# Financial Financial report and report and statements

## Consolidated income statement and statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December

#### Consolidated income statement for the year ended 31 December 2015 2014 Note £m £m Revenue 979 1 938 2 Cost of transmission and sales (923)(903)**Gross surplus** Other operating expenditure 3 (32)(31)**Operating surplus** 5 Net finance expense (1)(1) Share of profit of investments accounted for using the equity method, net of income tax 7 3 and amortisation Surplus before tax Income tax expense 6 (1) 26 3 Surplus for the year

## Consolidated statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2015 2014 Note £m Surplus for the year 26

£m

52

3

(15)

Net remeasurement surplus/(deficit) on pension scheme	18	12	(37)
Revaluation of freehold land and buildings	9	12	13
Deferred tax on pension scheme	11	(2)	8
Deferred tax on revaluation of freehold land and buildings	11	4	(2)
Other comprehensive income/(cost) for the year		26	(18)

None of the items in comprehensive income will be reclassified to the income statement.

Total comprehensive income/(cost) for the year

# Consolidated statement of changes in equity for the year ended 31 December

	Retained	Retained earnings			
	Other retained earnings £m	Content reserve £m	Revaluation reserve £m	Total equity £m	
At 1 January 2014	430	-	28	458	
Surplus for the year	3	_	_	3	
Reserve transfer	(30)	30	-	_	
Other comprehensive (cost)/income	(29)	-	11	(18)	
Total comprehensive (cost)/income for the year	(56)	30	11	(15)	
At 31 December 2014	374	30	39	443	
At 1 January 2015	374	30	39	443	
Surplus for the year	26	_	-	26	
Reserve transfer	(20)	20	_	_	
Other comprehensive income	10	-	16	26	
Total comprehensive income for the year	16	20	16	52	
At 31 December 2015	390	50	55	495	

We established a content reserve in 2014 to ensure surpluses generated are re-invested into our creative ambition in order to deliver on our remit. Our aim is to maintain an overall financial break-even position in the long term. We have allocated an additional £20 million from our 2015 surplus to the content reserve, increasing it to £50 million at 31 December 2015. Creative investments may be funded by drawing down on the content reserve in future years.

# Consolidated balance sheet as at 31 December

	Note	2015 £m	2014 £m
Assets			
Investments accounted for using the equity method	7	29	26
Property, plant and equipment	9	112	103
Intangible assets	10	5	2
Deferred tax assets	11	16	18
Total non-current assets		162	149
Programme and film rights	12	254	242
Trade and other receivables	13	178	196
Other financial assets	14	87	70
Cash and cash equivalents	14	165	152
Total current assets		684	660
Total assets		846	809
Liabilities			
Employee benefits – pensions	18	(56)	(73)
Provisions	16	(1)	(1)
Deferred tax liabilities	11	-	(5)
Total non-current liabilities		(57)	(79)
Trade and other payables	15	(293)	(286)
Provisions	16	(1)	(1)
Total current liabilities		(294)	(287)
Total liabilities		(351)	(366)
Net assets		495	443
Revaluation reserve		55	39
Retained earnings:			
Content reserve		50	30
Other retained earnings		390	374
Total equity		495	443

The financial statements on pages 138 to 166 were approved by the Members of the Board on 7 April 2016 and were signed on its behalf by:

**Charles Gurassa** 

Chair

**David Abraham**Chief Executive

# Consolidated cashflow statement for the year ended 31 December

	Note	2015 £m	2014 £m
Cashflow from operating activities			
Surplus for the year		26	3
Adjustments for			
Income tax expense	6	-	1
Depreciation	9	6	6
Amortisation of intangibles	10	1	1
Net financial expense	5	1	1
Share of profit from investments accounted for using the equity method, net of income tax and amortisation	7	(3)	(1)
Current service pension cost	18	4	3
		35	14
Increase in programme and film rights	12	(12)	(18)
Decrease/(increase) in trade and other receivables	13	18	(14)
Increase in trade and other payables	15	7	17
Decrease in provisions, excluding unwinding of discounts	16	_	(1)
		48	(2)
Pension contributions	18	(11)	(8)
Tax (paid)/repaid		(1)	1
Net cash from operating activities		36	(9)
Cashflow from investing activities			
Acquisition of investments	7, 20	(5)	(4)
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	9	(3)	(6)
Additions to internally developed software	10	(2)	-
Interest received	5	1	1
Dividends received	7	3	2
(Increase)/decrease in other financial assets <sup>1</sup>	14	(17)	37
Net cashflow from investing activities		(23)	30
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		13	21
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		152	131
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December		165	152

<sup>1</sup> Amounts invested in term deposits of three months or longer and other funds with time restricted access.

## Group accounting policies

#### Introduction

Channel Four Television Corporation ('Channel 4') is a statutory corporation domiciled in the United Kingdom. The consolidated financial statements of Channel 4 for the year ended 31 December 2015 comprise Channel 4 and its subsidiaries (together referred to as the 'Group') and the Group's investments accounted for using the equity method. Channel 4's company financial statements present information relating to Channel 4 as a separate entity and not about its Group.

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Members on 7 April 2016. The registered office of Channel 4 is 124 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2TX.

## **Basis of preparation**

The financial statements of the Group have been prepared and approved by the Members in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union ('IFRS'). The Corporation's individual financial statements have been prepared under the Financial Reporting Standard 101 Reduced Disclosure Framework.

The financial statements as a whole have been prepared in a form directed by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport with the approval of HM Treasury, and are principally prepared under the historical cost convention (except that freehold properties, derivatives and certain financial instruments are stated at fair value). In line with IFRS 13, fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

The financial statements are presented in pounds Sterling, rounded to the nearest million.

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with IFRS requires the use of estimation and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of income and expense during the reporting period. Although these estimates are based on management's best knowledge of the amount, event or actions, actual results may ultimately differ from those estimates.

