

British film, high-end television, animation programmes, children's television programmes and video games certification January-September (Q1-Q3) 2016

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1. Key Points

- In the January-September of 2016 (Q1-Q3) 219 films received final certification with a UK spend of £813 million and a total budget of £1,344 million. UK spend was 61% of total budget.
- Of these 214 films were certified under the cultural test (UK spend of £802 million, total budget of £1,318 million) and five films were official co-productions (UK spend £22 million and total budget of £65 million)
- In the last 12 months, October 2015-September 2016, 292 films received final certification, with a UK spend of £1,116 million and a total budget of £1,945 million.
- A total of 63 high-end television programmes received final certification under the cultural test in Q1-Q3 2016, with a UK spend of £524 million and a total budget was £595 million. UK spend was 88% of total budget.
- Since October 2015, 77 high-end television programmes have received final certification, all under the cultural test, with a UK spend of £631 million and a total budget of £732 million.
- There were 24 animation programmes with final certification under the cultural test, in Q1-Q3 2016 with a UK spend of £26 million and total budget of £40 million. UK spend was 66% of total budget.
- Since October 2015, 46 animation programmes have received final certification, all under the cultural test, with a UK spend of £53 million and a total budget of £74 million.
- A total of 30 children's television programmes received final certification under the cultural test in Q1-Q3 2016, with a UK spend of £19.5 and a total budget of £19.9 million. UK spend was just under 98% of total budget.
- In Q1-Q3 2016, 128 video games received final certification with an UK/EEA spend of £141 million and a total budget of £158 million. UK/EEA spend was 89% of total budget.
- In the last 12 months, 167 video games received final certification with an UK/EEA spend £253 million and a total budget of £350 million. UK/EEA spend was 72% of total budget.

2. Feature film certification

2.1 Certification - numbers of applications and values

2.1.1 Final certifications

A total of 219 films received final certification in January-September (Q1-Q3) 2016, up from 180 in Q1-Q3 2015. The majority, 214, were cultural test films and the remaining five films were certified as co-productions (Table 1 and Figures 1 and 2).

The total UK spend and budget of films with final certification in Q1-Q3 2016 was £824 million and £1,383 million respectively. UK spend as a percentage of budget was 60%. The majority of the UK spend and budget were from films certified under the cultural test; UK spend at £802 million was 61% of budget (58% of total budget for all films) and the total budget for cultural test films, at £1,318 million was 95% of total budget for all films. Note that these data are for final certifications, so include films produced over the previous one to three years.¹ Cultural test films include high budget inward investment films as well as low budget UK films, so the aggregate budget is influenced by the number and timing of inward investment UK/USA productions. Co-production films had a much smaller UK spend and budget at £22 million and £65 million respectively, an increase from £20 million and £57million in Q1-Q3 2015.

¹ The latest production statistics are published separately in *Film and other screen sector production in the UK, January-September 2016*.

Table 1: Final certifications for film, Q1-Q3 2007 to Q1-Q3 2016

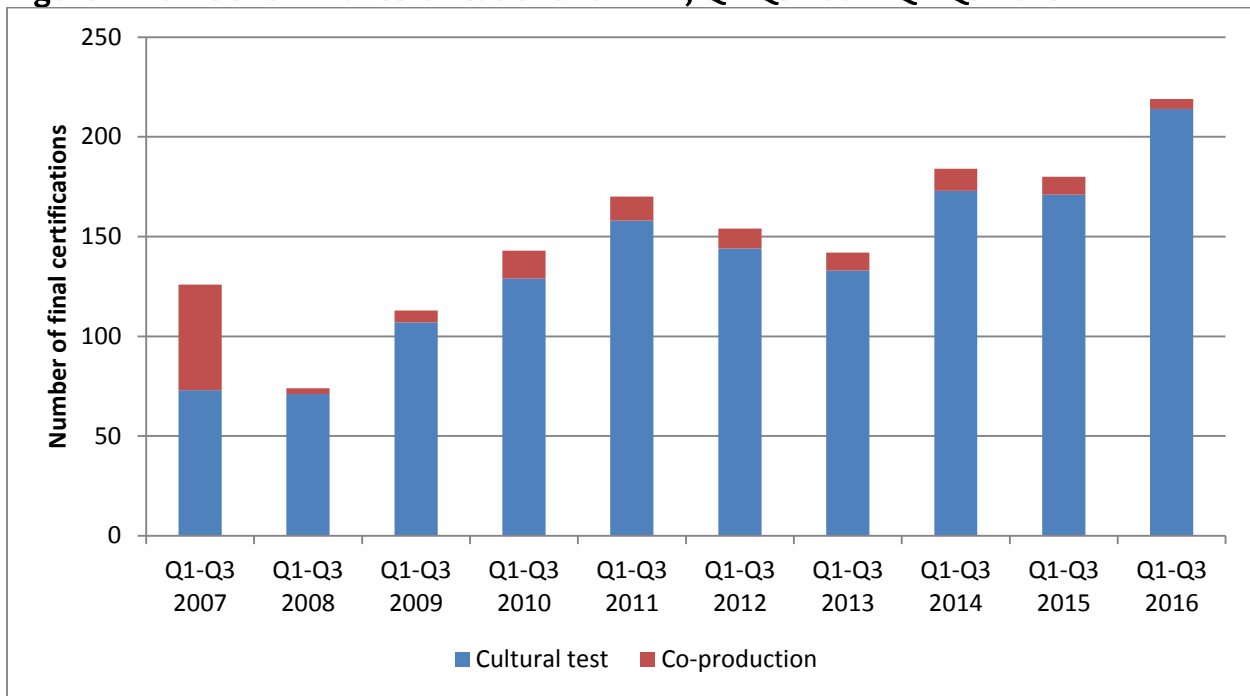
Type of certification	Q1-Q3									
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Cultural test										
Number	73	71	107	129	158	144	133	173	171	214
UK spend £m	194.9	256.2	273.4	709.7	1,267.9	548.6	531.0	772.2	677.8	802.5
Total budget £m	270.2	405.4	369.3	831.8	1,731.2	752.4	678.3	1,196.4	911.4	1,318.0
UK spend as % of total budget	72.1	63.2	74.0	85.3	73.2	72.9	78.3	64.5	74.4	60.9
Co-production										
Number	53	3	6	14	12	10	9	11	9	5
UK spend £m	119.6	9.9	20.2	43.7	47.3	28.4	13.7	35.8	20.1	21.9
Total budget £m	348.7	14.1	44.7	101.4	77.8	43.4	35.2	54.2	56.6	65.1
UK spend as % of total budget	34.3	70.1	45.3	43.1	60.7	65.5	38.8	66.0	35.5	33.6
All types										
Number	126	74	113	143	170	154	142	184	180	219
UK spend £m	314.5	266.1	293.7	753.4	1,315.1	577.0	544.7	808.0	698.0	824.3
Total budget £m	618.9	419.5	413.9	933.2	1,809.0	795.8	713.5	1,250.7	968.0	1,383.1
UK spend as % of total budget	50.8	63.4	70.9	80.7	72.7	72.5	76.3	64.6	72.1	59.6

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.

