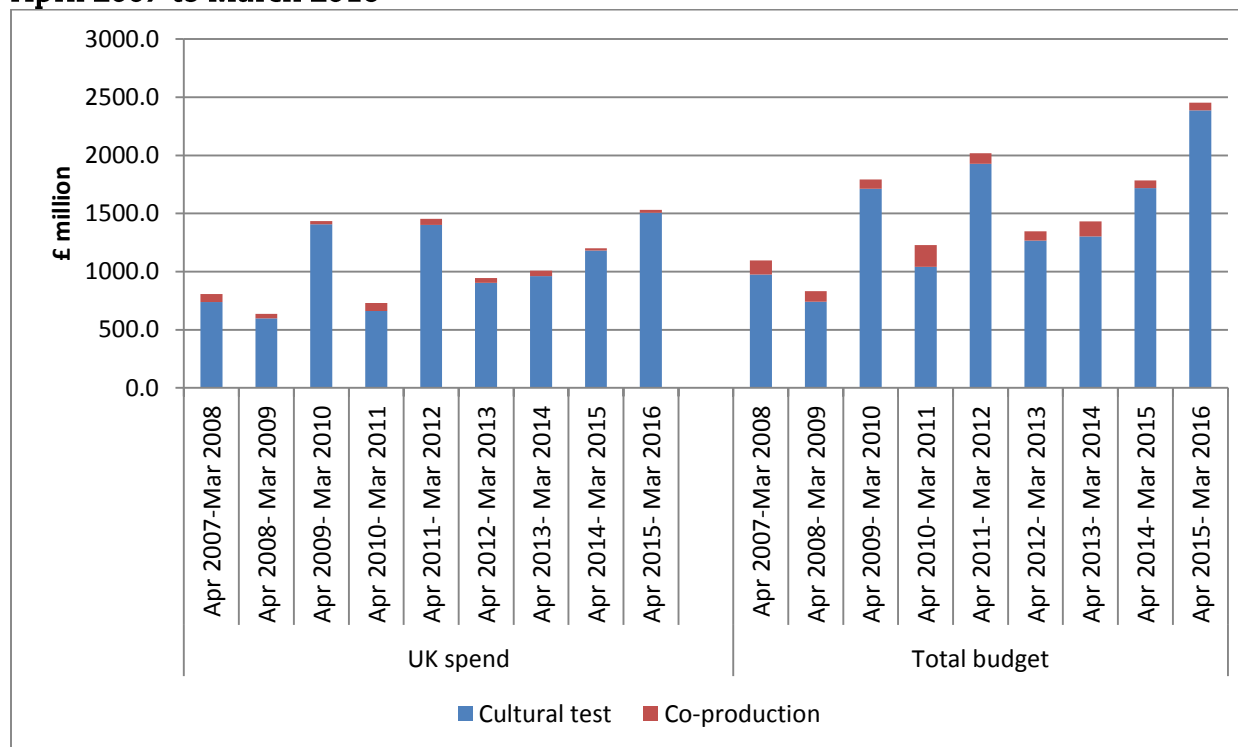
'Total Budget' in the case of cultural test films is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK; in the case of co-production it is the sum of investments made by all participating countries in the film.

Figure 3 Number of interim certifications for film, rolling year, April 2007 to March 2016



Source: BFI

Figure 4 UK spend and total budget of interim certifications for film, rolling year, April 2007 to March 2016



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.

2.2 Total Budgets

The median budget for interim cultural test certifications has been decreasing from 2007 to 2016, with 2016 having the lowest median budget, at £0.6 million (Table 5). The highest median budget was £1.8 million in 2007.

Table 5 Median budgets of interim cultural test certifications

Year	Median budget £m
2007	1.8
2008	1.5
2009	1.0
2010	1.1
2011	0.9
2012	1.0
2013	0.7
2014	0.9
2015	0.9
Q1 2016	0.6

Source: BFI

Interim Cultural Test certifications have only been issued since 2007, when the new 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.

