

PROGRAMMES AND THE LICENCE

Sources of programmes

Channel 4

Channel 4 commissions programmes from both independent and non-independent producers and purchases programmes from the international markets. The source and cost of the programmes transmitted on the main Channel 4 service in 2014 are shown in the table below:

	2014 Hours	2013 Hours	2014 £m	2013 £m
Originated				
Independents	3,460	3,822	283	297
Other	2,035	1,526	99	88
	5,495	5,348	382	385
Acquired	3,265	3,412	110	101
Programmes total	8,760	8,760	492	486
Other direct programme costs			7	6
Total	8,760	8,760	499	492
All hours	Hours	Hours	%	%
Originated	5,495	5,348	63	61
Acquired	3,265	3,412	37	39
Total	8,760	8,760	100	100
Peak hours	Hours	Hours	%	%
Originated	1,266	1,272	77	77
Acquired	377	371	23	23
Total	1,643	1,643	100	100

Independent production companies are the most important source of originated programmes. Programmes transmitted on Channel 4 in 2014 were provided by 194 independent companies (2013: 224).

Other direct programme costs reflect access services such as subtitling and sign-language services and amounts payable to music royalty collection societies.

Production outside London

Channel 4 is keen to encourage film and television production throughout the Nations and Regions of the United Kingdom and has a number of schemes to achieve that objective. The total cost of those programmes in 2014 amounted to £150 million (2013: £164 million).

PROGRAMMES AND THE LICENCE CONTINUED

Programme transmissions*

Channel 4

The main Channel 4 service broadcast 8,760 hours in 2014 (2013: 8,760) – 24 hours each day. The hours and costs of the channel's wide range of programme transmissions were as follows:

	2014 Hours	2013 Hours	2014 £m	2013 £m
Drama	579	601	100	109
Entertainment	2,349	2,378	117	111
Education	2,622	2,375	98	88
Feature films	978	1,162	42	40
Other factual	165	189	25	18
News	242	240	25	25
Current affairs	238	245	20	23
Documentaries	274	295	25	31
Arts and music	92	125	8	8
Sport	814	710	22	19
Quiz and gameshows	396	418	9	12
Religion	11	22	1	2
Total	8,760	8,760	492	486

* The data in the table above is consistent with prior years and based on Channel 4's internal reporting genres. Data presented in the Statement of Media Content Policy (SMCP) is structured around the key genres reflecting Channel 4's internal commissioning structure.

E4, More4 and Film4 channels

The E4 channel broadcast for a total of 8,760 hours in 2014 (2013: 8,760 hours) with 100% of these hours being subtitled (2013: 100%).

The More4 channel broadcast for 6,832 hours (2013: 6,791 hours) with 100% of these hours being subtitled (2013: 100%).

The Film4 channel broadcast for 6,062 hours (2013: 6,076 hours) with 100% of these hours being subtitled (2013: 100%).

4seven broadcast for 7,187 hours in 2014 (2013: 7,180 hours) with 100% of these hours being subtitled (2013: 100%).

Ofcom

Ofcom monitors compliance with broadcasters' licence obligations (including compliance with its Broadcasting Code) and deals with complaints concerning standards in programmes and complaints of unfair treatment and/or infringement of privacy.

Channel 4

Ofcom recorded three breaches of its Code on standards in programmes by the main Channel 4 service in 2014 (2013: three). None were judged serious enough to merit a statutory sanction (2013: none). In 2014 one complaint about fairness/privacy in Channel 4's programmes was upheld (2013: two) and two complaints were upheld in part (2013: two).

E4, More4 and Film4

No recorded breach of the Code on standards in programmes was noted against More4 (2013: one) and no recorded breach of the Code on standards in programmes was noted against E4 in 2014 (2013: none). There were no recorded breaches of the Code on standards against Film4 in 2014 (2013: none). In 2014 no complaints about fairness/privacy were upheld against E4, More4 or Film4 (2013: none).

PROGRAMMES AND THE LICENCE CONTINUED

ASA

ASA regulates all broadcast and non-broadcast UK advertising. All non-broadcast advertising should comply with the Code of Non-broadcast Advertising, Sales Promotion and Direct Marketing (the 'CAP Code'). All broadcast advertisements and programme sponsorship credits on television services licensed by Ofcom should comply with the UK Code of Broadcast Advertising (the 'BCAP Code'). Ofcom retains direct responsibility under the BCAP Code for sponsorship, product placement and participation TV advertising. The ASA recorded two breaches of the BCAP Code in 2014 (2013: four breaches of the BCAP Code).

The licence

The wide range and diversity of programmes shows that the remit is central to Channel 4's programming policy. Our licence from Ofcom, in addition to stipulating the need to meet the remit, places certain specific programme obligations on Channel 4.

	Compliance minimum	2014	2013
Average hours per week			
News			
– in peak-time (6pm – 10.30pm)	4	4	4
Current affairs			
– overall	4	5	5
– in peak-time (6pm – 10.30pm)	2	3	3
Hours per year			
Schools	1	4	10
Percentage			
Original production			
– overall	56	63	61
– in peak-time (6pm – 10.30pm)	70	77	77
Independent production*	25	73	75
European independent production*	10	40	45
European origin	50	66	66
Subtitling for the deaf and hard-of-hearing	90	100	100
Audio description	10	28	31
Signing	5	5	5
Regional production	35	43	46
Regional hours	35	52	55
Production in the Nations	3	6	6
Nations hours	3	6	7

The 2014 Ofcom licence disclosure reflects Channel 4's Digital Replacement Licence (DRL), which was renewed in 2014 and came into effect in January 2015. This encompasses the requirements set out in the Communications Act 2003.

* There are material differences in the definitions contained in the European and UK legislation for qualifying independent production.

Several of the measures reflected in this section of the report are discussed in more detail on pages 15–18 of the Statement of Media Content Policy and the Strategic Report on page 107.