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Annual report
& statement
of accounts



MG ALBA Vision

That Gaelic media is recognised
universally for creativity,
innovation and the highest standards

MISSION

- ✦ Our promise is to inspire and encourage through Gaelic and media
- ✦ Bringing Gaelic to you

VALUES

- ✦ Our audience is our inspiration
- ✦ We strive always to achieve excellence in our work
- ✦ We treat everyone with fairness, openness & integrity
- ✦ We respect and support one another
- ✦ Teamwork and partnership are at the heart of what we do
- ✦ MG ALBA puts the audience first



Seaforth Road
Stornoway
Isle of Lewis
HS1 2SD

26 June 2019

Lord Burns
Chairman
Ofcom
Riverside House
2A Southwark Bridge Road
LONDON
SE1 9HA

Dear Lord Burns

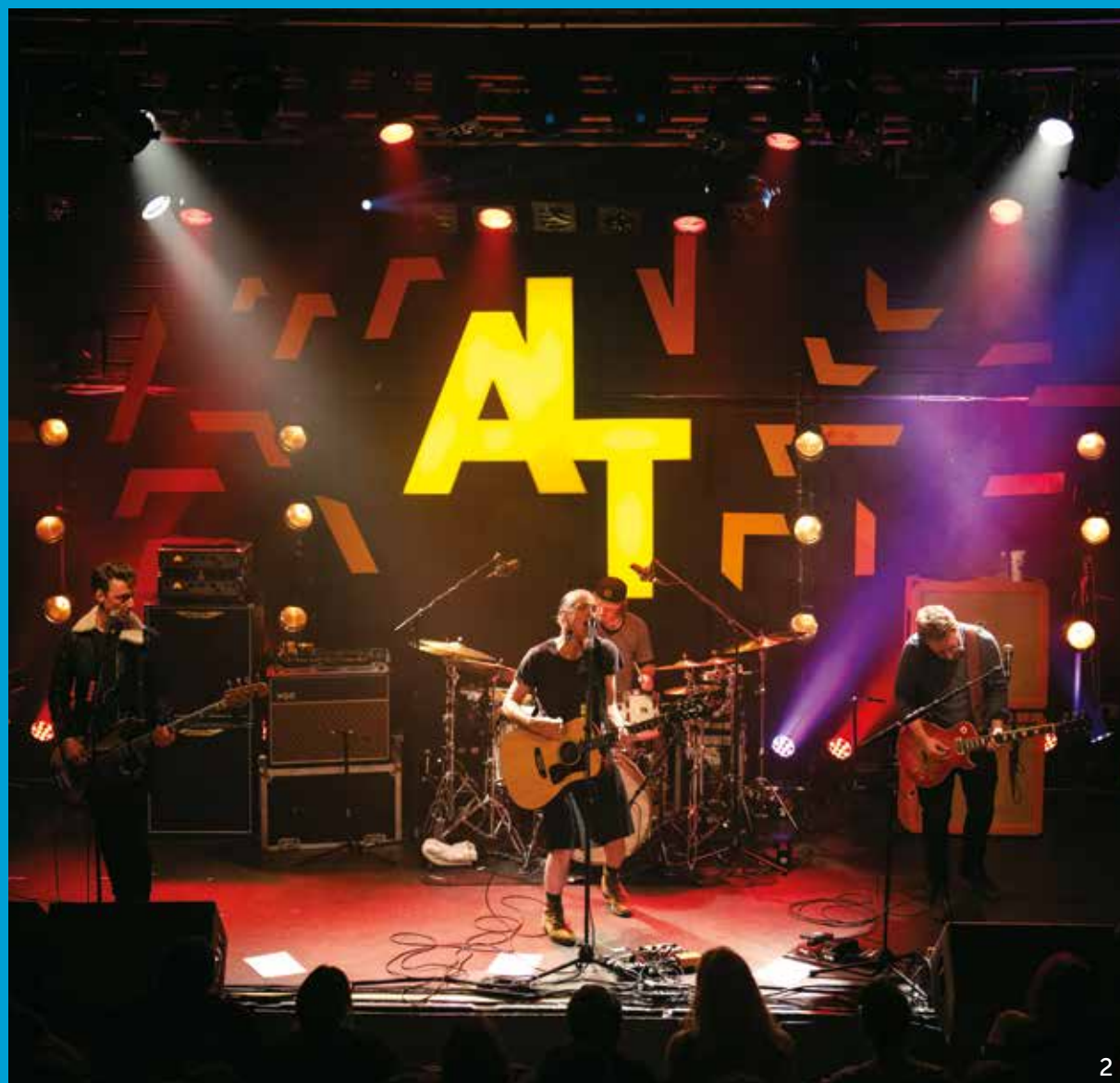
Annual Report and Accounts

In accordance with Schedule 19 (12) of the Broadcasting Act 1990, I enclose the Annual Report of Seirbheis nam Meadhanan Gàidhlig (Gaelic Media Service) and the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2019.

Le dùrachd

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Allan MacDonald'.

Allan MacDonald
CHAIR



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The channel's approval rating with the Gaelic audience has increased once more to 8.4 (out of 10)

2018-19 saw BBC ALBA reach its 10th birthday

Chair's Message

I was delighted to be appointed as Chair of MG ALBA – Scotland's Gaelic Media Service – with effect from January 2019. After only a few months in post it is clear to me that colleagues at MG ALBA, both staff and Board, have worked successfully and diligently to ensure the continued broadcasting of a wide and diverse range of high-quality programmes in Gaelic on BBC ALBA.

The pace of change is fast and MG ALBA has adapted quickly in order to do more within existing resources. I am gratified that this has led to early successes in the digital sphere, particularly with younger Gaelic audiences on digital platforms who – despite competition for their attention – are finding that our content is relevant, useful and inspiring. This is our core purpose.

In November 2018, at a special event held in Dover House in London (hosted by Baron Duncan of Springbank), we were very pleased to celebrate, with our valued partners and

colleagues in the BBC, 10 highly successful years for the BBC ALBA television channel. Nevertheless, the overall framework for Gaelic media provision urgently needs to be reviewed and invigorated. The existing funding settlement, which has no long-term security, will not be sufficient to meet the public service rights of those we serve or to fully address the challenges ahead of us. Even as it currently stands, it is only capable of sustaining 25% of the schedule as first-run programmes. This is in stark contrast to the new BBC Scotland channel to which the BBC has made a commitment that no more than 50% of its output will comprise of repeats.

Consequently, MG ALBA will invite the BBC, Ofcom, the Scottish Government and the UK Government to engage in a dialogue aimed at reaching a new settlement for Gaelic broadcasting. The licence fee settlement for the BBC is venture capital for the nation's culture. As part of our engagement, we will encourage the BBC to be open and transparent about the principles and protocol on which it bases its allocation of resources to Gaelic broadcasting, and how it ensures parity of approach between the indigenous minority languages which are part of its overall cultural responsibility across the UK.

The annual subvention from the Scottish Government has been vital to the success of BBC ALBA, both as a broadcaster and as a creator of economic opportunity in fragile communities. Within this new settlement also we will seek from government that it moves away from a year-to-year allocation of financial support to MG ALBA to establishing a longer-

term commitment (at least for the duration of the current BBC Charter) to enable MG ALBA to extend its horizon with confidence to vigorously embrace the fast changing arena of digital content distribution and innovation.

In the meantime, we very much welcome the addition by the BBC of weekend news and as-live children's presentation in the early evening BBC ALBA schedule. This, and the inclusion of new comedy for the first time in many years, was evidence of the creativity of producers and the resourcefulness of the partners. Important public service priorities however remain unfulfilled, including an urgent need to create new multi-platform language learning content and more content for younger viewers.

We look forward also to a schedule of delivery in regard to the BBC's ambition, announced publicly two years ago in 2017, of up to 100 hours of additional programmes per year for BBC ALBA coming in the wake of the new BBC Scotland channel investment.



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News was available seven days a week for the first time,

It is disappointing that after 10 years of success in programme-making, BBC ALBA remains technically disadvantaged in that it is broadcast with lower picture quality than other public service channels. The contrast in service provision with the new BBC Scotland channel is especially remarkable in sports coverage – where the BBC's English language output in Scotland is in High Definition (HD) picture quality but its Gaelic language output is delivered only in Standard Definition (SD). There is no acceptable basis for Gaelic speaking viewers to have a second-class service.

Audiences of the future, particularly younger audiences who are increasingly accessing content on non-linear platforms, will expect to find their content and engage with it in ways that are technologically enabled.

With BBC ALBA having celebrated 10 successful years in September 2018, it is evident that the work that lies ahead will be greater than that which has already been accomplished. With the BBC, we must address the challenges of discoverability of Gaelic media content, so that our content is more easily and more frequently surfaced than is currently the case. In that context, it is a source of disappointment that iPlayer viewings have continued to diminish while there has been impressive growth of Gaelic short-form content viewing on social media platforms.

The Scottish Government's *Faster Rate of Progress* initiative for the revitalisation of the Gaelic language instils a further urgency into our work and that of our partners in Gaelic media, the BBC. We support this work in particular through our FilmG and LearnGaelic initiatives, as well as through a variety of other projects aimed at fostering digital participation in and usage of Gaelic through media.

Our partners in the production sector continue to be the heart of creative renewal and service delivery. There has been a significant number of compelling programmes, gaining high audience approval and critical acclaim, and I congratulate all producers and contributors who make BBC ALBA a highly appreciated

service. It was pleasing to see younger audiences reacting so positively to the comedy and drama series, *Func and Bannan*, as well as to the channel's 2018 festive schedule, which was especially strong. A special word of appreciation goes to my colleagues at MG ALBA, the BBC and in the creative sector who did so much to commemorate the final year of the Great War, especially the tragic events of 1918 and New Year's Day 1919 in Islay and Lewis. Special mention should be made also of the six nominations for the Celtic Media Festival Awards and the seven nominations for the RTS Scotland Awards, both to be held in June 2019.

Producers are also driving forward with increasing numbers of high value content collaborations, both domestically and on the international front. These offer great content for Gaelic audiences at the same time as supporting the growth of the creative sector and ultimately creating sustainable businesses and jobs.

The success of BBC ALBA depends on great dedication, skill and hard work from our own staff and the many independent companies and BBC programme makers who deliver our content. I am very grateful to all of them for their important contribution to the channel, as well as the other important areas such as FilmG and LearnGaelic.

