



Culture, Media and Sport Committee

Wednesday, 20 May 2026

Priya Dogra
Chief Executive
Channel 4
(by email)

Dear Priya,

The Committee is concerned about the reports in the Panorama episode, broadcast on 18 May 2025⁶, about the Channel 4 reality programme, Married at First Sight, made by CPL Productions. Panorama made some very serious allegations, drawing on wider research by academics at Aston University, about the extent to which broadcasters and programme makers are meeting their duty of care towards participants in reality television.

I note that you have commissioned both Lorraine Heggessey and Clyde and Co to conduct reviews into different aspects of the issues raised about Married at First Sight. Nevertheless, the Committee has some immediate questions to which we would be grateful for your response.

1. Do you accept you have a duty of care to participants on Married at First Sight? Do you accept that this duty falls on you as much as on the programme makers?
2. What is the process by which participants on Married at First Sight can raise complaints about their experience on the programme? Does the process involve Channel 4 or CPL or both?
3. According to the Panorama report, Channel 4 was aware of some of the allegations before the shows were broadcast. When did Channel 4 first become aware of the allegations made in the Panorama programme relating to Married at First Sight? Why did you go ahead with broadcast in these circumstances?
4. What steps did Channel 4 take on hearing about the allegations to ensure they were fully investigated?
5. You [are reported to have told Panorama](#) that the allegations were “wholly uncorroborated and disputed”. Why was your initial response so dismissive?



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6. When will the reviews by Lorraine Heggessey and Clyde and Co. be completed? Please can you keep the Committee updated on emerging findings?
7. The research from Aston University that the Panorama documentary draws on raises issues about the duty of care to participants in reality TV more generally. In light of the reports about Married at First Sight, what are you doing to assure yourself that the duty of care has been met on other reality programmes commissioned by Channel 4?

I would be grateful for a response to these points by Monday 1 June.

Yours sincerely,

Dame Caroline Dinenage MP
Chair, Culture, Media and Sport Committee