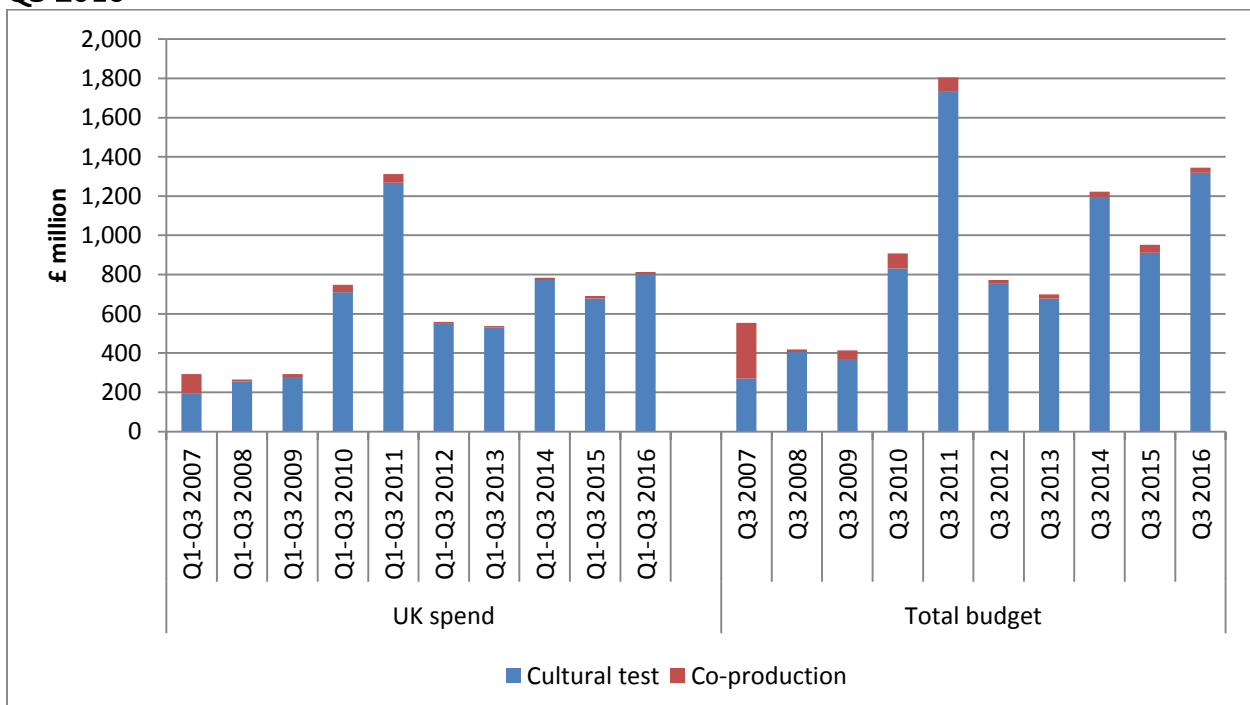
Q1-Q3 is the first nine months of the year, i.e. 1 January to 30 September.

Figure 1 Number of final certifications for film, Q1-Q3 2007- Q1-Q3 2016



Source: BFI

Figure 2 UK spend and total budget of final certifications for film, Q1-Q3 2007- Q1-Q3 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.

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

The number of final certifications has increased rolling year on rolling year since October 2007, except in October 2011-September 2012 where there was a decrease from 216 to 187 films. The last 12 months (October 2015-September 2016) saw the highest number of films with final certification at 292 (Table 2 and Figures 3 and 4).

Overall, there has been a fluctuating trend for UK spend and budget over the period, with budget being over £2 billion in October 2010-September 2011 and October 2013-September 2014 and just under £2 billion in October 2015-September 2016 (third highest of the time period). UK spend peaked in October 2010-September 2011 and October 2013-September 2014 at £1.5 billion and £1.4 billion respectively. These years saw a higher than usual number of UK studio-backed and independent films receive final certification, such as *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Parts 1 & 2*, *London Boulevard*, *Maleficent*, *The Counselor*, *Cinderella* and *SPECTRE*.

The number of films receiving final certification under the cultural test in October 2015-September 2016 was 281, with a UK spend of £1,085 million and a total budget of £1,852 million (budget was the third highest in the time period). Similar to all final certifications, October 2010-September 2011 (UK spend at £1,412 million and budget at £1,901 million) October 2013-September 2014 (UK spend at £1,282 million and budget at £1,871 million) and October 2015-September 2016 had the highest budgets of the period.

October 2015-September 2016 saw 11 official co-productions receive final certification, with a UK spend of £31 million and budget of £93 million, both an increase on the previous 12 month period, where UK spend was £24 million and budget was £71 million. The number of co-productions, UK spend and total budget has fluctuated over the time period, with the number of co-production peaking at 19 in October 2013-September 2014. That year also had the highest UK spend and budget at £87 million and £132 million respectively.