I am also much indebted to the wisdom, expertise and commitment of the Board of MG ALBA. I pay special tribute to Maggie Cunningham, who stepped down as Chairperson at the end of September 2018 and to Catriona MacPhee who left the Board in November 2018, and I look forward to welcoming Marion Sinclair to the Board in June 2019.

Ceud mìle taing dhuibh uile.

Performance of LearnGaelic showed continued growth. Page views of the website were up 12% to 2.5m page views, sessions were up 12% to 862k, and users up 4% to 294k



MG ALBA invested some £479k in co-financed programmes with a total value of £4.2m

Chief Executive's Review

It is a pleasure to report on MG ALBA's financial and business performance in the year ended 31 March 2019.

The media sector in which we operate continued to evolve rapidly both globally and locally. Video-on-demand and social media brands offer increasing choice to users of Gaelic. In that context, we were pleased that viewer appreciation and awareness of Gaelic media content remains high, and that there was strong growth in Gaelic digital engagement among that demographic who least use linear channels.

February saw the launch of a new BBC channel aimed at viewers in Scotland. Viewership of BBC ALBA remained strong, however, with the channel recording a growth in weekly reach in Scotland in each of the first three months of 2019, as compared to the same period in 2018. This followed a noticeable increase in viewership by the 16-44 core audience in the weeks leading up to Christmas, driven largely by drama and comedy. These results demonstrate that demand for high-quality Gaelic content is strong, and that both our strategies and the content produced by our creative partners will be highly successful if adequately funded, as set out in more detail in the *BBC ALBA Review*.

The year saw the first co-commission between the two channels BBC Scotland and BBC ALBA, which will result in Solus Productions creating Gaelic and English content on the same core theme for the autumn schedules of both channels. Unfortunately, viewers will notice a significant difference in picture quality between the English-language and the Gaelic-language programmes, with the new BBC Scotland channel broadcasting in HD and BBC ALBA in SD. MG ALBA will continue to press the BBC to provide HD broadcast for BBC ALBA.

We continue to experience significant audience challenge for our Gaelic media on the BBC's iPlayer platform, where promotional spend and ease-of-discovery favour big-budget, English-language content, resulting in a further fall in iPlayer long-form viewings for Gaelic content last year. This trend is somewhat offset by an encouraging rise in engagement and short-form viewing on other non-linear digital platforms.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

In 2018-19, MG ALBA contributed some £12.4m of content to BBC ALBA, an increase of some £1.3m on the previous year. This increase was largely due to a higher volume of original programming being broadcast during the financial year, of which a proportion included higher value programme genres such as comedy and drama.

In the same period the BBC introduced weekend news to BBC ALBA and transformed children's output by contributing daily short-form output under the CBeebies ALBA and CBBC ALBA brands in place of its long-form programming for the same demographic.

MG ALBA invested some £479k in co-financed programmes with a total value of £4.2m. Co-investment is an ever-greater priority, and the year 2019-20 will see more activity in this domain as our creative sector seeks to access the British Film Institute's Young Audiences Fund and Creative Scotland's Broadcast Content Fund.

The BBC's and MG ALBA's contributions allowed for 1.9 hours of daily first-run content on BBC ALBA, compared with 1.8 hours of first-run content per day in the previous year.

The financial year to 31 March 2019 saw a fall in other income, from £285k to £236k, due to the end of a cost-recovery agreement for programming shared with BBC Scotland.

The financial results show a deficit of £19.4k, reflecting movements in fixed assets and productions to be transmitted and is therefore the net result of the depreciation charge, capital expenditure and movements in working capital.



We are completely indebted to the highly creative community who make our Gaelic programmes.

ACHIEVEMENTS

MG ALBA's most important key performance indicators for the year were all met, other than iPlayer viewings and a marginal underperformance as against expectation of the weekly core audience reach of the linear channel.

MG ALBA was named by Broadcast as one of the "Best Places to Work in TV 2019". The organisation also achieved Investors in Young People Gold standard and Investors in People Silver standard. While the awards are satisfying, it is a credit to colleagues that they are more interested in feedback that enables the organisation to improve on its strengths and address its development needs.

I was absolutely delighted that MG ALBA was successful in securing rights for Scotland's women's international rugby and football, and so began positioning BBC ALBA as the "home of women's sport in Scotland". Scotland's matches in the Women's Football World Cup in June 2019 will be shown on BBC ALBA. MG ALBA also became title sponsor of the Scottish Women's Football Annual Awards.

The ongoing growth of LearnGaelic and FilmG, our partnership language learning resource and our digital media participation project, provided further evidence of the significant latent demand that exists for digital participation opportunities in Gaelic. Both enjoyed their highest ever levels of engagement, and we expect this trend to continue.

THANKS

We continue to enjoy strong support from our funder, the Scottish Government, with committed funding to March 2020. The encouragement we have received from both ministers and civil servants at the Scottish Government is hugely important for us, and we are very grateful for their long-term support.

We will continue to work with them and other partners to enable the revitalisation of Gaelic under the *Faster Rate of Progress* project, an initiative sponsored by the Deputy First Minister to accelerate implementation of the National Gaelic Language Plan by public bodies. In our outputs, we will place particular emphasis on improving provision for young people, children and learners, fostering writing talent and continuing to internationalise our creative sector.

I would like to thank the staff and Board of MG ALBA for their unstinting loyalty and dedication. They are highly ambitious, highly motivated and extremely hard working. Their work includes negotiating and securing deals, drawing up contracts and securing clearances and consents, commissioning and scheduling content, creating and distributing short-form content for BBC ALBA presentation, LearnGaelic and social media, media quality control, media management and archiving, project cashflowing, studio and facilities management and post-production. Last year it included also producing the FilmG Awards highlights for BBC ALBA and facilitating BBC's *The One Show*'s visit to the Hebrides. Supporting all of those efforts and making them happen with good governance, financial discipline and practical efficiency are

IT, corporate, finance, administration and Board member colleagues – each of whom plays an invaluable role in delivery of the entire remit.

We continue to benefit from an excellent and productive partnership with the BBC and we extend our deep appreciation to all BBC staff engaged in partnership with us.

We work with many other bodies in productive alliances, and we thank them all. They include Cànan Graphics Studio (CGS), whose excellent work on FilmG is much appreciated by us, and Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Creative Scotland, Comhairle nan Leabhraichean, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig (UHI), Skills Development Scotland, the Celtic departments of Glasgow, Edinburgh and Aberdeen universities, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Scottish Enterprise, Scottish Development International and the Producers Alliance for Cinema and Television.

Finally, we are completely indebted to the highly creative community who make our Gaelic programmes. We thank each and every person who worked off-screen or appeared on-screen for their hard work, dedication, talent and professionalism.

Viewers and users of Gaelic media are at the heart of what we are about: it is a privilege for us to be able to serve each and every one of you.



Activities & Business Review

The remit of MG ALBA is to ensure that persons living in Scotland are provided with a wide and diverse range of high-quality programmes in Gaelic.

MG ALBA fulfils its remit principally through BBC ALBA, the Gaelic television and multi-media service which it operates in partnership with the BBC. MG ALBA and the BBC have entered into a collaboration agreement that sets out

the terms on which the two organisations run BBC ALBA, and the resources that they provide to the project. The partnership is overseen by a Joint Management Board, chaired by the Chief Executive of MG ALBA.

BOARD & COMMITTEES

In 2018-19, the MG ALBA Board met on six occasions. Maggie Cunningham chaired the meetings until 30 September 2018 when she retired from the Board. Allan Macdonald took over the post of Chair on 1 January 2019, with Jo Macdonald chairing the meetings in the interim period.

The main areas addressed by the Board included a review of policies; concluding the review of MG ALBA's risk management procedures; accountability to, and engagement with, key stakeholders, including Ofcom, the Scottish Government and the UK Government; considering recommendations on potential resource sharing with the new BBC Scotland channel; progress on key strategic content projects; strategies to secure commitments from the BBC and from funders to fulfil ambitions that will require additional resources over the coming years and a review of genre provision, particularly comedy and drama strands.

The Audit & Assurance Committee met on four occasions, under the chairmanship of David Brew. The Committee instigated the agreed diet of four internal audits over the coming four years commencing with an examination of MG ALBA's social media policies and procedures and recommended to the Board new risk management procedures following the conclusions of a risk management internal audit.

The Committee also reviewed and updated the Environmental Policy; the Health & Safety Policy; the Procurement Policy & Scheme of Tendering and the Members' Code of Conduct. It reviewed the Board members' training plan; oversaw the implementation of the new GDPR legislation; reviewed MG ALBA's service provision contracts and reviewed the staffing structure and approved remuneration arrangements in line with Scottish Government pay policy.

The Standards Committee met on four occasions, under the chairmanship of Jo MacDonald and Iain Stephen Morrison, in order to review BBC ALBA programme genres, language content in programmes and MG ALBA's contribution to radio. The Committee also welcomed presentations from three production companies; considered MG ALBA's social media presence; training, skills and talent within the Gaelic sector and MG ALBA's investment in youth programming and radio.

The Nominations Committee met twice in the year, in May 2018 under the chairmanship of Maggie Cunningham and in January 2019 under the chairmanship of Allan Macdonald. The Committee considered the Board's skills matrix and agreed to engage with Ofcom to ensure that the appropriate skills and knowledge base are sought to enhance the Board's skills through new membership.

FUNDING

During the year additional funding was received from the Scottish Government which enabled the purchase of studio equipment for digital media storage and digital engagement; the update of BBC ALBA's on-screen idents; participation in international co-productions; training for FilmG participants and the upgrading of the facilities in the Stornoway base.

FINANCIAL & OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE

In 2018-19 MG ALBA spent £9.3m directly with 25 different production companies on the creation of 412 hours of programmes. Of that, £8.8m was spent with the independent production sector, much of it in tandem with a package of measures intended to foster the development of talent, skills and Gaelic language.

The year saw income for MG ALBA of £13.6m (2018: £13.8m), of which £13.4m (2018: £13.5m) came from Scottish Government grant-in-aid and £251.8k (2018: £348.5k) came from project funding and charges for services and facilities.

The end-of-year Statement of Comprehensive Income reported a deficit after taxation of £19.4k compared with a surplus of £20.2k in 2018. This reflects movements in fixed assets and productions to be transmitted and is therefore the net result of the depreciation charge, capital expenditure and movements in working capital.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The Digital Hub, which was established in 2017-18, continues to be successful in attracting younger consumers of content, particularly Facebook, by providing short-form video pieces on non-tv platforms appealing to the section of the audience most likely to consume non-linear content.