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

2.3 Co-production treaties

As there were no co-productions with final certification in Q1 2016, no co-production treaties can be reported. The interim co-production films qualifying as official co-productions were under the European Convention of Cinematographic Co-production and the UK/Canada co-production treaty. For disclosure reasons, the number of co-productions qualifying as British under each treaty are not provided.

3. High-end television certifications

3.1 Certification – numbers of applications and values

A total of 24 HETV programmes received final certification under the cultural test in Q1 2016, this is an increase from 6 in Q1 2015. UK spend and total budget for programmes in Q1 2016 was £183 million and £207 million respectively. UK spend was 88% of total budget (Table 6). No HETV co-productions were awarded final certification in Q1 2016; previous years are not shown for disclosure reasons.

Table 6 Final cultural test certifications for HETV, Q1 2014 to Q1 2016

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

Source: BFI

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

In the rolling years from April 2013 to March 2016 there has been a year on increase in the number, and associated UK spend and budget, of HETV programmes receiving final certification under the cultural test. In April 2015-March 2016 a total of 76 programmes received final certification under the cultural test, with a UK spend of £566 million and a total budget of 640 million (Table 7). This is a substantial increase from the 42 programmes in April 2014-March 2015, with a UK spend of £268 million and total budget of £308 million.

Table 7 Cultural test final certifications for HETV, April 2013 to March 2016

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	640.1	88.4

Source BFI.

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

As with film, interim certifications indicate the expected future level of official UK HETV production. In Q1 2016, a total of 16 HETV programmes received interim certification under the cultural test, with a UK spend of £106 million and a total budget of £139 million (Table 8). This is up on Q1 2015, which saw 11 HETV projects receive interim certification; UK spend was £93 million and total budget was £115 million. No HETV co-productions were awarded final certification in Q1 2016; previous years are not shown for disclosure reasons.

Table 8 Cultural test interim certification for HETV, Q1 2014 to Q1 2016

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Q1 2014	8	122.0	142.4	85.7
Q1 2015	11	92.8	114.9	80.8
Q1 2016	16	105.7	139.4	75.8

Source: BFI

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

Similar to final certifications, the number of interim cultural test certifications, UK spend and total budget has increased rolling year on rolling year between April 2013-March 2014 and April 2015-March 2016 (Table 9). The number of HETV interim certifications went up from 28 in April 2013-March 2014 to 74 April 2015-March 2016. UK spend and total budget has increased from £245 million and £274 million

respectively to £631 million and £773 million. UK spend as a percentage of total budget has decreased from 89% to 82%. HETV co-productions are not shown for disclosure control reasons.

Table 9 Cultural test interim certifications for HETV, April 2013 to March 2016

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	67	488.3	606.5	80.5
Apr 2015-Mar 2016	74	630.9	773.2	81.6

Source: BFI

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

3.2 Total Budgets

This release presents the median total budget per minute of content for HETV instead of median total budget, as in previous releases¹. The median total budget of interim cultural test HETV projects Q1 2016 was £18,621. From 2013 to 2015, median budget increased from £20,592 to £23,826.

Table 10 Median budgets of interim HETV cultural test certifications

Year	Median budget £
2013*	20,592
2014	21,788
2015	23,826
Q1 2016	18,621

Source: BFI

*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

As there were no co-productions with final or interim certification, no treaties are reported.

4. Animation programme certifications

4.1 Certification – numbers of applications and values

A total of nine animation programmes received final certification under the cultural test in Q1 2016, this is an increase from eight in Q1 2015 (Table 11). UK spend and total budget for programmes in Q1 2016 was £6.4 million and £7.4 million respectively, down from £13 million and £20 million in Q1 2015. UK spend was 87% of total budget in Q1 2016, up from 64% in Q1 2015. Q1 2014 cultural test certification are not reported

¹ Certification applications are received for one-off programmes as well as series (that can be any length of time greater than 31 minutes), this median provides a better representation of the average HETV programme budget. Advice was obtained from the Producers Alliance for Cinema and Television (Pact) regarding appropriate median budgets.

for disclosure reasons. No animation programme co-productions were awarded final certification in Q1 2016; previous years are not shown for disclosure reasons.