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. Judgements made by management in the application of IFRS that have a significant risk of material adjustment on the financial statements and estimates are summarised as follows:

- revenue recognition timing of recognition to reflect the point or period when the Group has transferred the main risks and rewards of ownership to third parties (detailed policy on page 143)
- programme and film rights (detailed policy on page 145)
  - estimate of value with reference to the quality of programme that has ultimately been delivered and its expected viewing performance
  - estimate of future revenues from distribution when evaluating the carrying value of film rights held for exploitation

## Going concern

The annual financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis where the Members have a reasonable expectation that the Group will continue in operational existence, as set out in the Report of the Members.

The Group has sufficient financial resources, and the Members believe that the Group is well placed to manage its business risks based on normal business planning and control procedures.

As discussed on page 109, Ofcom have renewed Channel 4's licence. The new ten-year licence came into effect in January 2015.

In addition, notes 13 to 15 to the financial statements include the Group's approach to financial risk management, including its financial instruments and hedging activities and its exposures to liquidity and credit risks.

## **Basis of consolidation**

A subsidiary is an entity that is controlled by the Group. Control exists when the Group has exposure, or has rights to variable returns from its involvements with the investee and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the investee. The Group has rights that give it the current ability to direct the relevant activities of the investee (i.e. the activities that significantly affect the investee's returns). The financial statements of subsidiaries are included in the consolidated financial statements from the date that control commences to the date that control ceases.

Investments in associates and joint ventures are accounted for using the equity method.

Associates are those entities over which the Group has significant influence. Where the Group holds 20% or more of the voting power (directly or through subsidiaries) of an investee, it will be presumed the Group has significant influence unless it can be clearly demonstrated that this is not the case. If the holding is less than 20%, it will be presumed the Group does not have significant influence unless such influence can be clearly demonstrated. Significant influence exists when the Group has the power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions of the investee but does not have control or joint control of those policies.

Joint arrangements are those entities over whose activities the Group has joint control. Joint control is established by a contractual agreement whereby the decisions about the relevant activities (i.e.: the activities that significantly affect the investee's returns) of the entity require the unanimous consent of the two or more parties sharing joint control of the arrangement. A joint venture is a joint arrangement whereby the parties that have joint control of the arrangement have rights to the net assets of the arrangement.

## Basis of consolidation continued

Under equity accounting, the consolidated financial statements include the Group's share of the total recognised gains and losses of associates and joint ventures on an equity accounted basis, from the date that significant influence or joint control commences until the date that significant influence or joint control ceases or until the associate or joint venture is classified as held for sale.

When the Group's share of losses exceeds its interest in an associate or joint venture, the Group's carrying amount is reduced to nil and recognition of further losses is discontinued, except to the extent that the Group has incurred legal or constructive obligations or made payments on behalf of an associate or joint venture.

Cost contributions to the Group's other not-for-profit, cost-sharing investments are charged to the income statement in the period to which they relate.

Intra-Group balances and any unrealised gains and losses or income and expense arising from intra-Group transactions are eliminated in preparing the consolidated financial statements. Unrealised gains arising from transactions with associates and joint ventures are eliminated to the extent of the Group's interest in the equity. Unrealised losses are eliminated in the same way as unrealised gains, but only to the extent that there is no evidence of impairment.

## **Accounting policies**

A summary of the Group and Channel 4 significant accounting policies that are material in the context of the accounts is set out below. All accounting policies have been applied consistently in all material respects to all periods presented in these financial statements.

A number of new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations have been issued and became effective on 1 January 2016. None of these are expected to have a significant effect on the consolidated financial statements of the Group.

## Revenue recognition

Revenues are stated net of value added tax and are recognised when persuasive evidence of a sale exists, a service has been performed, and when collectability is reasonably assured. For each of the Group's significant revenue streams, revenues are recognised as described below:

#### Advertising and sponsorship revenues

Revenues are stated net of advertising agency commissions.

Television advertising revenue and online advertising revenue are recognised on transmission of the advertisement. Revenue from sponsorship of the Group's programmes and films is recognised on a straight-line basis in accordance with the transmission schedule for each sponsorship campaign.

Commission earned from advertising representation for third parties, including The Box Plus Network Limited, is recognised on transmission of the related advertisements in line with contractual arrangements. As the Group acts as an agent for these parties, and does not have exposure to the significant risks and rewards of the sale, the gross advertising sales of these arrangements are not recognised in revenue, but the commission earned by the Group in its capacity as agent is.

Revenues are recognised from barter and other similar contractual arrangements involving advertising when the services exchanged are dissimilar. Revenues are measured with reference to the fair value of the goods or services received.

#### Other revenues

Revenues earned from syndicating content to third-party online platforms are typically generated from some or all of the following contractual arrangements:

- milestones non-refundable milestone payments are recognised once the Group's performance obligations are satisfied, for example upon launch
- ongoing service fees revenue is recognised on a straight-line basis over the contract term as service obligations are performed
- pence-per-view or revenue share revenues are calculated based on the number of content views and are recognised when the amounts can be reliably measured

Revenues generated from the exploitation of developed film rights (for example, from theatrical box office releases) are recognised when revenues can be reliably measured.

## Segment reporting

Segments are reported in accordance with IFRS 8 'Operating Segments'. Segments are aggregated only where the nature of the products and services provided are similar and where the segments have similar economic characteristics.

The chief operating decision-maker has been identified as the Channel 4 Board. Segments follow management reporting to the Board in order to make decisions on the allocation of resources within the Group.

#### **Taxation**

Tax on the surplus or deficit for the year comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in the income statement except to the extent that it relates to items recognised directly in other comprehensive income, in which case it is also recognised directly in other comprehensive income.

Current tax is the expected tax payable on the taxable income for the year, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date, and any adjustment to tax payable in respect of previous years.

Deferred tax is provided on temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes.

The following temporary timing differences are not provided for: the initial recognition of goodwill, the initial recognition of assets and liabilities that affect neither accounting nor taxable profit other than in a business combination, and differences relating to investments in subsidiaries and joint ventures to the extent that they will probably not reverse in the foreseeable future.

The amount of deferred tax provided is based on the expected manner of realisation or settlement of the carrying amount of assets and liabilities, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date.

A deferred tax asset is recognised only to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which the asset can be utilised.