LearnGaelic, supported by Bòrd na Gàidhlig and with guidance from the University of Glasgow, continued its success as a Gaelic learning resource appointing two full-time staff to expand on the digital framework established in 2017-18 for the creation of audio-visual resources, and funding two scholarships with the Glasgow School of Art's

The long-term volume deals entered into in 2017-18 continue to provide the backbone of the BBC ALBA schedule, supplying 88% of MG ALBA funded original hours broadcast in the year.

The end-of-year Statement of Financial Position shows programmes in stock or in production of £3.75m (2018: £4.40m) and year end cash reserves of £75.3k (2018: £37.8k), both in line with policy. Significant future commitments of £14.6m over three years are also disclosed this year. These represent mainly multi-annual programme supply contracts agreed in the first half of 2017 and which will last until 2020 or 2021.

In the year, MG ALBA's channel operations and presentation teams delivered 100 hours of junctions and around 443 hours of broadcast-compliant media to BBC ALBA playout, as well as supporting productions and events such as FilmG.

MSc in Serious Games and Virtual Reality, offering paid internships for both students.

MG ALBA continued to offer development opportunities for young people and others to make the transition into industry and for content creators to access continuing professional development. MG ALBA's contribution in priority skills areas included two apprenticeships in digital media, a scholarship to Caledonian University's MA in TV Fiction Writing and industry placements for students.

All new content produced for BBC ALBA was produced in HD and delivered as Digital Production Partnership (DPP) specification

video files, the standard delivery format for UK broadcasters. SD tape content is being redelivered as DPP specification files. All channel interstitial material was produced and delivered as HD content. Due to the disposable nature of interstitial material it was not necessary to fully comply with the metadata requirements of the DPP specification. However the production workstream is such that should this become a requirement in the future MG ALBA will not need to amend its processes.

MG ALBA is currently developing automated workflows for the transcoding and delivery of video content to the new BBC ALBA YouTube channels and looking at methods to increase the level of automation in our interstitial assembly process.

The annual FilmG competition continued to support media participation in schools and communities. The awards ceremony for FilmG, held in the Old Fruitmarket in Glasgow in February 2019, showcased the skill, talent and linguistic ability of young people from a wide range of communities, schools, colleges and universities.

In March 2019 Kate Forbes MSP visited the MG ALBA headquarters in Stornoway. She was given a tour of the facilities where she got the opportunity to meet creative staff, talk with our modern apprentices and other young colleagues, and learn about the processes involved in content creation and delivery for BBC ALBA, the forthcoming YouTube channels and social media.

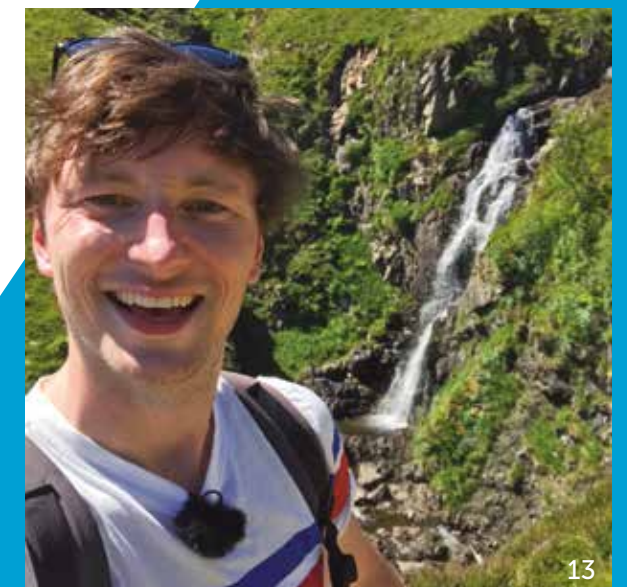
In 2018-19 MG ALBA spent £9.3m directly with 25 different production companies on the creation of 412 hours of programmes.



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Objectives & Outcomes

Delivering Lèirsinn 2021

Investors in People: Silver accreditation under the new Generation 6 framework

Investors in Young People: Gold accreditation

Best Place to Work in Broadcast in 2019: Third successive year

Cbeebies ALBA / CBBC ALBA launched: Delivered by BBC for BBC ALBA

User-generated content: Steady and encouraging start to an initiative to foster new content creators in communities

Writing: Continued support of high-quality writing development initiatives, including Young Films Foundation Residency

Digital archive: Agreement reached with partner for digital archive of MG ALBA funded content

National Gaelic Plan: Supporting the Faster Rate of Progress initiative in realm of digital participation and learning

BBC ALBA Agreement: The planned renewal of the formal agreement was deferred

SpeakGaelic: Proposals for new language learning output were not yet funded

International viewership: The provision of access to overseas viewers was not delivered

Serving our Audience

In partnership with the BBC, deliver a high quality Gaelic language television channel to audiences in Scotland as a PSB service for users of Gaelic and as a valuable and useful resource to non-users of Gaelic

Reach of BBC ALBA: Scotland wide weekly reach of BBC ALBA was 10.3% (PY: 11.3%)

Approval of BBC ALBA: Scotland-wide was 7.5 (out of 10) (PY: 7.4); Gaelic audience was 8.5 (PY: 8.3)

Awareness of BBC ALBA: Scotand-wide 83% (PY: 84%)

Agreement with attitudinal statements: Gaelic audience agreement was 8.2 (out of 10)

Instagram: Successful launch and increasing impact

Social media engagement and reach: 2.6m content views (PY: 1.24m) = 110% growth

Comedy: New brand, Func, established

Off-screen engagement: Increased number of screenings

Awards: Sùlaisgeir (MacTV) – Certificate of Merit Chicago International Television Festival; nominated The Grierson Awards and Scandinavian International Film Festival

YouTube: The new YouTube channels will start in Autumn 2019

Reach of BBC ALBA: Core audience reach was 59% (PY: 62%) – against target of 60%

LearnGaelic: +10% increase in traffic – against target of 25%

iPlayer: 3.9m (PY: 4.1m) – against target of 5m

Development and Engagement

Build effective networks and implement engagement strategies that will grow a successful and creative Gaelic media ecology

- Co-productions:** £800k investment yielding £5m value over 3 years, and Celtic International Fund established
- Pooling and Club arrangements:** EBU Children's drama continuing; Pro14 rugby ceased
- Talent:** Evidence of emerging writer and directors: (e.g. Func and Bannan)
- FilmG:** Most successful year ever for participation
- Student placement/apprenticeships:** 6 summer students; 2 modern apprentices; 5 student industry placements; 2 LearnGaelic MSc scholarships/interns
- Engagement:** Highest ever number of community events, and significant growth in ugc content



Foundation Apprenticeship: Scheme agreed and due to start in Uist & Barra in 19/20 academic year



Operations

Ensure MG ALBA's broadcast and IT systems and workflow outputs meet channel and business requirements at all times

- Network upgrade complete:** Full resilience built in between both buildings
- Delivery:** Programmes and junctions delivered 100% compliant and complete
- Archive:** Successful commencement of content upload to Gaelic archive of National Library of Scotland
- Efficiencies:** Internal workflow efficiencies implemented (subtitling)
- Business continuity:** Successful tests, no issues



Finance & Administration

Ensure MG ALBA's financial, legal, contractual and organisational affairs are effectively managed and accounted for and that all expenditure represents value for money; and develop new revenue streams and project-based funding

- Budget compliance:** Fulfilled
- Efficiencies:** Maintained
- Key financial indicators:** Met
- Health & Safety:** Compliance
- Environmental policy:** Compliance



Terms of Trade: To be refreshed at the appropriate time





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*It was pleasing to see younger audiences reacting so positively to the comedy and drama series, **Func** and **Bannan***

BBC ALBA Review

The financial year 2018-19 saw BBC ALBA reach its 10th birthday – a significant milestone for the channel. It was marked by several exciting initiatives which signalled a bolder, more contemporary positioning for the channel – the launch of CBeebies ALBA and CBBC ALBA, a new look for the channel's idents and a new sports proposition in the form of women's sport. The channel's first sketch comedy series was broadcast, driving significantly increased presence on non-linear platforms, in addition to linear audiences. In January 2019, we marked the 100th anniversary of the Iolair tragedy with sensitivity and creativity.

Like all linear channels, BBC ALBA faces the challenge of declining audiences, in particular, younger audiences. Despite this extremely challenging environment, coupled with the very high repeat rate caused by significant underfunding of the channel, average weekly reach Scotland wide was 10% and weekly reach with the Gaelic population was 59%.

The channel's approval rating with the Gaelic audience has increased once more to 8.4 (out of 10) – its highest since the channel launched.

Approval among the national audience too was up year on year at 7.5 (out of 10).

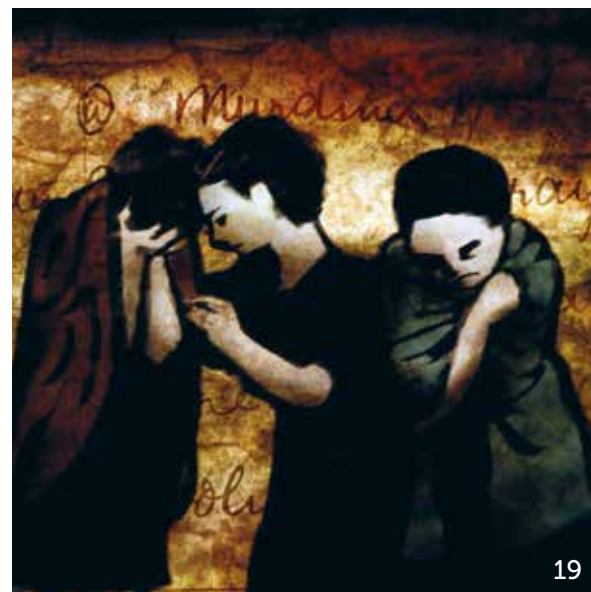
Efforts to invest in content for younger audiences and to use that content on other platforms has proven successful: one short sketch alone from **Func (The Woven Thread)** saw BBC ALBA double its Facebook reach. The series also created almost 5% of unique reach among 16-44 year olds on the linear channel – meaning around 5% of that age group were reached by **Func** alone.

