

SUMMARY

BBC Scotland's aim remains to provide high quality and distinctive programmes that reflect the interests of audiences in Scotland. We face significant reductions in our spend and will have to take some tough decisions. In doing so we will safeguard the output which is most valued by our audiences and which best fulfils our role as Scotland's national public service broadcaster.

We will prioritise high quality peak time content which meets the five editorial priorities, News, Knowledge, Comedy & Drama, Children's and Events, and on content and services which are distinctive.

As one of the BBC's five creative UK centres, BBC Scotland will make more network TV content for a UK-wide audience continuing to build on progress made so far.

BBC Scotland has a track record of operating efficiently and will continue to exploit and develop the significant investment already made in technology and through new ways of working.

The financial challenge to deliver our ambition will be tough. Our target is to achieve a reduction of 16% of the BBC Scotland budget by the end of the Charter period.

FURTHER INFORMATION

NEWS AND CURRENT AFFAIRS

Providing the best journalism for our audiences in Scotland remains a key editorial priority and in our plan we will protect and enhance the quality of our core News and Current Affairs output across all platforms. We will refresh the coverage of politics in Scotland and make some limited reductions in some areas of our output.

RADIO

BBC Radio Scotland's programme strategy has been based on detailed audience analysis and has been endorsed by the BBC Trust in the recent service licence review. We will offer distinctive quality programming for adults in Scotland and a schedule that contrasts with commercial radio and other BBC radio services available to listeners in Scotland. We will continue to invest in quality speech for our daytime schedule and will extend the amount of news and current affairs programming in peak hours. We remain committed to programming reflecting Scottish culture, leisure and lifestyles – this will include comedy, drama, documentaries, sport, Music, and conversation formats. We will look hard at areas where we can share content across BBC Radio and look at where we can reduce costs in non peak-time listening.

On BBC Radio nan Gàidheal we will protect core news and feature output with a reduction of non-news live programming. A review of the station's schedule is underway to achieve its savings.

NETWORK SUPPLY REVIEW

While network production budgets are reduced in London and parts of England, we expect to meet the 8.6% target for network television programmes to be produced across Scotland, earlier than 2016 and exceed it by the end of the Charter.

This new output will be accompanied by measures to increase portrayal and representation of the whole country, in part through seeding more programme development funding across the UK.

We will bring more television programming and radio output made specifically for Scotland, to network audiences with a new strategy for Nations opt-out programming in general. There is significant scope to bring more Scottish output to audiences around the UK.

BBC Scotland will become a major centre for Arts network production. The Head of Arts network production for the whole of the UK will be based in Scotland.

HIGH DEFINITION TELEVISION

BBC One Scotland will launch in HD in 2012 across all platforms, in line with the network. This represents an investment of £2m for audiences in Scotland. BBC Two Scotland will be maintained in SD until at least 2015 while we review its long-term future. However, we are committed to maintaining the range and quality of the television output we currently provide in Scotland.

RADIO DISTRIBUTION

Radio distribution on analogue and digital will be the subject of a cost:benefit review. MW is being retained to ensure Scotland-wide coverage. There will be further investment in DAB for Radio Scotland and Radio nan Gàidheal.

ONLINE

Nations' editions of the most popular BBC websites will be launched over the next two years, starting with the homepage in summer 2012.

FINANCIAL AND OTHER INFORMATION

BBC Scotland's target is to achieve a budget reduction of 16% by 2016/17. That 16% is calculated against a baseline of £102m, resulting in reductions of £16.1m.

We believe that these reductions will lead to the closure of between 100 and 120 posts between 2012/13 – 2016/17; and we will also need to close around 20 further posts to achieve the savings we need to make for the final year of the 5 year Continuous Improvement programme (2012/13). See figures in box below*

We have prioritised peak content across all services as far as possible. Whilst peak and radio content will face efficiency targets, the bulk of the reduction in programmes will happen off peak.

We will ensure that the majority of savings will be sourced from improved productivity measures that have least impact on our content and services.

About 6% of the 16% DQF budget reduction will be delivered by scope reductions in content areas. The remaining 10% will come from productivity savings in content areas and efficiency measures in our non-content areas.

PRODUCTIVITY

We are in a strong position to start, because BBC Scotland has a track record of operating efficiently. We have been successful in reducing our spend through investment in new technology and new ways of working which are represented by Pacific Quay. We can build on that experience and exploit that technology, aiming for collaborative and effective ways of working across all our departments.

We will make further reductions in our spend on overheads. We will make sure we are getting maximum utilisation from our property and studio facilities. We will make savings through leaner, flatter management structures.

SAVINGS
£16.1m*

POST CLOSURES*
100 - 120

RELATED PROPOSALS

INTERDEPENDENCIES - ACROSS THE DIVISIONS

Link to key highlights from other divisions and initiatives:

- ◆ Creative UK – nations' position within the wider BBC
- ◆ Highlights from Vision, Audio & Music, News and Future Media
- ◆ The Way we Work
- ◆ Property Strategy

* Savings shown are based on estimated 2016/2017 figures