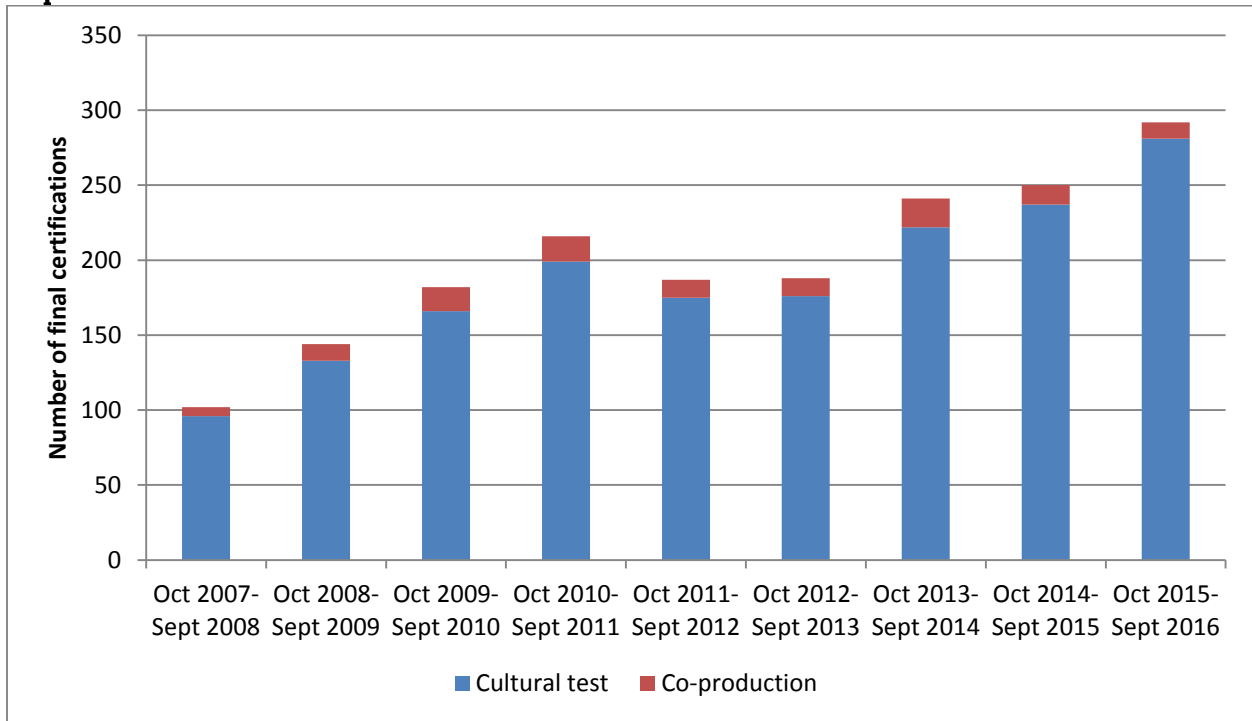
Table 2 Final certifications for film, rolling year, from October 2007 to September 2016

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
Cultural Test									
Number	96	133	166	199	175	176	222	237	281
UK spend £m	503.7	605.7	859.2	1,411.9	759.2	816.6	1,282.4	1,158.6	1,084.5
Total budget £m	696.6	899.0	1,067.3	1,901.1	1,139.5	1,095.6	1,871.4	1,571.1	1,851.5
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
Co-production									
Number	6	11	16	17	12	12	19	13	11
UK spend £m	13.4	45.7	45.0	54.9	36.2	29.6	87.4	24.3	31.4
Total budget £m	22.1	79.1	104.8	113.8	96.9	65.3	131.7	70.6	93.0
UK spend as a % of total budget	60.8	57.8	43.0	48.2	37.3	45.2	66.4	34.4	33.8
All Types									
Number	102	144	182	216	187	188	241	250	292
UK spend £m	517.1	651.4	904.3	1,466.8	795.3	846.2	1,369.8	1,182.9	1,116.0
Total budget £m	718.7	978.1	1,172.1	2,014.9	1,236.5	1,160.9	2,003.1	1,641.7	1,944.5
UK spend as a % of total budget	72.0	66.6	77.2	72.8	64.3	72.9	68.4	72.1	57.4

Source: BFI

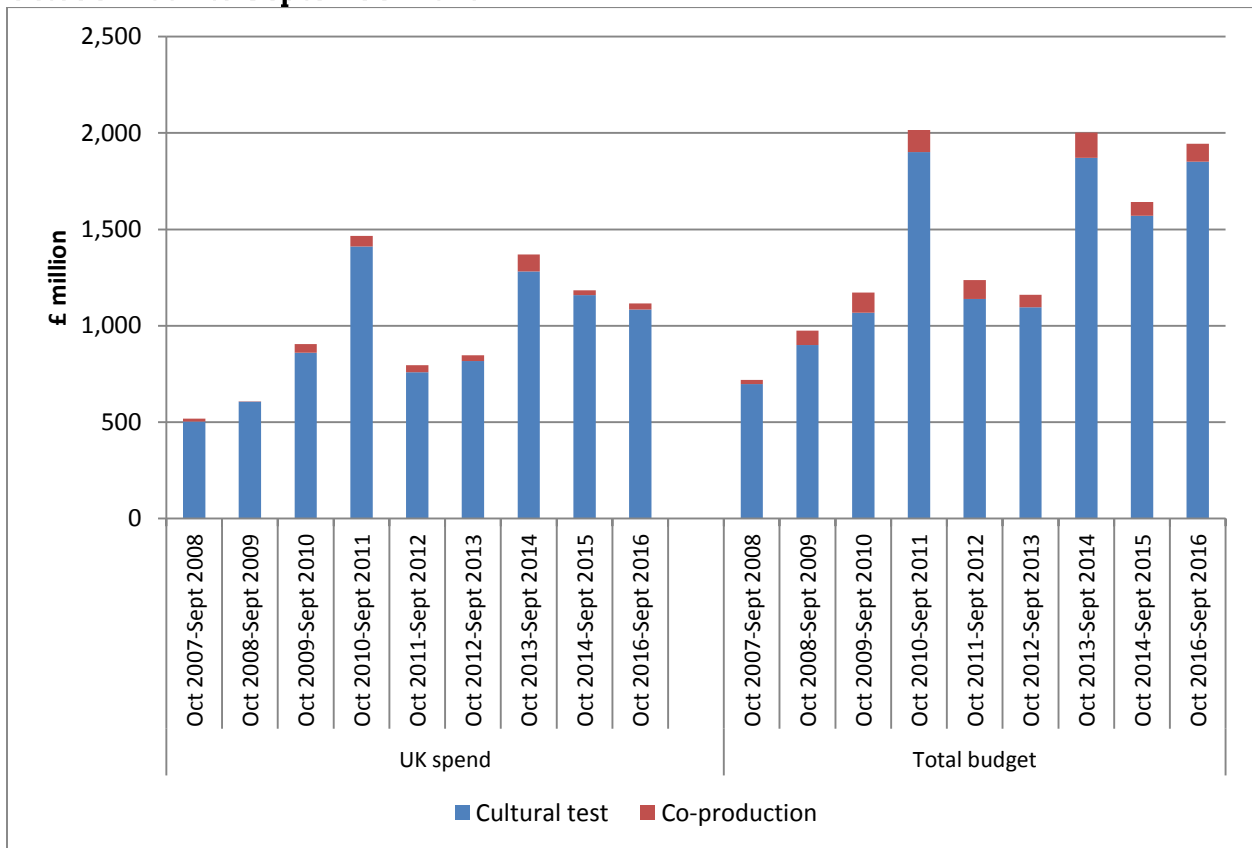
'Total Budget' in the case of cultural test films is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK; in the case of co-production it is the sum of investments made by all participating countries in the film.