BBC iPlayer views were 3.9m for the year, and there were a total of 2.6m views on BBC ALBA Twitter and Facebook over the course of the

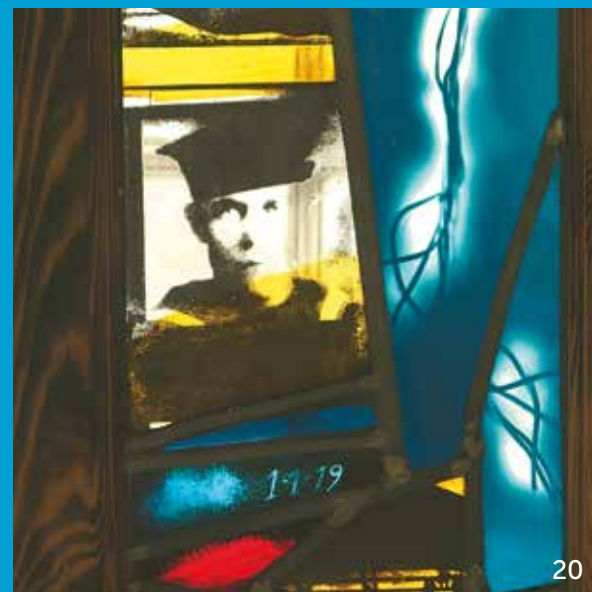




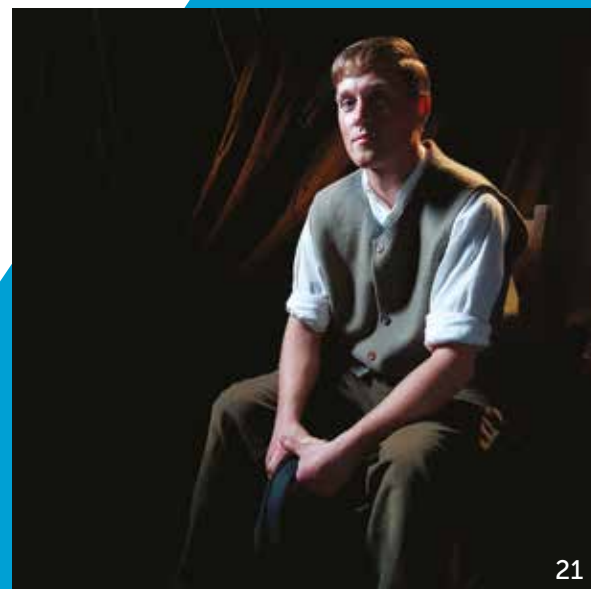
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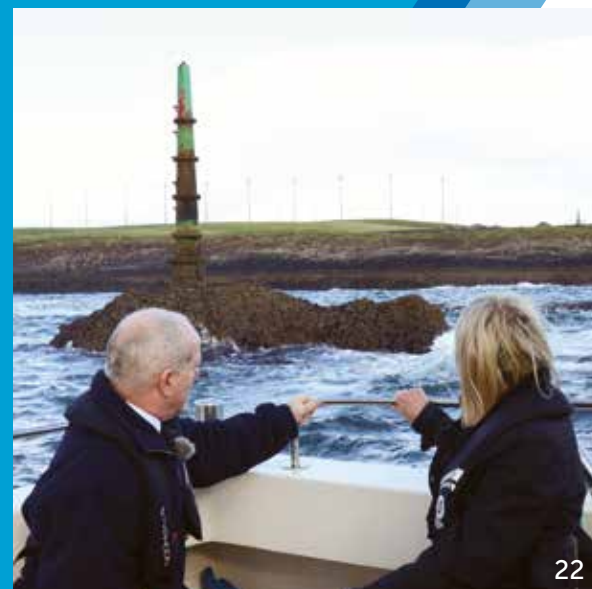
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financial year. The average weekly reach for BBC ALBA Facebook is 63,000. As well as in **Func**, the increasingly multiplatform approach to content was manifest in live programming, for example music and sport, where the use of live in-programme clips, and social media content around live events, continues to drive traffic to the channel and simultaneously generate engagement in social media. Particular highlights of this were Oban Gaelic Choir's rendition of a Niteworks version of the song *Am Maraiche 's a Leannan* at the Royal National Mod, which generated a Facebook reach of 107,000. Others include our sports coverage: for example the Albania game, which saw the Scotland Women's National team qualify for the FIFA Women's World Cup, saw a Twitter reach of 49,500. In addition to non-linear content derived from channel content, BBC ALBA's Digital Hub originates non-linear content too, with the Christmas showcase of *Oidhche Shàmhach/Silent Night* generating a total Facebook reach of 112,000.

New talent was showcased in a number of programmes: in writing **Func** saw 100 original sketches, 29 writers/writing partnerships, of which 10 Gaelic writers were new to TV. 13 writers came through the BBC Writersroom Scotland initiative. **Bannan (Young Films)** is also an important strategic vehicle for talent development, and series six production enabled John Murdo MacAulay to act as a Trainee Director and Tormod MacLeòid as a Trainee Script Supervisor. On screen, **Func** showcased a wealth of new talent. In other programming Kim Carnie joined Mary Ann Kennedy to present **Na Trads (Bees Nees Media)** live. She also joined Dol Eòin MacKinnon in the

contemporary music show, **ALT (Bees Nees Media)**. Ramsay McMahon presented **Mach à Seo (Caledonia TV)**, Ruairidh MacIlleathain **An Sgrùdaire, (Caledonia TV)** and Calum MacLean the wild swimming series of shorts **Dhan Uisge (BBC Gàidhlig)** as well as **Ceathrar air Chuairt (Magic B)**. **Nochd (Bees Nees Media)** saw Lana Pheutan join Fiona MacKenzie on the couch, first at The Edinburgh Festival and then at Celtic Connections.

The 100th anniversary of the sinking of the *Iolaire*, the scale of the loss of life that resulted, and its continuing impact, was marked with existing archive material and new perspectives on this tragic event. This generated a valuable seam of new programming that probed the continuing impact of the tragedy, including the artistic journey of Iain Morrison in **Sàl (MacTV)**, and D S Murray's novel *As The Women Lay Dreaming* in **Sàr-Sgeòil (Caledonia TV)**. **Tha thu air Aigeann m' Inntinn (Am Bocsa)** was a hand-drawn animation commissioned from Catriona Black. With both delicacy and power, it captured the unique horror of the event. **BBC Gàidhlig's** short dramatic monologues were a poignant addition to the schedule.

Children's programming received a significant boost with the launch of CBeebies ALBA and CBBC ALBA, generating significantly more hours of children's original content, and developing another set of hugely talented new presenters. Content complementing this included **Buidheagan (Sorbier)**, a 15-minute short children's drama produced as part of a European Broadcasting Union's pooled approach to children's drama.



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The positioning of the channel as the home of Scottish women's sport saw the first live broadcast of a women's shinty match on the channel. A three-year deal was reached with the Scottish Football Association for the coverage of the Scottish national football team's home competitive matches, increased coverage of the Scottish domestic women's football league was announced, and coverage of the Women's Six Nations was agreed with the Scottish Rugby Union. As well as working with these sporting authorities to grow the profile and participation of these sports, from an audience perspective this is an important investment in an area to which younger audiences relate strongly. Our sports coverage is now available on the BBC iPlayer in HD.

The linear channel's factual programming continues to form a strong, distinctive backbone to the schedule. Several powerful single documentaries such as **Gaol is Call** (HG Productions), **Tommy Burns** and **Steelman** (both purpleTV) and **Call air Cladach Ile** (Caledonia TV) received audience and critical acclaim, as did the strong community-based programmes within the documentary strand **Trusadh** (MacTV) such as **Eileanaich Phagastain** and **Piobairean Lionacleit**. **San Fhuil** (TrixiPix) was a rich depiction of the rhythms and challenges of crofting in South Uist. **A' Sireadh Sascha** (Sgeul Media) told the compelling story of a father's search for his son after 34 years apart.

Children's programming received a significant boost with the launch of CBeebies ALBA and CBBC ALBA



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News was available seven days a week for the first time, a highly valuable investment in coverage. **Eòrpa** (BBC Gàidhlig)'s coverage proved much appreciated at a time of unprecedented political uncertainty, with its coverage including a Brexit special.



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Young Talent

Danielle Macleod was one of MG ALBA's Summer students in 2018. She studies Graphic Design at Glasgow School of Art and showed great initiative when it came to BBC ALBA's Autumn schedule launch in 2018. The graphics for the launch show reel and promotional materials for the campaign package were designed by Danielle. She hand-drew text to bring to life our *M'ALBA, D'ALBA, AR N-ALBA* slogan, which was printed onto all promotional materials, which decorated the venue for the event.



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Many BBC ALBA programmes were critically acclaimed, including **Sùlaisgeir** (MacTV). As well as being awarded Certificate of Merit in the Chicago International Television Festival, it was nominated in one of the world's most prestigious awards, The Grierson Awards. This is the first time a Gaelic-language programme has been shortlisted in this renowned competition. The programme was also nominated at the Scandinavian International Film Festival.





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“Nowhere else in Britain do young people get to demonstrate their skill and imagination in filmmaking as here at FilmG. And we should all be enormously grateful and delighted that FilmG exists”

Development Review

MG ALBA’s development activities are focused on: participation using Gaelic, community engagement, supply sector development and LearnGaelic.

PARTICIPATION

USER GENERATED CONTENT (UGC)

As set out in MG ALBA’s Lèirsinn 2016-2021, a key objective is to stimulate increased generation of Gaelic medium ugc. Following a competitive process, a contract was awarded to Cànan Graphics Studio (CGS) to undertake a range of activities that would encourage organic generation of ugc. CGS undertook a

number of initiatives, and although all of these initiatives are very much at early stages, there are modest, positive early indications of traction. Across YouTube, Facebook and Instagram we tracked 64 new items of ugc from new vloggers and contributors with over 32k views.

FILMG

This year saw the highest number of films ever entered into the competition, and the boldest ever entries.

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Adult Entries	35	31	34	26	20	30	28	24	23	13	26
Youth Entries	19	23	37	50	42	46	51	54	56	63	60
Primary School Age										10	10
Overall Number of Films	54	54	71	76	62	76	79	78	79	86	96

* In addition in each of 2017 and 2018, some 18 and 5 sports commentary videos were submitted as part of an initiative to foster young sports production talent.



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New initiatives such as the use of Augmented Reality and the use of videos to highlight the themes were welcomed.