## Investments in associates and joint ventures

Investments in associates and joint ventures are recognised using the equity method, where the investment is recorded at cost and adjusted thereafter to include the Group's share of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

## Other investments

Other investments includes equity holdings without significant influence. Equity investments are normally carried at fair value. Where an active market value is not available, the investment is recorded at cost less provision for impairment. The Members believe that this valuation reflects a reasonable approximation of fair value.

## Property, plant and equipment

Freehold land and buildings are stated at open market valuation (fair value) and are revalued at 31 December each year. Directions from the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport require freehold land and buildings to be valued at current value. The Members believe that the fair open market value approximates the current value.

Any gain arising from a change in fair value is recognised directly in other comprehensive income, unless the gain reverses an impairment of the same asset previously recognised in the income statement, in which case it is also recognised in the income statement. Any loss arising from a change in fair value is charged directly to other comprehensive income to the extent of any credit balance existing in the revaluation surplus of that asset. Otherwise, the loss is recognised in the income statement.

Fixtures, fittings and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation.

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of the asset evenly, on a straight-line basis, over its estimated useful life.

Useful lives are estimated taking into account the rate of technological change and the intensity of use of each asset. The annual rates used for this purpose are as follows:

Freehold buildings	2%
Computer hardware	25%-50%
Office equipment and fixtures and fittings	25%
Technical equipment	14%-25%

Freehold land is not depreciated.

The carrying values of property, plant and equipment are reviewed for impairment when events or other changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying values may not be recoverable. Where an indicator of impairment exists, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount. Where the carrying value of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to the recoverable amount.

## Intangible assets

Expenditure on internally developed computer software applications is capitalised to the extent that the project is technically and commercially feasible, sufficient resources exist to complete the development and it is probable that the asset will generate future economic benefits. The expenditure capitalised includes the cost of software licences, direct staff costs and consultancy costs.

Amortisation of capitalised software development costs is charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets from the date that they are available for use. For capitalised computer software, the estimated useful life is between two and five years.

Other intangible assets acquired by the Group are stated at cost less accumulated amortisation and any provision for impairment. Where assets are considered to have finite lives, amortisation is charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful life.

Goodwill arising on the acquisition of an entity represents the excess of the cost of acquisition over the Group's interest in the net fair value of the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities of the entity recognised at the date of acquisition.

Goodwill is initially recognised as an asset at cost and is subsequently measured at cost less any accumulated impairment losses. Goodwill is not subject to amortisation but is tested annually for impairment.

## **Impairment**

An impairment charge is recognised if the carrying value of an asset or a cash-generating unit exceeds its estimated recoverable amount. Impairment charges are recognised in the income statement.

The carrying values of the Group's assets are reviewed at each balance sheet date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If such an indication exists, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated. The recoverable amount of an asset is the greater of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. Value in use is determined by discounting the future net cashflows for the specific asset, or if the asset does not generate independent cashflows, the discounted future net cashflows for the cashgenerating unit to which it belongs.

Estimates are used in deriving these cashflows and the discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the risks specific to the asset and the time value of money. The complexity of the estimation process, including projected performance, the discount rate and long-term growth rate applied, affects the amounts reported in the financial statements.

A cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that generates cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

## **Reversal of impairments**

An impairment charge in respect of freehold land and buildings is reversed in the event of a subsequent increase in fair value. Such a gain is recognised in other comprehensive income, unless the gain reverses an impairment of the same asset previously recognised in the income statement, in which case it is also recognised in the income statement.

An impairment charge in respect of goodwill is not reversed.

In respect of other assets, an impairment charge is reversed when there is an indication that the impairment may no longer exist and there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount.

## **Programme and film rights**

All programme and film rights are valued at the lower of the direct cost incurred up to the balance sheet date and value to the Group. Development expenditure is included in programme and film rights after charging any expenditure that is not expected to lead to a commissioned programme, or a 'green-lit' film, directly to the income statement.

#### Programme and acquired film rights Direct cost

Direct cost is defined as payments made or due to programme suppliers.

#### Value to the Group

Consistent with Channel 4's business model, in which programmes that generate more revenue cross-subsidise programmes with a higher public but sometimes lower commercial value, the value to the Group of the programme and acquired film rights portfolio is assessed on an aggregate basis.

This assessment is overlaid by an evaluation of individual programmes when there is an indicator that the value of these specific programmes may be less than originally envisaged. Value to the Group of individual programmes is assessed both qualitatively and quantitatively, with reference to the quality of programme that has ultimately been delivered and its expected viewing performance.

In certain instances Channel 4 is committed to funding the acquisition or production of specific programmes where the value to the Group no longer warrants the level of expenditure to which the Group is committed. In these instances provision is first made against the costs incurred to date and then a liability recognised to reflect the unavoidable costs in relation to the remaining commitment.

#### **Amortisation**

Programme and acquired film rights are exploited by transmission on the Channel 4 suite of channels. The cost of broadcast programmes and acquired films are wholly written off on first transmission, except for certain feature films, sports rights and certain acquired series, the costs of which are written off over more than one transmission in line with the expected value to the Group.

#### **Developed film rights**

#### **Direct cost**

Direct cost is defined as payments made or due to the film producer.

#### Value to the Group

Developed film rights are exploited both through broadcast on Channel 4's suite of channels and through distribution.

Broadcast film rights are assessed in the same way as programme and acquired film rights.

To the extent that developed film rights are expected to generate revenue, where Channel 4's share of distribution revenues the film is anticipated to earn does not support the associated cost held within inventory, provision is made. The main assumptions employed to estimate future distribution revenues are minimum guaranteed contracted revenues and sales forecasts by territory.

#### **Amortisation**

Broadcast film rights are amortised in the same way as programme and acquired film rights.

Developed film rights expected to generate future revenues from distribution are held on the balance sheet and expensed to the income statement in the proportion that the revenue in the year bears to the estimated ultimate revenue, after provision for any anticipated shortfall.

## Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are reflected net of an estimated impairment for doubtful accounts. The fair value of trade and other receivables equals its book value. For trade and other receivables with a remaining life of less than one year, the notional amount is deemed to reflect the fair value. All other receivables are estimated as the present value of future cashflows discounted at the market rate of interest at the reporting date.