Table 11 Final cultural test certifications for animation programmes, Q1 2015 and Q1 2016

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Q1 2015	8	12.6	19.7	64.0
Q1 2016	9	6.4	7.4	86.8

Source: BFI

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

Animations programmes receiving final certification under the cultural test increased from 21 in April 2014-March 2015 to 52 in April 2015-March 2016 (Table 12). In April 2015-March 2016 UK spend was £56 million and total budget 74 million, up from £23 million and £41 million respectively in the previous rolling year. Data for April 2013-March 2014 are not shown for disclosure reasons.

Table 12 Cultural test final certifications for animation programmes, April 2013 to March 2016

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

Source BFI

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

As with film and HETV, interim certifications indicate the expected future level of official UK animation programme production. In Q1 2016, a total of five animation programmes received interim certification under the cultural test, with a UK spend of £9.1 million and a total budget of £10.3 million (Table 13). This is down on Q1 2015, which saw seven animation programmes receive interim certification; UK spend was £26 million and total budget was £27 million. Animation programme co-productions are not shown for disclosure reasons.

Table 13 Cultural test interim certification for animation programmes, Q1 2014 to Q1 2016

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Q1 2014	6	14.2	15.0	94.8
Q1 2015	7	25.5	27.4	93.4
Q1 2016	5	9.1	10.3	87.7

Source BFI

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

The number of animation programme interim certifications decreased from 29 in April 2014-March 2015 to 23 in April 2015-March 2016. UK spend and total budget also decreased from £77 million and £93 million respectively to £47 million and £68

million. UK spend as a percentage of total budget has decreased from 83% to 68%. Interim co-productions for April 2013-March 2014 and April 2015-March 2016 are not shown for disclosure reasons. In April 2014-March 2015, there were six co-productions, with a UK spend of £5 million and a total budget of £11 million.

Table 14 Cultural test interim certifications for animation, April 2013 to March 2016

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

Source BFI.

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

4.2 Total Budgets

This release presents the median total budget per minute of content for animation programmes instead of median total budget, as in previous releases². The median total budget of interim cultural test animation programmes in Q1 2016 was £6,870. From 2013 to 2015, median budget increased from £6,284 to £7,867.

Table 15 Median budgets of interim animation programme cultural test certifications

Year	Median budget £
2013*	6,284
2014	8,202
2015	7,867
Q1 2016	6,870

Source: BFI

*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

All interim and final animation programme co-productions were under the UK/Canada treaty.

5. Children's television programme certifications

5.1 Certification – numbers of applications and values

Since the inception of the tax relief for children's television (CTV) programmes in April 2015, eight CTV programmes have received final certification under the cultural test. These had a UK spend of £3.7 million and a total budget of £3.7 million – UK

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.

spend was 100% of total budget. No CTV programmes received final certification as a co-production in this period. Data for Q1 2016 is not shown for disclosure reasons.

As with other tax reliefs, interim certifications indicate the expected future level of official UK CTV programme production. Since April 2015, a total of 21 programmes have received interim certification, with a UK spend of £19 million and a total budget of £23 million. UK spend as a percentage of total budget was 84%. Of these programmes, six were given interim certification in Q1 2016 and they had a UK spend of £3.9 million and a total budget of £4.1 million. There were no co-production animation programme in the last year.

5.2 Total Budgets

This release presents the median total budget per minute of content for CTV programmes instead of median total budget³. The median total budget of interim cultural test CTV programmes since April 2015 was £2,433; for programmes that received interim certification in Q1 2016, median budget was £2,351.

As there are no co-productions, median budget per minute for these productions cannot be reported.

5.3 Co-production treaties

As there are no co-productions, co-productions treaties cannot be reported.

6. Video Games Certification

A total of 35 video games received final certification in Q1 2016, up from 18 in Q1 2015, (Table 16). EEA/UK⁴ spend in Q1 2016 was £22 million and total budget was £25 million, making UK spend 91% of total budget. UK spend and total budget are up on the same quarter in 2015, from £14 million and £15 million respectively. There are no co-production treaties for video games, as such no statistics are available.

