Dear Iain,

I am writing to thank you and your colleagues for providing evidence last week to the Committee on the approach Creative Scotland is taking to establish a new Screen Unit. There was one particular issue which was raised in evidence, with regard to the proposed ‘data hub’ as part of the Screen Unit, which the Committee would appreciate further clarification on.

In correspondence to the Committee, on 28 March 2018, Janet Archer stated that the second phase of Screen Unit implementation would include “research and scoping carried out for new data hub”. During the course of the evidence session last week, it was stated that there would be one new member of staff being recruited in order to enhance Creative Scotland’s ‘capability and capacity’ in relation to data gathering. In further evidence, you expanded on the progress that had been made with regard to the proposed ‘data hub’ that—

“Enhanced human resources are part of the plan, but we also have the model across the partnership, which involves our key screen partners, including the British Film Institute. We are trying to understand what the notion of a data hub means and the team is scoping what that might look like, so that we can in due course describe it”.

The Committee would welcome further information on:

- What progress has been made in scoping out the structure and role of the proposed data hub
- What additional financial resources will be allocated by Creative Scotland to support the work of the data hub
- The timescale for the launch of the data hub

5 June 2018
What key outcomes Creative Scotland expects the data hub to deliver

Yours Sincerely

Joan McAlpine MSP
Convener
European and External Relations Committee