## Other financial assets

Other financial assets comprise deposits of three or more months' duration and other funds with time restricted access, and are stated at fair value.

## Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash balances and deposits of less than three months' duration from the date of placement, including money market funds repayable on demand.

## **Foreign currency**

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at the foreign exchange rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are translated at the foreign exchange rate ruling at that date. Foreign exchange differences arising on translation are recognised in the income statement.

## **Derivative financial instruments**

The Group transacts in a number of currencies as well as Sterling, and is a net purchaser of Euros and US Dollars. Certain exposures to fluctuations in exchange rates are managed by transactions in the forward foreign exchange markets. These derivative financial instruments are stated at fair value based on quoted market rates. Changes in the fair value of these derivative financial instruments are recognised in the income statement. The Group does not hold or issue derivative financial instruments for trading purposes.

Channel 4 has not sought to apply hedge accounting treatment for any of its foreign exchange hedging activity in either of the years presented. As a result, changes in the fair value of hedging instruments have been recognised in the income statement as they have arisen.

Where Channel 4 has identified forward foreign exchange derivative instruments within certain contracts (embedded derivatives), these have been included in the balance sheet at fair value. Fair value of these derivatives is determined by reference to quoted market rates. The value of the derivatives is reviewed on an annual basis or when the relevant contract matures.

#### Leases

Assets held under finance leases (those in which the Group assumes substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership) are treated as property, plant and equipment and depreciation is charged accordingly. The capital elements of future obligations are recorded as liabilities. Interest is charged to the income statement over the period of the lease in proportion to the capital outstanding.

All other leases are treated as operating leases. The rental costs arising from operating leases are charged to the income statement in the year in which they are incurred.

## **Employee benefits - pensions**

#### **Defined benefit scheme**

The Group maintains a defined benefit pension scheme. The net obligation under the scheme is calculated by estimating the future benefits that employees have earned in return for their service in the current and prior periods, discounting to determine a value at today's prices, and deducting the fair value of scheme assets at bid price. The assumed discount rate for the liabilities is the current rate of return of high-quality corporate bonds with similar maturity dates.

The calculation is performed by a qualified actuary using the projected unit credit method.

Remeasurement gains and losses that arise in calculating the Group's obligation in respect of the plan are recognised directly in other comprehensive income within the statement of comprehensive income in the period in which they arise. The current service cost and net interest are recognised in the income statement.

#### **Defined contribution scheme**

Obligations under the Group's defined contribution scheme are recognised as an expense in the income statement as incurred.

#### **Provisions**

A provision is recognised in the balance sheet when the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, and it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation. If the effect is significant, provisions are determined by discounting the expected future cashflows at a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and, where appropriate, the risks specific to the liability.

Before provisions are established in relation to onerous contracts, impairment reviews are carried out and impairment charges recognised on assets dedicated to the contract.

#### **Business combinations**

Business combinations are accounted for using the acquisition method. Under the acquisition method, the identifiable assets acquired, liabilities assumed and any non-controlling interest in the acquiree are recognised at their fair values at the acquisition date, which is the date on which control is transferred to the Company.

Goodwill arising on acquisition is recognised as an asset and initially measured at cost, being the excess of the cost of the business combination over the Group's interest in the net fair value of the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities recognised.

The interest of non-controlling shareholders in the acquiree is initially measured at the non-controlling shareholders' proportion of the net fair value of the assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities recognised.

## 1. Segment reporting

The reportable segments are shown in accordance with IFRS 8 'Operating Segments'. The segments are measured in a manner consistent with the management reports reviewed by the Board, which is considered to be the chief operating decision-maker. Summaries of the principal activities, products and services and financial performance for each segment are provided within the Strategic Report on pages 112 to 113.

Segment results, assets and liabilities include items directly attributable to a segment, along with certain costs which are allocated on an equitable basis in accordance with the Group's cost allocation policies. All costs and revenues are fully allocated across the segments.

Inter-segment pricing is determined on an arm's length basis.

Gross revenues from transactions with one individual external customer comprised more than 10% of the Group's revenues in 2015 amounting to £159 million (2014: one external customer amounting to £145 million). The Group's major customers are all media buying agencies and these revenues are attributable to the 4Broadcast segment. Approximately 3% of the Group's revenues (2014: 3%) are attributable to external customers outside the UK and these are therefore not separately presented.

The following is an analysis of the Group's investment in content and revenue by reportable segment:

Year ended 31 December 2015	4Broadcast £m	4Rights £m	Other £m	Eliminations £m	Total £m
Programme and other content	(640)	(1)	-	-	(641)
Funded by:					
External sales	906	72	1	-	979
Inter-segment sales	-	-	-	-	_
Total revenue	906	72	1	-	979
Operating surplus/(deficit)	(4)	28	-	-	24
Net finance expense					(1)
Share of profit of investments accounted for using the ed	uity method, net of income tax and	amortisation			3
Surplus before tax					26

Programme and other content is comprised of investment into content across all services (the main channel, digital TV channels and digital media services) of £629 million (2014: £602 million), access services (subtitling, audio description and signing) and amounts due to collection societies. Programme and content spend is typically funded by television advertising and other commercial operations but can also be funded by the content reserve in years when a deficit arises following creative investment.