Figure 3 Number of final certifications for film, rolling year, October 2007 to September 2016



Source: BFI

Figure 4 UK spend and total budget of final certifications for film, rolling year, October 2007 to September 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

Interim certifications give an indication of the future level of official UK film production. Table 3 shows the number of film with interim certification in Q1-Q3 2007- Q1-Q3 2016, and the respective UK spend and total budget. The number of interim-certified films was the second highest of the time period in Q1-Q3 2016 at 207. The number of cultural test films was also second highest of the period at 190 and the number of co-productions was at its highest at 17 films.

The expected UK spend of interim-certified films was £1,014 million and total budget was £1,609 million, both the second highest of the period. The majority of the expected UK spend and budget was from films certified under the cultural test, which had a UK spend of £989 million and a total budget of £1,522 million (94% of total budget for all films). Co-productions, as with final certifications, had a much smaller UK spend and budget, at £25 million and £87 million respectively. This was up from £14 million UK spend and £49 million budget in Q1-Q3 2015.

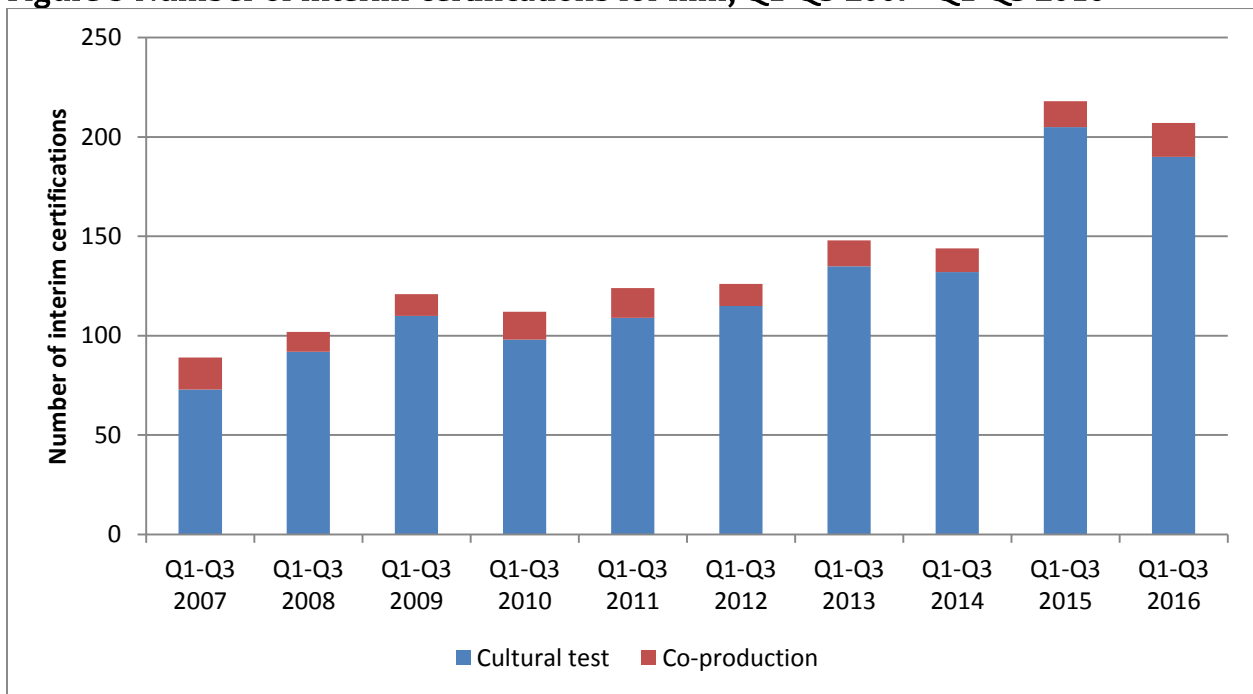
Table 3: Interim certifications for film, Q1-Q3 2007 to Q1-Q3 2016

Type of certification	Q1-Q3									
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Cultural test										
Number	73	92	110	98	109	115	135	132	205	190
UK spend £m	601.4	499.1	619.0	405.8	565.7	801.9	646.5	919.5	1,397.8	989.0
Total budget £m	834.8	600.3	836.5	680.8	715.7	1,135.1	873.9	1,339.8	2,160.8	1521.9
UK spend as % of total budget	72.0	83.1	74.0	59.6	79.0	70.6	74.0	68.6	64.7	65.0
Co-production										
Number	16	10	11	14	15	12	13	12	13	17
UK spend £m	41.1	33.9	25.8	28.6	24.0	49.8	43.3	19.2	14.2	25.3
Total budget £m	72.4	73.5	68.8	70.6	50.7	93.0	95.5	53.4	49.1	86.8
UK spend as % of total budget	56.8	46.1	37.4	40.4	47.4	53.5	45.4	35.9	29.0	29.1
All types										
Number	89	102	121	112	124	127	148	144	218	207
UK spend £m	642.5	533.0	644.7	434.4	589.8	851.7	689.9	938.6	1,412.0	1,014.3
Total budget £m	907.2	673.8	905.3	751.5	766.4	1,228.1	969.4	1,393.2	2,209.9	1,608.7
UK spend as % of total budget	70.8	79.1	71.2	57.8	77.0	69.3	71.2	67.4	63.9	63.05