The awards ceremony itself was live streamed, FilmG trended on Twitter and a highlights programme was broadcast on the channel in the following week. Guest

presenters included Dòmhnall Iain (Trump) 'againn fhèin', the character from Func, as well as Netflix star and Gaelic speaker Sorcha Groundsell. A confident, bold note was struck throughout and the growing confidence of all the young people taking part in the competition is palpable. Michael Hines, the Director of Still Game and Func, and one of this year's guest presenters, commented on the exceptional environment created by FilmG, one he noted as unique in the UK: "Nowhere else in Britain do young people get to demonstrate their skill and imagination in filmmaking as here at FilmG. And we should all be enormously grateful and delighted that FilmG exists because there's nowhere I can think of that this opportunity survives for young people to do this stuff".

APPRENTICES AND YOUNG PEOPLE

In 2018 MG ALBA gave work placements to six students. Students gained wide experience in programme auditing, digitising archive programmes for transmission on BBC ALBA, reception duties, terminology standards, the opportunity to work as runners for BBC's The One Show and the creation of content for social media. The students met weekly to brainstorm content creation and produced four high-quality shorts which were published on BBC ALBA's social media platforms.

MG ALBA continues to support five industry placements on Sabhal Mòr Ostaig's Diploma in Gaelic Media, as well as funding the BBC Scotland Gaelic apprentice in 2018-19.



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COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

SPONSORSHIP

Sponsorship activities included Na Trads, which continues to be a highly successful broadcast partnership and corporate title sponsorship. This year, to ensure the full integration of the approach to Scottish women's football, MG ALBA became title

sponsor of the newly reinstated Scottish Women's Football Awards. MG ALBA extended this commitment to women's sport with its community funding objectives by supporting the Western Isles Women's Football team.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Several community screenings were held across the year each of which was very successful: Call air Cladach Ìle in Islay, An t-Eilean in

Skye, San Fhuil in South Uist, and Gaol is Call, Func, and Tommy Burns in Glasgow.

MG ALBA SOCIAL MEDIA

MG ALBA social media continues to show slow, steady growth, with both Twitter and Facebook followers growing by 11%. The BBC's

The One Show located in Lewis and Harris in July 2018, and related social MG ALBA media activity created substantial engagement.

This year saw the highest number of films ever entered into the FilmG competition, and the boldest ever entries.



SUPPLY SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

TRAINING

Training investment covers Gaelic language training, writing development and continuing professional development, the focus of which has been editing and multicamera directing.

The positions of Trainee Script Supervisor, Trainee Editor, Trainee Camera Assistant, and two Trainee Directors were supported on Bannan, BBC ALBA's drama series.

COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Commercial development of suppliers, particularly focused on internationalisation, was supported through several initiatives. Two producers were supported to attend *Sunnyside of the Doc* as part of a collaborative approach by Celtic broadcasters. Five producers were supported to attend PACT's *Content without Borders*, which saw 100 member companies spend two days with over 20 European cross-genre broadcasters.

MG ALBA also facilitated PACT's China UK Creative Exchange in Glasgow, creating opportunities for several BBC ALBA suppliers to create deals with Chinese broadcasters and investors.



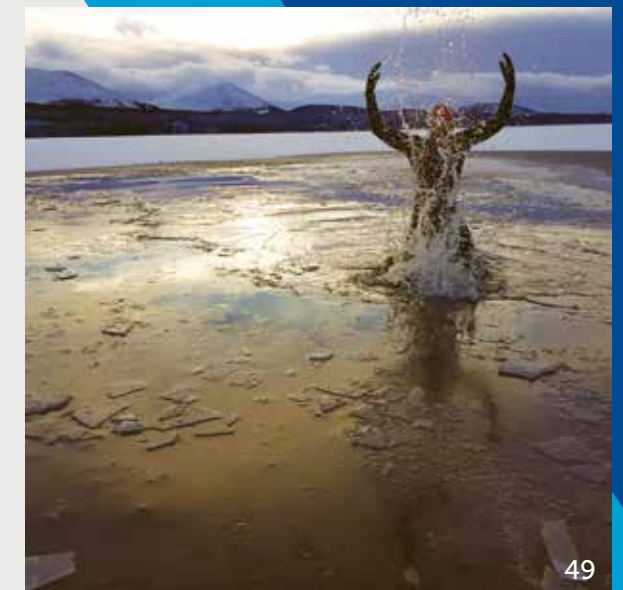
LEARNING

Performance of LearnGaelic showed continued growth. Page views of the website were up 12% to 2.5m page views, sessions were up 12% to 862k, and users up 4% to 294k. In 2018-19, focus and investment was made in the transition of LearnGaelic from a successful aggregator of learning content to establishing itself as a thriving Gaelic brand focused on supporting the learner journeys of users through newly-developed progression scales.

Two full-time staff members were appointed, an Editor and a Digital Engagement Officer. A scholarship was funded at the Glasgow School of Art for an MSc Serious Games and Virtual Reality and two interns were recruited from this course by LearnGaelic. This expansion enabled the LearnGaelic team to advance their work on a new digital framework and to create Gaelic learning resources.

UistFilm completed a series of online videos (commissioned with support from Bòrd na Gàidhlig and the Scottish Government) to raise awareness and inspire more people to learn Gaelic in addition to a pronunciation guide for beginners and practical videos for learners to overcome common grammar challenges.

The digital transformation agency Primate was commissioned to undertake a redesign of the website to ensure that existing LearnGaelic resources and new content are seamlessly aligned with the new digital learning framework. Current resources were examined and improved to provide maximum value to Gaelic learners. This redesign will be launched in the summer of 2019.



Notable successes include developing grammar resources and providing online additionality to *Speaking our Language*. LearnGaelic's social media followers enjoyed content such as Ross County and Inverness Caledonian Thistle players learning Gaelic, and posts for International Woman's Day, which created almost 200,000 impressions on Twitter. LearnGaelic's users became the beating heart of the new team and were involved in co-design in collaboration with both the Gaelic School of Art and with Primate to ensure that their needs are at the centre of the process. This guarantees that LearnGaelic becomes their online companion on their Gaelic-learning journey.

The positioning of the channel as the home of Scottish women's sport saw the first live broadcast of a women's shinty match on the channel



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Governance Statement

MG ALBA was established (as Seirbheis nam Meadhanan Gàidhlig or the Gaelic Media Service) under the provisions of the Communications Act 2003, Sections 208-210, to ensure that a wide and diverse range of high-quality programmes in Gaelic is broadcast or otherwise transmitted so as to be available to persons in Scotland.

MG ALBA is empowered to make programmes and can hold broadcast licences other than those specifically listed in Section 183(4B) of the Broadcasting Act 1990 (inserted by S.208 Communications Act 2003). It discharges the functions set out in Sections 183 and 184 of the Broadcasting Act 1990, Sections 32 and 95 of the Broadcasting Act 1996 and related Schedules in relation to the financing of Gaelic programmes, training, research and related activities.

MG ALBA is committed to high standards of corporate governance and ethical behaviour. As far as is appropriate to the circumstances of MG ALBA, the Board seeks to comply with relevant provisions of the UK Corporate Governance Code issued from time to time by the Financial Reporting Council.

The Board has overall responsibility for ensuring that MG ALBA maintains a system of internal controls that minimise risk, safeguard MG ALBA's assets and interests, and provides the Board with reasonable assurance of the reliability of the financial information used internally and for external publication.

Although no system of internal controls can provide absolute assurance against material misstatement, loss or mismanagement of MG ALBA's assets, the systems in place are designed to identify matters to the members that require attention on a timely basis so that they may be considered and dealt with appropriately.

The Board has established three committees to assist in the discharge of its functions.

The Audit & Assurance Committee advises the Board on MG ALBA's risk management, internal controls and staff remuneration policy. The Board delegates the practical management of the external audit to the Audit Committee, who are responsible for considering the audit plan and audit findings in depth. During the year the contract for the external audit was subject to an open tendering process which was secured by Saffery Champness LLP. The Committee also advises the Board on the findings of internal audits, which focus annually on individual areas of the business.

The Standards Committee advises the Board on media content broadcast by BBC ALBA, training and research.

The Nominations Committee assists the Board with effective succession planning by ensuring that any Board member skills requirements are promptly identified and by assisting Ofcom in the formal recruitment process for new members.

The composition of the Board is determined by Ofcom with the approval of the Scottish Ministers. This means that the diversity of the Board is a matter for Ofcom and in 2018-19 comprised 37.6% female and 62.4% male representation. The Board is comprised of up to 12 members including the Chairperson. Each Board member serves for a period of up to four years. The Board must include members nominated by Highlands and Islands Enterprise, the BBC and Bòrd na Gàidhlig. Ofcom must also secure, so far as is practicable, that the Board's membership is such that the interests of the independent production sector are adequately represented.



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The Board and its committees periodically review and revise policies and corporate documents, which are available at www.mgalba.com.

The MG ALBA Board, Audit & Assurance Committee and Standards Committee meet at least quarterly. The Nominations Committee meets at least once annually. In 2018-19, the Board took advice from its Committees and dealt with the matters raised by them.



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Sùlaisgeir was nominated in one of the world's most prestigious awards, The Grierson Awards



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The Chief Executive has overall responsibility for ensuring that good governance regarding Risk Management is properly discharged and that the Board and its committees have sufficient assurance that key strategic risks are being appropriately managed.

The Board appoints the Chief Executive, who is responsible for ensuring the propriety, regularity and value for money of MG ALBA's expenditure. The Chairperson is in regular contact with the Chief Executive, who has day-to-day responsibility for all aspects of MG ALBA activities. Every three months the Senior Management Team (SMT) – comprising the Chief Executive, Director of Finance and Director of Strategy & Partnership – consider quarterly reports on all aspects of MG ALBA's activities in detail. Quarterly reporting packs are presented to the Standards Committee and to the Audit & Assurance Committee, and thereafter to the Board. In addition, the SMT meets at least monthly to oversee the implementation of the annual Operational Plan, to deal with financial affairs and to address other business and staff matters.

MG ALBA's external auditors discuss with the Board any reportable weaknesses identified during their annual audit. Significant findings and risks are examined and are subject to appropriate action. No significant weaknesses were identified in 2018-19.

The Board adopts an annual Operational Plan which seeks to make progress against the objectives identified in MG ALBA's 5-year strategy, Lèirsinn 2021. Performance against the 2018-19 Plan is set out in the statement of objectives and outcomes on page 20.

Budget heads are monitored monthly by reference to the parameters set out in the Operational Plan. Reports and accounts are prepared for management and for the Board.