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2015	4Broadcast £m	4Rights £m	Other £m	Eliminations £m	Total £m
Segment assets	915	181	29	(203)	846
Segment liabilities	(531)	(23)	(76)	203	(351)
Net assets/(liabilities)	384	158	(47)	-	495

Year ended 31 December 2014	4Broadcast £m	4Rights £m	Other £m	Eliminations £m	Total £m
Programme and other content	(612)	-	-	-	(612)
Funded by:					
External sales	859	78	1	-	938
Inter-segment sales	1	-	-	(1)	_
Total revenue	860	78	1	(1)	938
Operating surplus/(deficit)	(20)	24	-	-	4
Net finance expense					(1)
Share of profit of investments accounted for using the equ	iity method, net of income tax and a	mortisation			1
Surplus before tax					4
Balance sheet as at 31 December 2014	4Broadcast £m	4Rights £m	Other £m	Eliminations £m	Total £m
Segment assets	828	163	36	(218)	809
Segment liabilities	(468)	(33)	(83)	218	(366)
Net assets/(liabilities)	360	130	(47)	_	443

## 2. Cost of transmission and sales

2015	Programme and other content £m	Indirect programme costs	Transmitter and regulatory costs £m	Cost of sales	Cost of marketing £m	Total £m
4Broadcast	640	42	90	65	43	880
4Rights	1	15	4	21	1	42
Other	-	_	_	1	-	1
Eliminations	-	_	_	_	-	_
Continuing operations	641	57	94	87	44	923
2014	Programme and other content £m	Indirect programme costs	Transmitter and regulatory costs £m	Cost of sales £m	Cost of marketing £m	Total £m
4Broadcast	612	40	108	51	37	848
4Rights	-	9	4	39	3	55
Other	-	-	_	1	-	1
Eliminations	-	-	_	-	(1)	(1)
Continuing operations	612	49	112	91	39	903

Other operating expenditure includes:	2015 £m	2014 £m
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment (note 9)	6	6
Amortisation of intangible assets (note 10)	1	1
Restructuring costs	2	1
Operating lease rentals	2	1
Other administrative expenses	21	22
Other operating expenditure	32	31
Audit of these financial statements  Amounts receivable by auditors and their associates in respect of:	£000 147	145
Audit of financial statements of subsidiaries pursuant to legislation	23	23
Other audit related and assurance	41	58
Total audit and assurance	211	226
Taxation compliance services	31	42
All other services	71	128
Total other services	102	170
Auditor's remuneration	313	396

In addition to the above services, £nil (2014: £19,245) is payable to the Group's auditor who acted as auditor to the Channel Four Television Staff Pension Plan.

The appointment of auditor to the Channel Four Television Staff Pension Plan and the fees paid in respect of those audits are agreed by the Trustees of the Plan, who act independently from the management of the Group.

## 4. Employee expenses and information

A detailed analysis of Members' remuneration, including salaries and variable pay, is provided in the Members' Remuneration Report.

The direct costs of all employees, including Members, appear below:	2015 £m	2014 £m
Aggregate gross salaries	65	61
Employer's National Insurance contributions	6	6
Employer's defined benefit pension current service cost (note 18)	4	3
Employer's defined contribution pension contributions	2	2
Total direct costs of employment	77	72

In addition to the above, in 2015 £2 million of costs were expensed to the income statement in respect of restructuring initiatives to increase operational efficiency within the Group (2014: £1 million).

As disclosed in the Members' Remuneration Report on page 133, the total remuneration of the Executive and Non-Executive Members for the year ending 31 December 2015 is £2,784,000 (2014: £2,640,000).

The salary multiple of highest to median employee was as follows:	2015 £000	2014 £000
Total remuneration of highest paid employee (page 133)	881	855
Total remuneration of median employee	57	54
Multiple of highest paid to median employee	15.5	15.8
Total remuneration is defined as base salary, variable pay, employer pension contribution and other benefits.		
The average number of employees, including Executive Members, was as follows:	2015 Number	2014 Number
4Broadcast		
Programme commissioning	216	214
Advertising and sponsorship sales and research	197	192
Marketing and creative services	115	110
Finance, human resources and facilities management	74	69
Information systems	64	40
Transmission and engineering	42	51
Corporate affairs and press office	38	36
Corporate and strategy	20	17
4Talent	13	13
4Rights	40	66
Group total	819	808
Permanent employees	773	766
Contract staff	46	42
Group total	819	808

5. Net finance expense				
Net finance income/(expense) recognised in the year comprised:			2015 £m	2014 £m
Interest receivable on short-term deposits			1	1
Net interest expense on pension scheme (note 18)			(2)	(2)
Net finance expense			(1)	(1)
			(-)	
6. Income tax expense				
The taxation charge is based on the taxable profit for the year and comprises:			2015 £m	2014 £m
Current tax:				
Current year			1	_
Deferred tax: origination and reversal of temporary differences				
Current year			(2)	1
Prior year			1	-
Total income tax expense			-	1
Corporation tax is charged at the standard UK rate of 20.25% for the year (2014: 21.5%).				
Reconciliation of income tax:	2015 Rate	2015 £m	2014 Rate	2014 £m
Surplus before income tax		26		4
Income tax using the domestic corporation tax rate	20.25%	5	21.5%	1
Effects of:				
Non-deductible expenses		1		1
Non-taxable gains		(1)		(1)
Utilisation of unrecognised trading losses brought forward		(5)		-
Recognition of deferred tax on trading losses carried forward		(2)		-
Deferred tax not recognised		1		_
Other tax adjustments		1		-
Total income tax expense				1

The income tax expense excludes the Group's share of income tax of investments accounted for using the equity method of  $\mathfrak{L}1$  million (2014:  $\mathfrak{L}1$  million) which has been included in the Group's share of post acquisition profits, net of income tax (note 7).

<b>7.</b>	Investn	nents	ac	counted	for using	the	eq	uity	meth	od	

The carrying value of the Group's investments accounted for using the equity method is as follows:

	Box £m	Fund £m	Total £m
		Indie Growth	
Total carrying value at 31 December 2014	22	4	26
Share of dividends received	(2)	-	(2)
Amortisation	(1)	-	(1)
Share of post acquisition profits, net of income tax	2	-	2
Acquisitions	-	4	4
Carrying value at 1 January 2014	23	-	23
	Box £m	Fund £m	Total £m
		Growth	

Total carrying value at 31 December 2015	22	7	29
Share of dividends received	(3)	-	(3)
Share of post acquisition profits, net of income tax	3	-	3
Acquisitions	-	3	3

#### The Box Plus Network Limited

The Box Plus Network Limited ('Box'), incorporated and operating in the United Kingdom, broadcasts a number of music television channels on free-to-air and pay platforms. Box is accounted for as a joint venture and the investment reflects 500 ordinary shares of £1, representing 50% of the share capital of Box.