Source: BFI

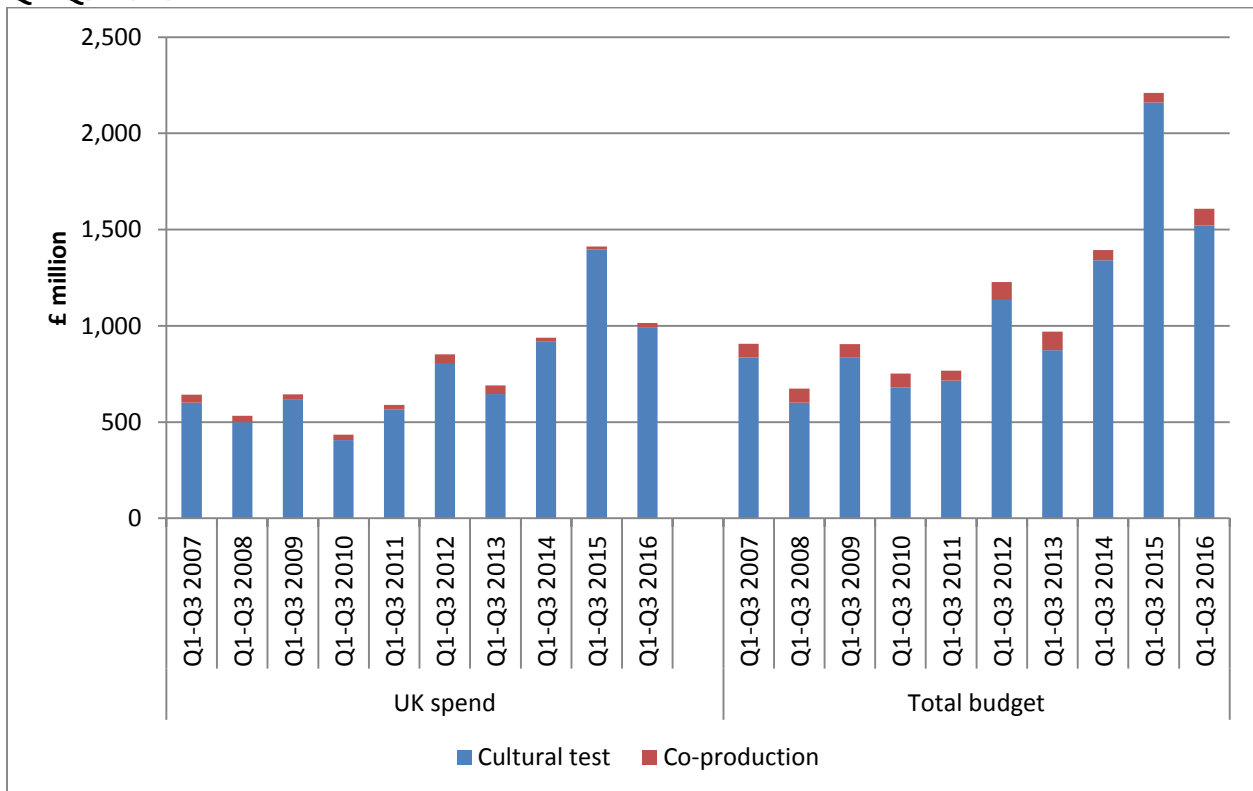
'Total Budget' in the case of Cultural test films is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK; in the case of Co-productions it is the sum of investments made by all participating countries in the film.

Figure 5 Number of interim certifications for film, Q1-Q3 2007- Q1-Q3 2016



Source: BFI

Figure 6 UK spend and total budget of interim certifications for film, Q1-Q3 2007- Q1-Q3 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.

In the rolling years, there was an upward trend in the number of films with interim certification over the period October 2007-September 2008 to October 2015-September 2016, from 132 to 275 films. In the last 2 years, the number of films with interim certification substantially increased by 71 films from 204 in October 2013-September 2014 (Table 4 and Figure 7).

There has been a fluctuating trend in UK spend and budget over the time period. The latest 12 month period had a UK spend of £1,409 million, with total budget at £2,263 million, down from £1,662 and £2,609 respectively in October 2014-September 2015 (Figure 8).

There were 249 cultural test films in October 2015-September 2016, the highest of the period. UK spend was £1,373 million and total budget was £2,154 million. There were 26 official co-productions that received interim certification in October 2015-September 2016, with a UK spend of £36 million and a budget of £109 up from 17 co-productions in the previous 12 month period, October 2014-September 2015. These films had a UK spend of £18 million and a total budget of £67 million. Although the latest 12 month period has seen the highest number of co-productions in the period, UK spend and budget of co-productions peaked in October 2010-September 2011 at £66 million and £168 million respectively.

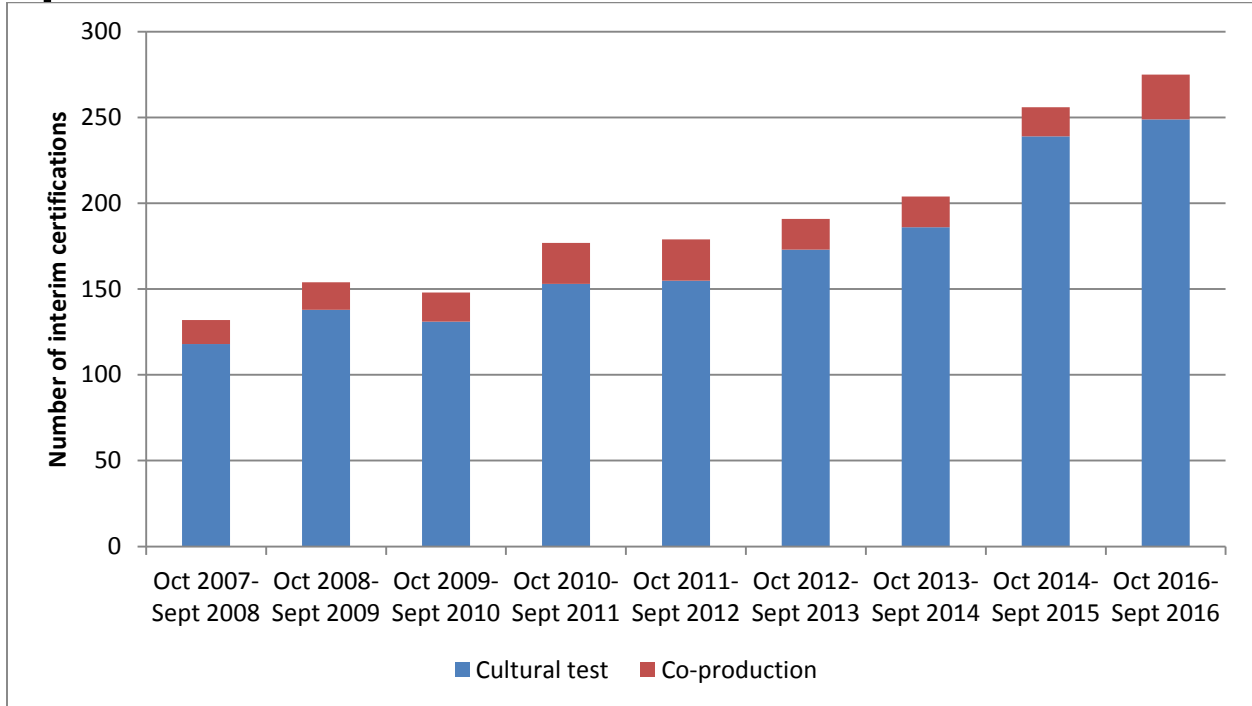
Table 4 Interim certifications for film, rolling year, from October 2007 to September 2015

