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Mr Pete Wishart MP
Chair, Scottish Affairs Committee
House of Commons
London

By e-mail

Dear Pete,

Here at BBC Scotland, we read with interest Channel 4's recent submission to the Scottish Affairs Committee, and in particular their statement that "O&O research shows Channel 4 spent the most, £171m, with independent companies in the Nations and Regions. This comfortably out invested the BBC (£144m) and ITV (£77m)." In Channel 4's letter, they reference the O&O PACT 2020 Nations & Regions Annex, alongside some further analysis for Channel 4 carried out by O&O.

While of course we don't have access to analysis carried out for Channel 4 directly, I am pleased to share with the Committee a copy of the [O&O PACT 2020 Nations & Regions Annex](#), which is in the public domain. As you will note on page 7, O&O found that in the period covered by the research, of the total revenue spent with independent production companies out of London in the Nations and Regions, 29% of the total was spent by the BBC, and 17% by Channel 4. The 17% figure for Channel 4 is broadly consistent with their total spend of £177m with out of London independent production companies, as stated in their letter to you. The 29% figure for the BBC represents a spend of over £250m with out of London independent production companies. The BBC has consistently spent more with out of London independent production companies in the Nations and Regions than any other broadcaster in 2019 and 2020, and as the Committee will be aware, is committed to further increasing out of London activity as part of the Across the UK plans announced in March 2021.

With kind regards,

Luke.
Encl.

Luke McCullough
Parliamentary & Corporate Affairs Manager