Table 16 Cultural test final certification for video games, Q1 2015 and Q1 2016

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Q1 2015	18	14.4	15.1	95.2
Q1 2016	35	22.5	24.7	90.9

Source: BFI

⁴ 'Total Budget' is the sum of development activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK.

In the last year, April 2015-March 2016, 133 video games received final certification with an EEA/UK spend of £189 million and a total budget of £275 million (Table 17). This is a substantial increase on April 2014-March 2015, where there were 19 video games with a UK spend of £14 million and a total budget of £15 million.

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.

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.

Table 17 Cultural test final certification for video games, April 2014-March 2016

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Apr 2014-Mar 2015	19	14.4	15.1	95.2
Apr 2015-Mar 2016	133	189.1	275.3	68.7

Source: BFI

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

For interim certification, in Q1 2016 40 video games received interim certification under the cultural test, with EEA/UK spend at £142 million and total budget at £149 million (Table 18). In Q1 2015, 25 video games received interim certification, with EEA/UK spend at £114 million and total budget at £121 million.

Table 18 Cultural test interim certification for video games, Q1 2015 and Q1 2016

Period	Number	EEA/UK spend £m	Total budget £m	EEA/UK spend as a % of total budget
Q1 2015	25	114.0	121.4	93.9
Q1 2016	40	141.8	148.9	95.2

Source: BFI

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

In April 2015-March 2016, 136 video games received interim certification with an expected EEA/UK spend of £576 million and a total budget of £631 million (Table 19). This is a substantial increase on April 2014-March 2015, where there were 48 video games with a UK spend of £159 million and a total budget of £168 million.

Table 19 Cultural test interim certification for video games, April 2014-March 2016

Year	Number	UK spend £m	Total budget £m	UK spend as a % of total budget
Apr 2014-Mar 2015	48	158.7	167.5	94.8
Apr 2015-Mar 2016	136	575.8	631.2	91.2

Source: BFI

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

6.2 Total Budgets

The median total budget in Q1 2016 was £0.5 million, only slightly lower than the median budget for all of 2015 (£0.6 million).

Table 20 Median budgets of interim video game cultural test certifications

Year	Median budget £m
2014*	0.2
2015	0.6
Q1 2016	0.5

Source: BFI

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

Notes:

1. **British film, high-end television programme , animation programmes, children’s television programmes and video games certification statistics collected and reported by the BFI**

The British film high-end television (HETV) programmes, animation programmes, children’s television (CTV) 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 programme and video games certified as British in the reference period, not a sample.

The BFI Certification Unit assesses all British film, HETV programme, animation programme, CTV programme and video game certification applications on behalf of DCMS and makes recommendations to the Secretary of State who signs the certificates. The certificates are then issued by the BFI Certification Unit.

Figures shown in the tables are for British films, HETV programmes, animation programmes, CTV programmes and EEA video games certified during the reference periods shown. Certification may occur some time after both the production/development and release (theatrical or broadcast in the case of films, HETV, animation and CTV programmes) of the film, 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 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 for 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 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 television animation programmes are British animation programmes certified under the cultural test for 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 and for where and by whom the animation 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 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 for 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 and for where and by whom the animation 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 for 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, EEA state and undetermined location elements in the story, setting and characters and for where and by whom the animation 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 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 prior to the start of principal photography to films, HETV or animation programmes that meet the criteria and final certification once the film, HETV, animation programme or CTV programme has been completed and final documents submitted. Films, HETV programmes, animation programmes or CTV programmes made as official co-productions are not required to pass the film, HETV programme, animation 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 activities in the UK cultural test films 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 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 and video games information

Films, programmes and video games 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 and 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. Pre-release access

This release has been prepared according to the Code of Practice for Official Statistics published by the UK Statistics Authority. Pre-release access has been granted to the following:

Amanda Nevill, Chief Executive, BFI
Ceri Morgan, Director of External Affairs, BFI
Ben Roberts, Director of Film Fund, BFI
Richard Shaw, Director of Marketing, Communications and Audiences, BFI
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7. Statistical contact details

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