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
Cultural Test									
Number	118	138	131	153	155	173	186	239	249
UK spend £m	675.7	784.3	1,070.3	926.5	1,509.9	765.5	1,079.4	1,643.9	1,373.0
Total budget £m	838.1	1,093.7	1,407.8	1,200.3	2,022.7	1,079.3	1,595.1	2,542.4	2,153.9
UK spend as % of total budget	80.6	71.7	76.0	77.2	74.6	70.9	67.7	64.7	63.7
Co-production									
Number	14	16	17	24	15	18	18	17	26
UK spend £m	54.3	37.5	30.9	66.5	54.2	53.6	26.1	17.8	36.5
Total budget £m	107.7	101.9	76.6	167.8	105.0	117.5	74.5	66.9	108.9
UK spend as a % of total budget	50.4	36.8	40.3	39.6	51.7	45.6	35.0	26.7	33.5
All Types									
Number	132	154	148	177	170	191	204	256	275
UK spend £m	730.0	821.8	1,101.2	992.9	1,564.1	819.0	1,105.5	1,661.8	1,409.5
Total budget £m	945.8	1,195.6	1,484.3	1,368.1	2,127.6	1,196.7	1,669.7	2,609.3	2,262.8
UK spend as a % of total budget	77.2	68.7	74.2	72.6	73.5	68.4	66.2	63.7	62.3

Source: BFI

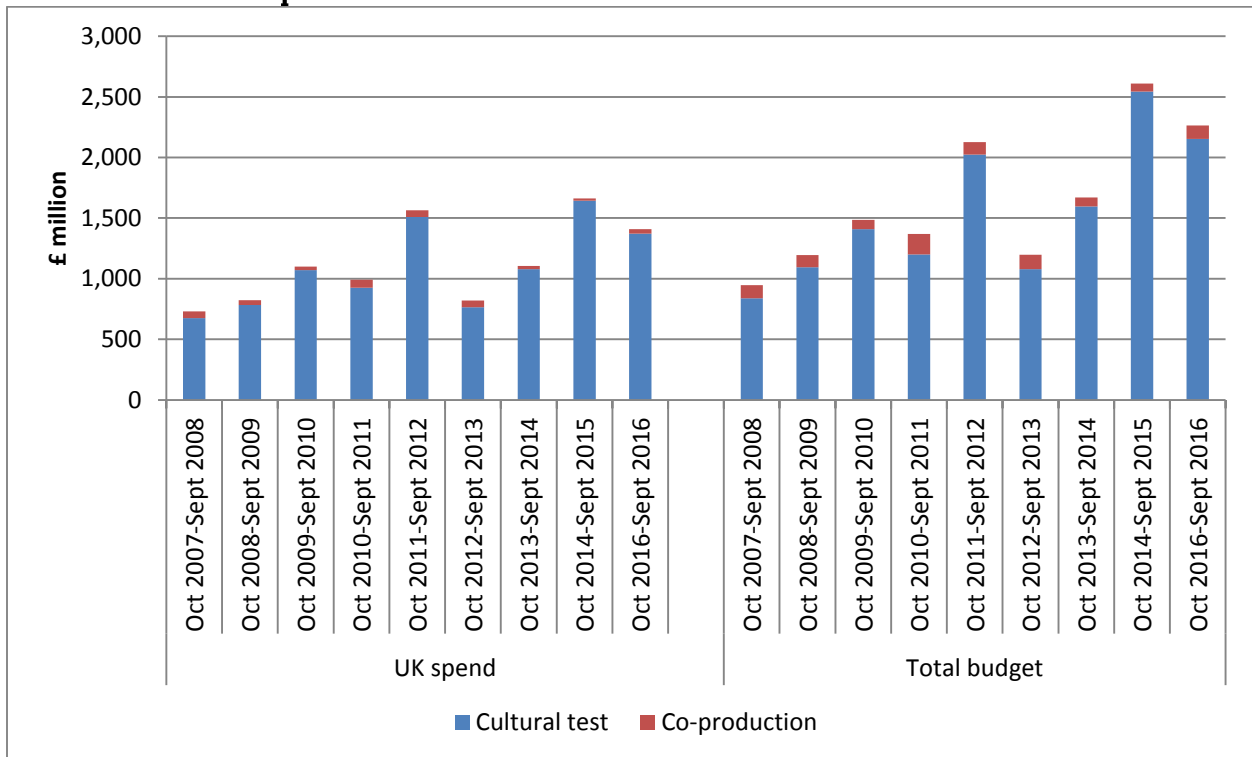
'Total Budget' in the case of cultural test films is the sum of production activity in the UK and production activity outside the UK; in the case of co-production it is the sum of investments made by all participating countries in the film.

Figure 7 Number of interim certifications for film, rolling year, October 2007 to September 2016



Source: BFI

Figure 8 UK spend and total budget of interim certifications for film, rolling year, October 2007 to September 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 2013 having the lowest median budget, at just under £0.7 million (Table 5). Median budget for Q1-Q3 2016 was at a similar level as 2013, being just over £0.7 million. 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	1.0
Q1-Q3 2016	0.7

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.

Table 6 shows the median budget of interim co-productions since 2003. In Q1-Q3 2016 the median budget was £2.4 million. From 2003 to 2011 there was a downward trend in median budgets, with 2011 having the lowest median budget, at £2.1 million. Median budgets increased in 2012 to £6.1 million, but since then have decreased.

Table 6 Median budgets of interim co-production certifications

Year	Median budget £m	Year	Median budget £m
2003	4.3	2010	3.7
2004	4.2	2011	2.1
2005	4.0	2012	6.1
2006	5.1	2013	4.6
2007	3.7	2014	3.4
2008	4.7	2015	2.3
2009	3.3	Q1-Q3 2016	2.4

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 2016, the final co-production certifications for films were under the European Convention of Cinematographic Co-production (ECCC) and the UK/Australia, UK/Canada, UK/New Zealand and UK/South Africa co-production treaties. Eleven interim co-production films qualifying as official co-productions were under the ECCC and the remaining co-productions (six films) were under the UK/Australia, UK/Canada and UK/France co-production treaties. For disclosure reasons, the co-productions under the latter treaties have been aggregated.

