



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Lord Hall of Birkenhead
Director-General of the BBC
Broadcasting House
Portland Place
London
W1A 1AA

Our Ref: AM1539
16 February 2017

Dear Lord Hall

I write to add my support for increased investment in BBC ALBA, which, since its launch in 2008 has greatly contributed to the promotion of the Gaelic language and I am in no doubt that with increased investment BBC ALBA will continue to grow.

As MP for Na h-Eileanan an Iar, I am conscious of the benefits BBC ALBA has brought particularly to the Gaelic language and the economy. With a 74% repeat rate it is evident that BBC ALBA requires additional investment and therefore, I fully support calls for the BBC to increase its contribution to BBC ALBA to 10 hours a week, equivalent to the in-house contribution by the BBC to the Welsh language channel S4C.

It is also important that the BBC is seen to be consistent and have a coherent approach to its indigenous minority language services.

I trust that you will give serious consideration to increasing the investment in BBC ALBA which will assist this channel to grow and that we can all continue to enjoy high quality programmes in Gaelic.

Yours sincerely

Angus B MacNeil MP
Na h-Eileanan an Iar

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