The SMT is responsible for ensuring compliance with the Environmental Management Plan and ongoing action plans. The SMT receives regular reports on HR and Health and Safety matters. Health and Safety certificates for all MG ALBA premises are renewed annually and a report sent to the Board.



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Seirbheis nam Meadhanan Gàidhlig

Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2019

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Seirbheis nam Meadhanan Gàidhlig Statement of the board's responsibilities

The Board is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and accounts in accordance with applicable law and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union.

The Broadcasting Act 1990 (as amended by the Broadcasting Act 1996 and the Communications Act 2003) requires the Board to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Seirbheis and of the results of the Seirbheis for that period. In preparing these accounts, International Accounting Standard 1 requires the Board to:

- ✕ properly select and apply accounting policies;
- ✕ present information, including accounting policies, in a manner that provides relevant, reliable, comparable and understandable information;
- ✕ provide additional disclosures when compliance with the specific requirements in IFRSs are insufficient to enable users to understand the impact of particular transactions, other events and conditions on the entity's financial position and performance; and

- ✕ make an assessment of the Seirbheis' ability to continue as a going concern.

The members of the Board are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Seirbheis' transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Seirbheis and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Broadcasting Act 1990 (as amended). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Seirbheis and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Board is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Seirbheis' website.

In so far as the members of the Board are aware:

- ✕ there is no relevant audit information of which the Seirbheis' auditors are unaware; and
- ✕ the members of the Board have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.



Seirbheis nam Meadhanan Gàidhlig

Independent auditor's report

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Seirbheis Meadhanan Gàidhlig (the 'Seirbheis') for the year ended 31 March 2019 which comprise:

- ✕ the statement of comprehensive income;
- ✕ the statement of financial position;
- ✕ the statement of changes in equity;
- ✕ the statement of cash flows; and
- ✕ the related notes 1 to 19, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union and, as regards the parent company financial statements, as applied in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- ✕ give a true and fair view of the state of the Seirbheis' affairs as at 31 March 2019 and of its deficit for the year then ended;
- ✕ have been properly prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union and IFRSs as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB); and
- ✕ have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Broadcasting Act 1990 (as amended by the Broadcasting Act 1996 and the Communications Act 2003).

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and the parent company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- ✕ the members' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- ✕ the members have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Seirbheis' ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The members are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information; we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of members

As explained more fully in the statement of the Board's responsibilities, the members are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the members are responsible for assessing the Seirbheis' ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the members either intend to liquidate the Service or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Seirbheis' members, as a body, in accordance with the Broadcasting Act 1990 (as amended by the Broadcasting Act 1996 and the Communications Act 2003). Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Seirbheis' members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Seirbheis and the Seirbheis' members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*Eunice McAdam (Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Saffery Champness LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
Inverness, United Kingdom*

14 June 2019

Seirbheis nam Meadhanan Gàidhlig Statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 31 March 2019

	Notes	2019 £	2018 £
INCOME			
Scottish Government core grant		12,800,000	12,800,000
Scottish Government additional grants		555,000	700,000
Other grant income		16,000	63,400
Studios & Facilities income		235,752	285,058
		<u>13,606,752</u>	<u>13,848,458</u>
OPERATING EXPENDITURE			
Television, radio & on-line productions and rights		12,431,836	11,134,909
Movement in productions to be transmitted		(654,434)	881,311
Channel operating costs		545,586	589,139
Development costs		41,357	46,117
Channel & corporate promotion		45,880	31,389
Industry training grants		319,597	287,955
Stakeholder engagement		57,644	58,918
Community liaison		16,761	12,855
Audience research costs		92,370	89,842
		<u>12,896,597</u>	<u>13,132,435</u>
GROSS SURPLUS		710,155	716,023
Administrative expenses		727,716	694,152
OPERATING (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS	4	(17,561)	21,871
Net finance costs	5	1,620	1,557
(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS BEFORE TAXATION		(19,181)	20,314
TAXATION	6	231	78
(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS AFTER TAXATION		(19,412)	20,236

All income and expenditure is derived from continuing operations.
There are no other items of comprehensive income/expense other than those included above.
The accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these accounts.

Seirbheis nam Meadhanan Gàidhlig Statement of financial position as at 31 March 2019

	Notes	31 March 2019 £	31 March 2018 £
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Intangible assets	9	37,662	23,152
Property, plant & equipment	10	657,621	582,494
		<u>695,283</u>	<u>605,646</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Inventories: productions to be transmitted		3,750,091	4,404,525
Trade and other receivables	11	190,074	430,760
Cash and cash equivalents		75,349	37,806
		<u>4,015,514</u>	<u>4,873,091</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	12	(260,882)	(353,966)
DEFERRED INCOME: DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR			
Deferred income grants	13	(3,750,091)	(4,404,525)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		4,541	114,600
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		699,824	720,246
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES	12	-	(1,010)
NET ASSETS		699,824	719,236
REPRESENTED BY			
Reserves		699,824	719,236
TOTAL RESERVES		699,824	719,236

These accounts were approved by the Board on 12 June 2019

Allan Macdonald (Chairperson)

Donald Campbell (Chief Executive)

The accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these accounts.

Seirbheis nam Meadhanan Gàidhlig Statement of changes in equity as at 31 March 2019

	Reserves £
Balance at 1 April 2017	699,000
Surplus for the year	20,236
Balance at 1 April 2018	719,236
Deficit for the year	(19,412)
Balance at 31 March 2019	699,824

Seirbheis nam Meadhanan Gàidhlig Statement of cash flows for the year ended 31 March 2019

	2019 £	2018 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Operating (deficit)/surplus	(17,561)	40,371
Depreciation of property, plant & equipment	282,197	369,197
Amortisation of intangible assets	11,178	5,011
Capital grants released	-	(60,000)
Loss on disposal of property, plant & equipment	4,258	258
Decrease/(increase) in inventories: productions to be transmitted	654,434	(881,311)
(Decrease)/increase in deferred income grants	(654,434)	881,311
Decrease/(increase) in receivables	240,686	(152,709)
(Decrease) in payables	(89,272)	(122,678)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	431,486	89,450
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Interest paid	(1,620)	(1,557)
Sale of property, plant & equipment	2,695	111
Purchase of property, plant & equipment	(364,277)	(203,916)
Purchase of intangible assets	(25,688)	(8,693)
Net cash outflow from investing activities	(388,890)	(214,055)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Financing activities	(5,053)	(4,043)
Net cash flow from financing activities	(5,053)	(4,043)
Net change in cash	37,543	(128,648)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April 2018	37,806	166,454
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March 2019	75,349	37,806

The accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these accounts.

Seirbheis nam Meadhanan Gàidhlig

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2019

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union. IFRS includes the standards and interpretations approved by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB") and interpretations issued by the International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee ("IFRIC").

The accounts have been prepared on the historical cost convention on a going concern basis.

Going Concern

The Seirbheis is cognisant of its reliance on the Scottish Government ministers' continued financial support at appropriate fiscal levels to maintain its operations to satisfy the BBC ALBA partnership with the BBC. The Seirbheis can reasonably expect that it will have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the next twelve months. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts.

The principal accounting policies have been applied consistently in relation to the Seirbheis' accounts.

Income

Income grants received from The Scottish Government and other organisations are credited to the Statement of Comprehensive Income in the year to which they relate, subject to the deferral of any grants received which were used to fund productions yet to be broadcast at the year end. This deferred income will be recognised when the related productions are expensed to the Statement of Comprehensive Income as outlined in the separate policy for production contracts as detailed below.

Production Contracts

Television and radio production acquisitions and rights are held in the Statement of Financial Position and are expensed to the Statement of Comprehensive Income once the production to which they relate has been first broadcast.

Studio Income

Studio income is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when products are supplied and services are provided.

Other Contracts

Development contracts and all other operating contracts payable are charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income as incurred.

Leasing

Rentals paid under operating leases and hire purchase contracts are charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income as incurred.

Pension Costs

The pension costs charged against the Statement of Comprehensive Income represent the amount of the contributions payable in respect of the accounting period.

Property, Plant & Equipment

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided to write off the cost less estimated residual value of property, plant & equipment over their estimated useful economic lives, as follows:

Land and buildings	-	20% straight line
Plant and equipment:		
Computer Equipment	-	33% straight line
Office Furniture & Equipment	-	20% straight line
Motor Vehicles	-	25% reducing balance
Studio Equipment	-	20% straight line

Intangible Assets

Amortisation

Amortisation is provided to write off the cost less estimated residual value of intangible assets over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

Computer software	-	20% straight line
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Capital Grants

Capital grants received are held in the Statement of Financial Position and credited to the Statement of Comprehensive Income in line with the depreciation policy of the asset to which the grant relates.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and demand deposits that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

Financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position when the Seirbheis becomes a party to the contractual provision of the instrument.

Financial Assets

All financial assets are recognised and derecognised on a trade date where the purchase or sale of a financial asset is under a contract whose terms require delivery of the financial asset within the timeframe established by the Seirbheis' principal customer, and are initially measured at fair value, plus transaction costs.

Receivables is the only category of financial asset held by the Seirbheis

Trade receivables and other receivables that have fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market are classified as "receivables". They are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment. Interest income is recognised by applying the effective interest rate, except for short-term receivables when the recognition of interest would be immaterial.

Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets are assessed for indicators of impairment at the date of each Statement of Financial Position. Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows of the investment have been affected.

For certain categories of financial assets, such as trade receivables, assets that are assessed not to be impaired individually are, in addition, assessed for impairment on a collective basis. Objective evidence of impairment for a portfolio of receivables could include the Seirbheis' past experience of collecting payments, an increase in the number of delayed payments in the portfolio past the average credit period, as well as observable changes in national or local economic conditions that correlate with default on receivables.

For financial assets carried at amortised cost, the amount of the impairment is the differences between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the financial asset's original effective interest rate.

The carrying amount of the financial asset is reduced by the impairment loss directly for all financial assets with the exception of trade receivables, where the carrying amount is reduced through the use of an allowance account. When a trade receivable is considered uncollectable, it is written off against the allowance account. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against the allowance account. Changes in the carrying amount of the allowance account are recognised in profit or loss.

Derecognition of financial assets

The Seirbheis derecognises a financial asset only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire, or when it transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the asset to another entity. If the Seirbheis neither transfers nor retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership and continues to control the transferred asset, the Seirbheis recognises its retained interest in the asset and an associated liability for amounts it may have to pay. If the Seirbheis retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of a transferred financial asset, the Seirbheis continues to recognise the financial asset and also recognises a collateralised borrowing for the proceeds received.