3. High-end television certifications

3.1 Certification – numbers of applications and values

In Q1-Q3 2016, a total of 63 HETV programmes received final certification under the cultural test, with a UK spend of £524 million and a total budget of £595 million (Table 7). This is up on Q1-Q3 2015, which saw 48 HETV programmes receive final certification; UK spend was £306 million and total budget was £328 million. UK spend as a percentage of total budget decreased over the time period from 93% to 88%. There were no co-productions with final certification in Q1-Q3 2014 and Q1-Q3 2016 and co-productions are not shown for Q1-Q3 2015 for disclosure reasons.

Table 7 Cultural test final certification for HETV Q1-Q3 2014 - Q1-Q3 2016

	Q1-Q3		
	2014	2015	2016
Number	28	48	63
UK spend £m	158.6	306.1	524.3
Total budget £m	168.7	328.3	595.5
UK spend as a % of total budget	94.0	93.2	88.0

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.

A total of 77 HETV programmes received final certification in the rolling year October 2015-September 2016, up from the 64 programmes in the previous 12 month period, October 2014-September 2015 (Table 8). UK spend and total budget was £631 million and £732 million respectively in October 2015-September 2016, a substantial increase from October 2014-September 2015 where UK spend and total budget was £436 million and £487 million respectively. In the later period, UK spend was 86% of total budget, a decrease from 90% in the earlier period. In October 2013-September 2014 and October 2015-September 2016 no co-productions received final certification, and data are not shown for October 2014-September 2015 for disclosure control reasons.

Table 8 Cultural test final certifications for HETV, rolling year, October 2013 to September 2016

	Oct 2013-Sept 2014	Oct 2014-Sept 2015	Oct 2015-Sept 2016
Number	31	64	77
UK spend £m	168.9	435.7	631.0
Total budget £m	179.0	486.5	731.9
UK spend as a % of total budget	94.4	89.6	86.2

Source BFI.

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

As with film, interim certifications give an indication of the future level of official UK HETV programmes production. A total of 57 HETV programmes received interim certification in Q1-Q3 2016, all of which were under the cultural test (Table 9). UK spend and total budget decreased from £436 million and £507 million respectively in Q1-Q3 2015 to £275 million and £346 million respectively in Q1-Q3 2016. UK spend as a percentage of total budget decreased from 86% to 80%. There were no co-productions with interim certification in Q1-Q3 2015 and Q1-Q3 2016 and co-productions are not shown for Q1-Q3 2014 for disclosure reasons.

Table 9 Cultural test interim certification for HETV, Q1-Q3 2014 - Q1-Q3 2016

Type of certification	Q1-Q3		
	2014	2015	2016
Number	48	52	57
UK spend £m	396.3	436.1	275.0
Total budget £m	465.2	506.9	345.9
UK spend as a % of total budget	85.2	86.0	79.5

Source: BFI

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

The number of interim cultural test certifications, UK spend and total budget has increased between October 2014-September 2015 and October 2015-September 2016 (Table 10). The number of HETV interim certifications went up from 68 to 74 in. UK spend and total budget has increased from £557 million and £676 million respectively to £560 million and £737 million respectively. UK spend as a percentage of total budget has decreased from 82% to 76%. In October 2014-September 2015 and October 2015-September 2016 no co-productions received final certification, and data is not shown for September 2013-October 2014 are not shown for disclosure control reasons.

Table 10 Cultural test interim certification for HETV, rolling year, October 2013 to September 2016

	Oct 2013-Sept 2014	Oct 2014-Sept 2015	Oct 2015-Sept 2016
Number	57	68	74
UK spend £m	461.3	557.3	559.6
Total budget £m	534.9	675.7	736.7
UK spend as a % of total budget	86.2	82.5	76.0

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 with film and video games². The median total budget of interim cultural test HETV projects for Q1-Q3 2016 was £20,971, being at a similar level to 2013 (Table 11). Since 2013, median budget increased to a peak of £23,826 in 2015. For disclosure reasons, median budget per minute for interim co-productions is not provided.

Table 11 Median budgets of interim cultural test certifications

Year	Median budget per minute
2013*	20,592
2014	21,788
2015	23,826
Q1-Q3 2016	20,971

Source: BFI

*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.

3.3 Co-production treaties

As there were no co-productions with final or interim certification in 2016, co-productions treaties cannot be outlined.

4. Animation programme certifications

4.1 Certification – numbers of applications and values

A total of 24 animation programmes received final certification in Q1-Q3 2016, all under the cultural test (Table 12). UK spend and budget for this period was £26 million and £40 million respectively (UK spend was 66% of total budget). This is a decrease on figures for Q1-Q3 2014 where there were 29 programmes with a UK spend of £36 million and a total budget of £53 million. Co-productions with final certification in Q1-Q3 2016 are not shown for disclosure control reasons. There were no co-productions with final certification in Q1-Q3 2014 and Q1-Q3 2015.

² 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 Pact regarding appropriate median budgets.

Table 12 Cultural test final certifications for animation programmes, Q1-Q3 2014 - Q1-Q3 2016

	Q1-Q3		
	2014	2015	2016
Number	7	29	24
UK spend £m	6.3	35.6	26.2
Total budget £m	12.1	52.5	40.0
UK spend as a % of total budget	52.3	67.9	65.6

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.

Forty-six animation programmes received final certification under the cultural test in the rolling year October 2015-September 2016, a substantial increase from the 36 programmes in the previous 12 month period, October 2014-September 2015 (Table 13). UK spend and total budget was £53 million and £74 million respectively in October 2015-September 2016, increasing from a UK spend of £40 million and a total budget £62 million in October 2014-September 2015. In the later period, UK spend was 71% of total budget, an increase on 64% in the earlier period. Co-productions with final certification for October 2015-September 2016 are not shown for disclosure control reasons. There were no co-productions with final certification in the previous 12 month periods.

Table 13 Cultural test final certifications for animation programmes, rolling year, October 2013 to September 2016

	Oct 2013-Sept 2014	Oct 2014-Sept 2015	Oct 2015-Sept 2016
Number	9	36	46
UK spend £m	6.7	39.9	52.8
Total budget £m	12.5	61.9	73.9
UK spend as a % of total budget	53.9	64.4	71.4

Source BFI.

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

As stated earlier for film and HETV, interim certification gives an indication of future animation programmes production. A total of 26 animation programmes received interim certification in Q1-Q3 2016, with a UK spend of £62 million and a budget of £68 million (Table 14). In Q1-Q3 2015 fewer programmes were certified, 15 programmes, and UK spend was lower at £58 million, but budget was higher at £72 million. Co-productions that received interim certification are not shown for disclosure reasons.