Annual impairment tests on Box's goodwill and intangible assets are based on their recoverable amounts determined from their value in use.

An impairment review was carried out by estimating the future expected cashflows for Box using a pre-tax discount rate of 11% (2014: 9%), reflecting the Group's estimated cost of capital for its commercial television segments and comprising a risk-free rate and an equity risk premium. Cashflows were based on management's best estimate of future performance to 2020, reflecting management's cautious view of the long-term potential in music viewing in commercial television. The present value of the cashflows accruing to the Group was compared with the carrying value of the investment held on the balance sheet. No impairment was required as a result.

Management has approved the forecast on which the cashflow analysis has been based and believes that there are currently no likely changes in revenues or discount rate which would reduce the value in use for Box down to a level where an impairment would arise.

There are no contingent liabilities and no capital commitments in respect of Box or other joint ventures to be included within the Group's financial statements. During 2015, Channel 4 received a dividend of £2.75 million (2014: £2.5 million) from Box. Channel 4 also sold £8 million (2014: £8 million) of services to Box including commissions earned on advertising sales and made payments on Box's behalf for other services including transmission, programme costs, brand royalties, marketing, facilities management, information systems, finance and other administrative support and pensions. Box owed Channel 4 £1 million at 31 December 2015 (2014: £1 million) in respect of these services. Channel 4 had no balances outstanding to Box at 31 December 2015 (2014: £nil) as no services were rendered by Box to Channel 4 in 2015 (2014: £nil).

## Summary annual financial information of investment in Box

Summary annual infancial information of investment in Box	Current assets £m	Non-current assets £m	Current liabilities £m	Long-term liabilities £m	Revenue £m	Profit from continuing operations £m
2015	12	1	(7)	-	38	7
2014	12	1	(6)	-	35	6

## 7. Investments accounted for using the equity method continued

#### The Indie Growth Fund

During 2014, Channel 4 launched the Indie Growth Fund, a fund with the aim of nurturing the independent sector. The fund seeks to invest up to £20 million in a broad portfolio of television and digital companies. In 2015, Channel 4 invested £3 million (2014: £4 million) in the Indie Growth Fund and acquired minority shareholdings in four companies (2014: five). A further £2 million is committed for subsequent equity subscriptions in these companies at 31 December 2015.

Channel 4 set out two key aims when launching the Indie Growth Fund. Firstly, to provide access to funding for a broad portfolio of small and medium sized independent production companies based in the UK to help them grow and develop their business. Secondly, to put our capital to work in more remit-delivering ways and open Channel 4 up to sharing in the benefits of companies that go on to generate shareholder value in the medium term. Therefore, the Indie Growth Fund companies are held for investment purposes and it is not Management's intention to control these entities. The Indie Growth Fund companies have been classified as associates as Channel 4 generally has commitments to purchase more than 20% of the equity and voting rights in these entities. Where this is not the case, Management is satisfied that significant influence exists over these entities due to Channel 4's ability to influence, but not control, the financial and operating policies of these entities.

Management has reviewed the carrying value of the Indie Growth Fund as at 31 December 2015 and concluded that there were no indicators of impairment at the balance sheet date.

Of the £621 million total of programme rights recognised as expenses in 2015 (note 12), Channel 4 commissioned £6 million (2014: £10 million) of content from Indie Growth Fund companies which includes commissions sanctioned both pre- and post-acquisition. Channel 4 and the Indie Growth Fund companies have no balances outstanding to each other in respect of these transactions at 31 December 2015 (2014: £nil).

The Indie Growth Fund is comprised of the following entities incorporated in the United Kingdom:

	Proportion of equity owned at 31 December <sup>1</sup>			
Company	2015	2014		
Arrow International Media Limited	15.0%	12.0%		
Eleven Film Limited	16.8%	13.5%		
Lightbox Media Limited	17.0%	12.0%		
Popkorn Media Limited	25.0%	16.1%		
Renowned Films Limited	16.0%	-		
Spelthorne Community Television Limited	16.7%	-		
True North Productions Limited	23.0%	21.0%		
Voltage TV Productions Limited	10.0%	-		
Whisper Films Limited	12.5%	-		

<sup>1</sup> This represents the proportion of equity owned as at the balance sheet date and does not include commitments for subsequent equity subscriptions after the balance sheet date.

#### Summary annual financial information of Indie Growth Fund investments

2015	9	1	(6)	_	29	_
ass	ets :m	Non-current assets £m	Current liabilities £m	Long-term liabilities £m	Revenue £m	continuing operations £m

#### 8. Other investments

The Group contributes to the funding of the following organisations, each of which is incorporated in the United Kingdom. The table below presents the Group's ownership of the entities, or legal guarantee (indicated with \*), and transactions with them during the year.

				Services received		Funding and services provided	
Name	Nature of business	Share class	Ownership interest	2015 £m	2014 £m	2015 £m	2014 £m
Broadcasters' Audience Research Board Limited	Research	*	-	-	-	2	2
Clearcast Limited	Regulator	Ordinary, deferred	25.0%	-	_	1	1
Digital 3 and 4 Limited	Operator	'A' Ordinary	50.0%	1	1	24	25
DTV Services Limited	Marketing	Ordinary	20.0%	7	5	6	5
Digital Production Partnership Limited	Standards	*	_	-	_	-	_
Digital UK	Marketing	*	-	-	-	2	2
Thinkbox Limited	Marketing	Ordinary	20.0%	1	1	2	1
YouView Limited	Platform	Voting, non-voting	14.3%	_	1	1	2

At 31 December 2015, Channel 4 owed £4 million to Digital 3 and 4 Limited (2014: £nil).

At 31 December 2015, Channel 4 owed £nil to DTV Services Limited (2014: £0.5 million).

There are no trade receivable or trade payable balances with any of the other related parties listed above at 31 December 2014 and 2015. No dividends were received in 2015 (2014: £nil) from any of the related parties listed above.