On derecognition of a financial asset in its entirety, the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the sum of the consideration received and receivable and the cumulative gain or loss that had been recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Other financial liabilities is the only category of financial liabilities held by the Seirbheis

Other financial liabilities, including trade payables, are initially measured at fair value, net of transaction costs.

Other financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, with interest expense recognised on an effective yield basis.

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial liability and of allocating interest expense over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments through the expected life of the financial liability, or, where appropriate, a shorter period, to the net carrying amount on initial recognition.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

The Seirbheis derecognises financial liabilities when, and only when, the Seirbheis' obligations are discharged, cancelled or have expired. The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability derecognised and the consideration paid and payable is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

2

ADOPTION OF NEW AND REVISED STANDARDS AND AMENDMENTS

At the date of authorisation of these financial statements, the following Standards and Interpretations which have not been applied in these financial statements were in issue but not yet effective (and in some cases had not yet been adopted by the EU):

- ✦ IFRS 16, Leases (effective 1 January 2019)
- ✦ IFRIC 23, Uncertainty over Income Tax Treatments (effective 1 January 2019)

The adoption of IFRS 16 will result in an estimated £2m asset and liability, relating to the offices and studios in Stornoway, being brought on to the Statement of Financial Position.

The members do not expect that the adoption of the Standards and Interpretations listed above, with the exception of IFRS 16, will have a material impact on the financial statements of the Seirbheis in future periods.

The following amendments to IFRSs, issued by the International Accounting Standards Board, that are mandatorily effective in the current year have been considered and adopted by the Seirbheis:

- ✦ IFRS 9, Financial Instruments (2014) (effective 1 January 2018)
- ✦ IFRS 15, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (effective 1 January 2018)
- ✦ Annual improvements to IFRS Standards 2014-2016 Cycle – effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018 (IFRS 1 and IAS 28) and 1 January 2017 (IFRS 12).

3 CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

In the application of the Seirbheis' accounting policies, which are described in note 1, the members are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Critical judgements in applying the Seirbheis' accounting policies

The following are the critical judgements, apart from those involving estimations (which are dealt with separately below), that the members have made in the process of applying the Seirbheis' accounting policies and that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in financial statements.

✦ Valuation of productions to be transmitted

The Seirbheis recognises the valuation of inventories: productions to be transmitted as being the purchase value of broadcasting rights purchased from producers. The value of these rights is considered expensed on first transmission of the programme with repeats under the acquired licence being of negligible monetary value. As a result of this decision, the value of productions to be transmitted disclosed in the Statement of Financial Position represents the purchase price of programmes yet to be broadcast and any related rights.

✦ BBC ALBA Partnership

The principal activity of the Seirbheis is running the operations of BBC ALBA, the Gaelic television channel, in partnership with the BBC. The channel is operated under the terms of the Collaboration Agreement between MG ALBA and the BBC. The Seirbheis recognises its reliance on The Scottish Government ministers' continued financial support at appropriate fiscal levels to maintain its operations to satisfy the BBC ALBA partnership as being key to the delivery of the Seirbheis' functions. After making enquiries, the members are satisfied that the ongoing relationship will continue and have therefore adopted the going concern basis in preparing the accounts, as explained in note 1.

✦ Commitments

As mentioned, the Seirbheis is cognisant of the continued support of The Scottish Government ministers at a level of funding which will allow the Seirbheis to fulfil its long-term commitments. This support is essential in particular to production volume agreements (note 14) and leasing commitments (note 15). As a result, included within the production volume agreements is a review provision that may be applied should there be a material reduction in the Seirbheis' fiscal position and also a 5-yearly review clause in the lease contract for the head offices and studios in Stornoway.

4 OPERATING (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS

	2019 £	2018 £
Operating (deficit)/surplus is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Travel and subsistence		
– Members	24,104	16,017
– Staff	152,329	129,353
Auditor's remuneration		
– Audit	17,800	19,900
– Non Audit	-	-
Depreciation	282,197	369,197
Amortisation	11,178	5,011
Capital grant credit	-	(60,000)

5 NET FINANCE COSTS

	2019 £	2018 £
Interest receivable	1,376	387
Interest payable & similar charges	(2,996)	(1,944)
Net finance costs	(1,620)	(1,557)

6 TAXATION

	2019 £	2018 £
The taxation charge on interest received for the year is as follows:		
UK Corporation tax @ 19% (2018: 20%)	231	78

7 CHIEF EXECUTIVE & EMPLOYEES' REMUNERATION

The average number of persons (including the Chief Executive) employed by the Board during the year was 35 (2018:31).

Employee costs (for above persons)

	2019 £	2018 £
Wages and salaries	1,236,168	1,123,043
Social security costs	130,465	122,264
Other pension costs (see note 17)	183,414	162,376
	<u>1,550,047</u>	<u>1,407,683</u>

The above costs have been allocated across departments as follows:

	2019 £	2018 £
Administrative expenses	397,518	349,385
Channel administration	349,449	375,357
Channel operating costs	311,597	283,908
Productions	491,483	399,033
	<u>1,550,047</u>	<u>1,407,683</u>

Remuneration in respect of the highest paid employee was as follows:

	2019 £	2018 £
Emoluments (including benefits in kind)	101,081	100,081
Pension contributions to money purchase pension scheme (see note 17)	15,162	15,012
	<u>116,243</u>	<u>115,093</u>

8 CHAIRPERSON & MEMBERS

Fees and other emoluments, including benefits, received by the Chairperson amounted to: M. Cunningham resigned 30 September 2018, £5,730 (2018: £11,460); A. Macdonald appointed 1 January 2019, £2,865 (2018: £0).

The number of other Members who received the following fees was:

	2019 Number	2018 Number
£3,358	1*	-
£5,037	7	8

*Catriona Macphee resigned from the Board on 30 November 2018.

9 INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	Computer Software £
<i>Cost</i>	
At 1 April 2018	33,030
Additions	25,688
At 31 March 2019	<u>58,718</u>
<i>Depreciation</i>	
At 1 April 2018	9,878
Charge for year	11,178
At 31 March 2019	<u>21,056</u>
<i>Net Book Values</i>	
At 31 March 2019	<u>37,662</u>
At 31 March 2018	<u>23,152</u>

10 PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

	Land & Buildings. £	Plant & Equip. £	Studio Equip. £	Total £
<i>Cost</i>				
At 1 April 2018	1,192,579	333,904	4,065,884	5,592,367
Additions	63,781	25,148	275,348	364,277
Disposals		(37,656)		(37,656)
At 31 March 2019	<u>1,256,360</u>	<u>321,396</u>	<u>4,341,232</u>	<u>5,918,988</u>
<i>Depreciation</i>				
At 1 April 2018	1,146,400	208,402	3,655,071	5,009,873
Charge for year	32,630	51,708	197,859	282,197
Disposals		(30,703)		(30,703)
At 31 March 2019	<u>1,179,030</u>	<u>229,407</u>	<u>3,852,930</u>	<u>5,261,367</u>
<i>Net Book Values</i>				
At 31 March 2019	<u>77,330</u>	<u>91,989</u>	<u>488,302</u>	<u>657,621</u>
At 31 March 2018	<u>46,179</u>	<u>125,502</u>	<u>410,813</u>	<u>582,494</u>

Assets held under Finance Lease

Included in plant & equipment is a motor vehicle held under a hire purchase agreement which was disposed of during the year. At the date of disposal the net book value of the asset was £6,953 (2018: £8,141) and depreciation of £1,188 (2018: £2,713) was charged in relation to the asset in the year.

11 TRADE & OTHER RECEIVABLES

	2019 £	2018 £
Trade receivables	28,792	106,556
Prepayments and accrued income	161,282	324,204
	<u>190,074</u>	<u>430,760</u>

The ageing profile of trade receivables, including those past due but not impaired:

	2019 £	2018 £
Not due	28,672	57,940
31-60 days	-	-
61-90 days	120	616
>91 days	-	48,000
	<u>28,792</u>	<u>106,556</u>

12 TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

CURRENT LIABILITIES	2019 £	2018 £
Trade & other payables	143,220	300,152
Other creditors	117,431	53,736
Current tax liabilities	231	78
	<u>260,882</u>	<u>353,966</u>

NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES

HP creditor	-	1,010
-------------	---	-------

13 DEFERRED INCOME

	2019 £	2018 £
Deferred grant – productions yet to be broadcast	3,750,091	4,404,525

14 PRODUCTION COMMITMENTS

As at 31 March 2019 forward production contract commitments were £14,555,052 (2018: £19,842,390). This commitment is payable over 3 years (2018: 4 years) as follows:

	2019 £	2018 £
2018/19	-	7,591,629
2019/20	8,084,822	6,883,531
2020/21	5,454,256	4,663,256
2021/22	1,015,974	703,974
	<u>14,555,052</u>	<u>19,842,390</u>

15 LEASING COMMITMENTS: MINIMUM LEASE PAYMENTS

	2019 £	2018 £
Lease payments under operating leases recognised as an expense in the year	150,895	138,213

At the date of the Statement of Financial Position, the Seirbheis had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	Land and Buildings £	2019 Other £	Land and Buildings £	2018 Other £
Due within one year	134,000	15,638	120,000	16,836
Due within 1-5 years	536,000	14,266	480,000	29,904
Due in more than 5 years	1,876,000	-	1,800,000	-
	<u>2,546,000</u>	<u>29,904</u>	<u>2,400,000</u>	<u>46,740</u>

16 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

The Seirbheis had capital commitments of £42,909 at 31 March 2019 (2018: nil).

17 PENSION SCHEME

The Seirbheis operates defined contribution pension arrangements for all eligible employees. The assets are held separately from those of the Seirbheis in independently administered funds with insurance companies. The pension cost for the year, at variable rates based on salaries, represents the contributions payable by the Seirbheis to the funds and amounts to £183,414 (2018: £162,376).

18 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Seirbheis’ activities expose it to a variety of financial risks:

- ✦ credit risk – the possibility that other parties might fail to pay amounts due;
- ✦ liquidity risk – the possibility that the Seirbheis might not have the funds available to meet its commitments to make payments; and
- ✦ market risk – the possibility that financial loss may arise as a result of changes in such measures as interest rates or foreign exchange rates.

As a result of the nature of its activities and the way the Seirbheis is set up, the Seirbheis is not exposed to the degree of financial risk faced by corporate business entities.