Table 14 Cultural test interim certification for animation programmes, Q1-Q3 2014 - Q1-Q3 2016

Type of certification	Q1-Q3		
	2014	2015	2016
Number	22	15	26
UK spend £m	30.3	57.9	62.2
Total budget £m	36.7	72.1	68.1
UK spend as a % of total budget	82.4	80.4	91.3

Source: BFI

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

The number of cultural test animation programmes with interim certification increased from 21 programmes in the rolling year October 2014-September 2015 to 36 in October 2015-September 2016 (Table 15). UK spend and budget also increased between these periods, from £56 million and £72 million respectively to £78 million and £90 million. UK spend as a percentage of budget increased from 78% to 86%. Data for co-productions with interim certification are not shown for disclosure reasons.

Table 15 Cultural test interim certification for animation programmes, rolling year, October 2013 to September 2016

Type of certification	Oct 2013-Sept 2014	Oct 2014-Sept 2015	Oct 2015-Sept 2016
Number	29	21	36
UK spend £m	71.3	55.7	77.5
Total budget £m	87.5	71.8	90.2
UK spend as % of total budget	81.5	77.6	85.9

Source: BFI

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

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 budget³. The median budget per minute of interim cultural test certifications for Q1-Q3 2016 was £7,859, a slight increase from £7,662 for the whole of 2015 (Table 16). Median budgets peaked in 2014 at £8,202. Median budgets for co-productions are not shown for disclosure reasons.

³ 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.

Table 16 Median budgets of interim cultural test certifications

Year	Median budget per minute £
2013*	6,284
2014	8,202
2015	7,662
Q1-Q3 2016	7,859

Source: BFI

*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.

4.3 Co-production Treaties

The interim animation programmes qualifying as official co-productions in Q1-Q3 2016 were under the UK/Canada co-production treaty. For disclosure reasons, the number of co-productions qualifying under this treaty is not provided.

5. Children's television programme certifications

5.1 Certification – numbers of applications and values

In the first three quarters of 2016, 30 children's television (CTV) programmes received final certification under the cultural test. These had a UK spend of £19.5 million and total budget of £19.9 million – UK spend was just over 98% of total budget. Data for the last films certified under the cultural test in the last 12 months, October 2015-September 2016, are not shown for disclosure reasons. No CTV programmes received final certification as a co-production in this period.

As with other tax reliefs, interim certifications indicate the expected future level of official UK CTV programme production. Twenty-five programmes have received interim certification in January to September 2016, with a UK spend of £23 million and a total budget of £24 million. UK spend as a percentage of total budget was 96%. CTV co-productions with interim certification are not shown for disclosure reasons.

In the last 12 months, October 2015-September 2016, 40 CTV programmes received interim certification under the cultural test, with a UK spend of £38 million and a total budget of £43 million (UK spend being 90% of total budget). CTV co-productions with interim certification are not shown for disclosure reasons.

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 programmes⁴. The median total budget of interim cultural test CTV programmes in Q1-Q3 2016 was £2,700, up from £2,433 in 2015.

⁴ 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.

The median budget per minute for co-productions with interim certification are not reported for disclosure reasons.

5.3 Co-production treaties

In Q1-Q3 2016, the CTV co-production with interim certification were under the UK/Canada co-production treaty. Data are not shown for disclosure reasons.

6. Video Game certification

A total of 128 video games received final certification in Q1-Q3 2016 (Table 17). EEA/UK⁵ spend was £141 million and total budget was £158 million, an increase on Q1-Q3 2015. EEA/UK spend was 89% of budget, down from 95% in Q1-Q3 2015.

There are no co-production treaties for video games, as such no data are available.

Table 17 Cultural test final certification for video games, Q1-Q3 2015 and Q1-Q3 2016

Type of certification	Q1-Q3 2015	Q1-Q3 2016
Number	77	128
EEA/UK spend £m	46.6	141.2
Total budget £m	49.0	158.3
EEA/UK spend as % of total budget	95.1	89.2

Source: BFI

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

For the same period 144 video games received interim certification, with an EEA/UK spend of £304 million and a budget of £361 million (Table 18). Although, the number of video games increased since Q1-Q3 2015, both UK spend and budget had decreased. EEA/UK spend in Q1-Q3 2016 was 84% of budget. As with the other screen sectors, interim certification gives an indication of future video game development.

Table 18 Cultural test interim certification for video games, Q1-Q3 2015 and Q1-Q3 2016

Type of certification	Q1-Q3 2015	Q1-Q3 2016
Number	95	144
EEA/UK spend £m	415.2	303.9
Total budget £m	458.7	361.3
EEA/UK spend as % of total budget	90.5	84.1

Source: BFI

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

In the rolling year October 2015-September 2016, 167 video games received final certification under the cultural test, a substantial increase from 77 in the previous 12

⁵ 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.

month period (Table 19). EEA/UK spend and budget substantially increased from £32 million and £34 million respectively to £253 million and £350 million respectively.

Table 19 Cultural test final certification for video games, rolling year October 2014 to September 2016

Type of certification	Oct 2014-Sept 2015	Oct 2015-Sept 2016
Number	77	167
EEA/UK spend £m	32.2	253.1
Total budget £m	33.9	350.2
EEA/UK spend as % of total budget	95.1	72.3

Source: BFI

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

For interim certifications, 170 video games received interim certification under the cultural test in October 2015-September 2016 (Table 16). This is an increase from 113 in the previous 12 month period. EEA/UK spend in October 2015-September 2016 at £437 million was lower than EEA/UK spend in October 2014-September 2015, which was £451 million, but total budget was higher in the later period at £506 million (up from £496 million). EEA/UK spend as a percentage of total budget was 86%.

Table 20 Cultural test interim certification for video games, rolling year October 2014 to September 2016

Type of certification	Oct 2014-Sept 2015	Oct 2015-Sept 2016
Number	113	170
EEA/UK spend £m	451.4	436.7
Total budget £m	496.1	506.2
EEA/UK spend as % of total budget	91.0	86.3

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 for interim certifications was £0.4 million in Q1-Q3 2016, down from £0.6 million for the whole of 2015.

Table 21 Median budgets of interim cultural test certifications

Year	Median budget £m
2014*	0.2
2015	0.6
Q1-Q3 2016	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.

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 programmes, CTV 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 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 or supply in the case of video games) 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, 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, 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, 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, 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, animation programmes or CTV 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 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 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 programme, CTV programme 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
Carol Comley, Head of Film Policy, BFI
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