The investments listed have not been accounted for as joint ventures or associates as they are not-for-profit, cost-sharing organisations which will not generate returns for the Group. The Group recognises its share of funding contributions of these organisations in the appropriate line in the income statement in the period to which they relate. They are held at £nil (2014: £nil) carrying amount in the consolidated financial statements of the Group and therefore the accounting treatment applied is not deemed material.

9. Property, plant and equipment	Freehold land and building £m	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £m	Total £m
Cost or valuation			
At 1 January 2014	73	128	201
Additions	-	6	6
Revaluation	12	-	12
At 31 December 2014	85	134	219
At 1 January 2015	85	134	219
Additions	-	3	3
Disposals	-	(29)	(29)
Revaluation	11	-	11
At 31 December 2015	96	108	204
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2014	-	111	111
Charge for the year	1	5	6
Revaluation	(1)	-	(1)
At 31 December 2014	-	116	116
At 1 January 2015	-	116	116
Charge for the year	1	5	6
Disposals	-	(29)	(29)
Revaluation	(1)	-	(1)
At 31 December 2015	-	92	92
Net book value			
At 1 January 2015	85	18	103
At 31 December 2015	96	16	112
At 1 January 2014	73	17	90
At 31 December 2014	85	18	103

The fixtures, fittings and equipment disposals of £29 million (2014: £nil) are fully depreciated assets no longer used by the Group.

There is a £1 million commitment to purchase property, plant and equipment at the balance sheet date (2014: none). There are no material assets held under finance leases at the balance sheet date (2014: none). No assets have been pledged for security (2014: none).

## 9. Property, plant and equipment continued

#### Valuation of freehold property

The freehold property at 124 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2TX, was valued at 31 December 2015 by external valuers BNP Paribas Real Estate, in accordance with the Appraisal and Valuation Manual of The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. The property was valued on the basis of open market value, which the Members believe approximates to current value. In reaching their conclusions, the valuers have paid attention to comparable transactions which have taken place in recent months within the Victoria area of London.

The open market value for this property was £96 million (2014: £85 million). After depreciation charged on the open market value at 31 December 2015 (£1 million), a gain on revaluation of £12 million has been recognised in the Statement of Other Comprehensive Income.

If freehold property had not been revalued it would have been included in the financial statements at the following amounts:

	2015 £m	2014 £m
Cost	62	62
Accumulated depreciation	(20)	(19)
Impairment	(6)	(6)
Net book value based on cost	36	37

10. Intangible assets				
101 man 19 m 12 12 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	Goodwill	Developed software	Broadcasting licence	Total
	(note 20) £m	£m	£m	£m
Cost				
At 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2014	-	23	5	28
At 1 January 2015	_	23	5	28
Additions	2	2	_	4
At 31 December 2015	2	25	5	32
Amortisation				
At 1 January 2014	-	20	5	25
Amortisation for the year	-	1	_	1
At 31 December 2014	-	21	5	26
At 1 January 2015	-	21	5	26
Amortisation for the year	-	1	-	1
At 31 December 2015	-	22	5	27
Carrying amount				
At 1 January 2015	-	2	_	2
At 31 December 2015	2	3	-	5
At 1 January 2014	-	3	_	3
At 31 December 2014	-	2	_	2

Developed software represents amounts capitalised on internally developed computer software, principally in relation to the management of advertising and sponsorship revenues, and programme scheduling applications meeting the recognition criteria for internally generated intangible assets.

The broadcast licence, acquired in 2007, was fully amortised as at 31 December 2012.

## 11. Deferred tax assets and liabilities

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognised at 18% (2014: 20%) reflecting the corporation tax rate substantially enacted as at 31 December 2015

31 December 2013.	Assets 2015 £m	Assets 2014 £m	Liabilities 2015 £m	Liabilities 2014 £m	Net 2015 £m	Net 2014 £m
Property, plant and equipment	2	2	-	-	2	2
Employee benefits	10	14	-	_	10	14
Trading losses	3	2	-	-	3	2
Revaluation of freehold land and buildings	-	-	-	(4)	-	(4)
Other short-term timing differences	1	-	-	(1)	1	(1)
Group deferred tax assets/(liabilities)	16	18	-	(5)	16	13

#### Unrecognised deferred tax assets and liabilities

Deferred tax assets have not been recognised in respect of:	2015 £m	2014 £m
Carried forward capital losses	1	1
Carried forward trading losses	-	7
Tax assets	1	8

Unrecognised deferred tax assets include losses carried forward that the Group is not yet able to utilise. A deferred tax asset is only recognised to the extent that it is probable that taxable profit will be available against which the deductible temporary difference can be utilised (either now or in later accounting periods).

#### Movements in temporary differences during the year

The amount of deferred tax recognised in the income statement in respect of each type of temporary timing difference is as follows:

Group deferred tax assets/(liabilities)	8	(1)	6	13
Other short-term timing differences	(1)	-	-	(1)
Revaluation of freehold land and buildings	(2)	-	(2)	(4)
Trading losses	2	-	-	2
Employee benefits	7	(1)	8	14
Property, plant and equipment	2	_	-	2
	Balance at 1 Jan 2014 £m	Recognised in income £m	in other comprehensive income	Balance at 31 Dec 2014 £m

	Balance at	Recognised	Recognised in other comprehensive	Balance at
	1 Jan 2015	in income	income	31 Dec 2015
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Property, plant and equipment	2	-	-	2
Employee benefits	14	(2)	(2)	10
Trading losses	2	1	-	3
Revaluation of freehold land and buildings	(4)	-	4	-
Other short-term timing differences	(1)	2	-	1
Group deferred tax assets	13	1	2	16

12. Programme and film rights		
	2015 £m	2014 £m
Programmes and films completed but not transmitted	87	91
Acquired programme and film rights	65	51
Programmes and films in the course of production	102	100
Total programme and film rights	254	242

Certain programmes and film rights may not be utilised within one year.

Programme and film rights to the value of  $\mathfrak{L}621$  million were recognised as expenses in the year across the main and digital television channels (2014:  $\mathfrak{L}594$  million). Of this amount, obsolete programmes and developments written off totalled  $\mathfrak{L}31$  million (2014:  $\mathfrak{L}45$  million). Programme and film rights include  $\mathfrak{L}22$  million (2014:  $\mathfrak{L}28$  million) in respect of developed film rights.