Credit risk

Credit risk arises from cash and cash equivalents, deposits with banks and other institutions, as well as credit exposures to customers, including outstanding receivables and committed transactions.

For banks and other institutions, only independently rated parties with a minimum rating of ‘A’ are accepted.

Customers are assessed, taking into account their financial position, past experience and other factors, with individual credit limits being closely monitored throughout the year.

No recoverability issues were noted with debtors in the period, and no losses are expected from non-performance by any counterparties in relation to deposits.

Liquidity risk

The table below analyses the financial liabilities into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period at the Statement of Financial Position to the contractual maturity date. The amounts disclosed in the table are contractual undiscounted cash flows and represents the expected maturity profile of the liabilities. Balances due within 12 months equal their carrying value as the impact of discounting is not significant.

	Less than 1 year £	Between 1 and 2 years £	Between 2 and 5 years £	Over 5 years £
At 31 March 2019				
Trade and other payables	260,887	-	-	-
Total	260,887	-	-	-
At 31 March 2018				
Trade and other payables	335,466	1,010	-	-
Total	335,466	1,010	-	-

All trade and other receivables are due within 1 year.

Market risk

i) Interest rate risk

The Seirbheis has no significant interest bearing assets or liabilities and as such income and expenditure cash flows are substantially independent of changes in market interest rates.

ii) Foreign currency risk

The Seirbheis is not exposed to foreign currency risk.

Fair Value Estimation

The carrying value of cash and cash equivalents is assumed to approximate to their fair value.

The carrying value less impairment provision of trade receivables and payables are assumed to approximate their fair value.

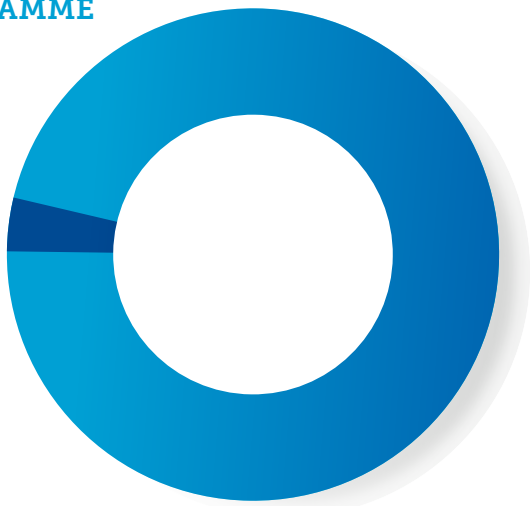
19 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The only related party transactions during the year were members’ remuneration as detailed in note 8.

Additional Information

ALLOCATION OF TV PROGRAMME & TV PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT PAYMENTS, 2018/19

BBC	6%
Independent Producers	94%



THIS ALLOCATION CAN BE FURTHER ANALYSED AS FOLLOWS:

	Total	
Nemeton TV Scotland	26.4%	
Bees Nees Media	14.5%	
macTV	11.7%	
Young Films	10.8%	
Caledonia TV	6.9%	
BBC	5.7%	
The Woven Thread	4.4%	
Obh! Obh!	3.7%	
Midas Media	2.7%	
Solus Productions	2.0%	
Purple TV	1.8%	
Magic B Films	1.6%	
Moja	1.1%	
Cwmni Da	1.0%	
Mast-Ard Studio	0.9%	
Sorbier Productions	0.8%	
Trix Pix	0.7%	
Sgeul Media	0.6%	
Corran Media	0.6%	
Corcadal Productions	0.6%	
Am Bocs	0.4%	
Media Co-op	0.4%	
H G Productions	0.3%	
Looks Film & TV	0.3%	
Demus Productions	0.3%	

ALLOCATION OF THE FUND, 2018/19

TV Content, Radio & Online	88.1%	
Operating Costs	6.4%	
Training	2.7%	
Research	0.7%	
Development	0.7%	
Stakeholder Engagement Costs	0.4%	
Members' Costs	0.5%	
Promotions & Marketing	0.3%	
Channel Operating Costs	0.2%	

PRODUCTION PAYMENTS BY PROGRAMME GENRE – 2018/19

	2018/19 Spend	Equivalent Hours	Cost per Hour
Arts & Entertainment	1,319,950	42.37	31,155
Children	594,220	54.36	10,931
Drama & Comedy	1,421,894	4.53	313,584
Factual	3,514,864	123.23	28,522
Religion	26,000	1.00	26,000
Sport	2,469,500	186.21	13,262
Radio	25,000	8.67	2,885

Staff

CORPORATE & FINANCE

Donald Campbell | Chief Executive
 Donnie MacDonald | Business Affairs Manager
 Catriona Màiri Neally | Business Affairs Executive
 Mary Ann MacInnes | Gaelic & Corporate Affairs Manager
 Neil M. Graham | Director of Finance
 Nicola Pearson | Accountant
 Karen Pickard | Executive Manager

ADMINISTRATION & FACILITIES

Calum Morrison | Caretaker (left 31/3/19)
 Graham Morrison | Facilities Supervisor
 Màiri Ross | Receptionist
 Marina MacDonald | Office Manager

Senior Management Team



Donald Campbell

Neil M. Graham

Iseabail Mactaggart

CONTENT & DEVELOPMENT

Iseabail Mactaggart | Director of Strategy & Partnership
 Margaret Cameron | Channel Editor
 Sandra Corbett | Development Officer (left 15/8/18)
 Charissa Gray | Scheduling Assistant
 Bill MacLeod | Commissioning Editor
 Murdo MacSween | Communications Manager
 Eilidh Lewsey | LearnGaelic Editor
 Caitlin Russell | LearnGaelic Digital Engagement Officer
 Iain Skaggs | LearnGaelic Intern
 Niall Tracey | LearnGaelic Intern
 Viktoria Marker | LearnGaelic Research & Design Executive (left 30/11/18)
 Michelle Morrison | Channel Assistant
 Siobhan MacInnes | Presenter & Digital Producer
 Fiona MacKenzie | Digital Hub Manager
 Ruth Murray | Digital Producer
 Donna MacDonald | Media Librarian
 Ceitlin L R Smith | Presenter & Digital Producer
 Kathryn MacKay | Presentation Producer
 Katie MacRitchie | Digital Media Officer
 Laura MacLeod | Scheduling Assistant
 Maggie Taylor | Scheduling Manager
 Abigail MacIver | Scheduling & Administrative Assistant

TECHNOLOGY & OPERATIONS

Iain Gillies | Operations Manager (ICT)
 Ivor MacKenzie | Operations Technician
 Tormod MacLeod | Media Asset Technician
 Uisdean MacLeod | Operations Manager (Technology)
 Richard McHale | Operations Manager (Resources)
 Colin Murray | Operations Technician
 Conor MacDonald | Operations Technician (left 16/10/18)
 Ged Yeates | Creative Editor
 Andrew Fraser | Operations Technician

Board Members & Term Dates



Allan MacDonald
Chair
1/1/19-31/12/22



Jo MacDonald
Chair, Standards Committee
1/5/16-30/4/20



Iain Stephen Morrison
Vice-Chair, Standards Committee
10/8/15-9/8/19



Calum Ferguson
1/5/16-30/4/20



David Brew
Chair, Audit & Assurance Committee
1/5/16-30/4/20



Donnie MacAulay
Vice-Chair, Audit & Assurance Committee
1/5/18-30/4/22



Mairi Kidd
1/5/16-30/4/20



Dugald MacAulay
1/9/16-31/8/20

Attendance at meetings

	Board	Audit & Assurance Committee	Standards Committee
Maggie Cunningham	3/3	-	2/2
Allan MacDonald	2/2	-	0/1
Jo MacDonald	6/6	-	4/4
Iain Stephen Morrison	4/6	-	3/4
Calum Ferguson	1/6	-	3/4
Catriona MacPhee	2/4	-	1/3
David Brew	5/6	4/4	-
Donnie MacAulay	6/6	4/4	-
Mairi Kidd	6/6	4/4	-
Dugald MacAulay	2/6	3/4	-

Maggie Cunningham resigned as chair on 11/6/18, with effect from 30/9/18
Catriona MacPhee resigned as board member on 30/11/18

Images

- 1 Cover designed by Room for Design
- 2 ALT, Bees Nees Media, © Julie Broadfoot
- 3 Colin Macleod - When It Kicks In, MacTV, © MG ALBA
- 4 Colin Macleod - When It Kicks In, MacTV, © MG ALBA
- 5 BBC ALBA @ 10, © Craig Watson
- 6 An t-Eilean/From Skye With Love, Corcadal Productions, © MG ALBA
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- 8 Call Air Cladach Ìle, Caledonia TV, © Caledonia TV/MG ALBA
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- 15 CBeebies ALBA, BBC Gàidhlig, © BBC
- 16 CBBC ALBA, BBC Gàidhlig, © BBC
- 17 FUNC, The Woven Thread, © John Maher
- 18 An Iolaire - Bidh Sinn a’ Cuimhneachadh, MacTV, © MG ALBA
- 19 Tha Thu Air Aigeann m’ Inntinn, Am Bocsa, © Am Bocsa/MG ALBA
- 20 An Iolaire - Bidh Sinn a’ Cuimhneachadh, MacTV, © MG ALBA
- 21 Guthan na h-Iolaire, BBC Gàidhlig, © BBC Gàidhlig
- 22 Sàr-Sgeòil: As the Women Lay Dreaming, Caledonia TV, © MG ALBA
- 23 Belladrum 2018: Cridhe Tartan, BBC Gàidhlig, © Lynne Goodwin
- 24 Belladrum 2018: Cridhe Tartan, BBC Gàidhlig, © John Maher
- 25 Buidheagain, Sorbier Productions Ltd, © Sorbier Productions Ltd/MG ALBA
- 26 Is Mise Courgette, Solus Productions/Thunderbird Releasing, © Thunderbird Releasing
- 27 ZOG, Obh! Obh! Productions/Orange Eyes Limited, © Orange Eyes Limited 2019
- 28 Bannan, Young Films, © Young Films/MG ALBA
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- 34 FilmG, © Stuart Nicol
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- 45 Lewis & Harris Women’s Football Team, © Euan MacLeod
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- 51 Bho Chaorain Gu Consoles, Corran Media, © Corran Media/MG ALBA
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- 56 A’ Sireadh Sascha, Sgeul Media Limited, © Mischa Macpherson
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Translation support – **Annie MacSween**
Design – **Room for Design**



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