## 13. Trade and other receivables

	2015 £m	2014 £m
Trade receivables	140	157
Prepayments and accrued income	38	38
Distribution and producer advances	-	1
Total trade and other receivables	178	196

Trade receivables are shown net of impairment charges amounting to £nil (2014: £nil) recognised in the current year in relation to outstanding balances from customers, the receipt of which management view as unlikely.

Distribution and producer advances are shown net of impairment charges amounting to £nil (2014: £2 million) recognised in the current year in relation to advances paid on DVD development deals, which management consider are unlikely to be recouped through future sales.

#### Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of a financial loss to the Group if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations, and arises principally from the Group's receivables from customers.

#### (i) Trade receivables

Credit risk with respect to trade receivables is principally related to amounts due from advertising agencies and retailers. A risk strategy exists to protect against exposure to these receivables working to approved terms of reference including insurance for most customers. Exposure is monitored and reviewed on a weekly basis, and any issues are formally reported to an executive committee chaired by the Group Finance Director. Based on credit evaluation and discussions with both the committee and insurers, customers may be required to provide security in order to trade with the Group.

The Group establishes an allowance for impairment that represents our estimate of likely losses in respect of trade and other receivables. The main component of this allowance is a specific loss component that relates to individually significant exposures. Losses with regard to these receivables are historically low as advertising agencies must settle their debts before advertising transmissions are broadcast.

#### (ii) Counterparty

See interest rate risk and exposure in note 14.

#### Exposure to credit risk

The carrying amount of financial assets represents the maximum credit exposure. The maximum credit exposure at the balance sheet date in relation to trade receivables, net of allowance for impairment, was £140 million for the Group (2014: £157 million), with £87 million of other financial assets (2014: £70 million), and cash and cash equivalents of £165 million (2014: £152 million). The exposure to credit risk all arises in the UK.

Trade receivables of £140 million for the Group (2014: £157 million) were aged under six months and which were not yet due under standard credit terms at the balance sheet date. £127 million of the receivables were insured at the balance sheet date (2014: £122 million) and £135 million (2014: £146 million) has been subsequently collected by the Group since the balance sheet date.

14. Treasury		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	2015 £m	2014 £m
Bank balances	20	38
Money market funds <sup>1</sup>	105	84
Money market deposits maturing in less than three months	40	30
Cash and cash equivalents	165	152
Money market deposits maturing after three months	_	10
Investment funds	87	60
Other financial assets	87	70
Amounts held in money market funds are repayable within seven days.		
There is no difference between the fair value and book value of cash, cash equivalents and other financial assets.		
Cashflow information	2015 £m	2014 £m
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	152	131
Other financial assets at 1 January	70	107
Total cash and cash equivalents and other financial assets at 1 January	222	238
Net cashflow from operating activities	36	(9)
Net cashflow from investing activities	(6)	(7)
Total cashflow	30	(16)
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	165	152
Other financial assets at 31 December	87	70
Total cash and cash equivalents and other financial assets at 31 December	252	222

## 14. Treasury continued

#### Interest rate risk and exposure

The Group invests surplus cash in fixed rate money market deposits, high interest bank accounts and variable and constant net asset value money market funds. Funds are invested only with an agreed list of counterparties that carry a minimum of an A- credit rating or equivalent from Standard and Poor's, and Moody's credit rating services with government support, or with money market funds that have an AAA credit rating from either of these credit rating services.

It is estimated that if interest rates had been 0.5% lower/higher throughout the year, with all other variables held constant the Group's deficit before tax would have been £1.1 million lower/higher (2014: £0.9 million).

The Group does not have any debt and as such is not exposed to fluctuations in interest rates in this regard.

The interest rate profile of the Group's cash and deposits at 31 December 2015 and 31 December 2014 is set out below:

	Effective interest rate 2015 %	interest rate	Total 2015 £m	Total 2014 £m
Interest bearing deposits maturing in less than three months held in Sterling	0.5	0.5	163	150
Interest bearing deposits maturing in less than three months held in foreign currencies	0.2	0.1	2	2
Total cash and cash equivalents	0.5	0.5	165	152
Money market deposits maturing after three months held in Sterling Investment funds	- 0.6	0.7 0.8	- 87	10 60
Other financial assets	0.6	0.8	87	70

#### Foreign currency risk and derivative financial instruments

The Group is exposed to currency risk on sales and purchases that are denominated in currencies other than Sterling. The currencies that give rise to this risk are US Dollars and Euros. The Group uses forward exchange contracts and currency cash receipts to hedge its currency risk. Changes in the fair value of exchange contracts that economically hedge monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies, and for which no hedge accounting is applied are recognised in the income statement. Both the change in the fair value of the forward contracts and the foreign exchange gains and losses relating to monetary items are recognised as part of net financial income (note 5).

The Group does not have any foreign subsidiaries and as a result is not exposed to foreign currency risk in this regard. The Group is exposed to currency movements on foreign cash holdings. Amounts held by currency are detailed above within the analysis of the Group's and Channel 4's cash and deposits.

At 31 December 2015, the total value of forward contracts used as economic hedges of monetary liabilities was £4 million (2014: £11 million). This represented six (2014: eighteen) Euro forward purchase contracts with fixed maturity dates with settlement within 12 months from the balance sheet date, and one (2014: three) US Dollar forward purchase contract with a fixed maturity date with settlement within 12 months from the balance sheet date. At 31 December 2015, these contracts were revalued with reference to forward exchange rates based on maturity. The change in fair value of £0.3 million (2014: £0.1 million) has been recognised in the income statement and the associated liability recorded on the balance sheet as at 31 December 2015. The forward contracts have been assessed as level 2 in the fair value hierarchy under IFRS 13.

It is estimated that if Sterling had strengthened/weakened by 10% at the balance sheet date against other currencies with all other variables held constant, the Group's surplus before tax would have been £0.6 million lower/higher (2014: £1.5 million).

#### Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices, such as foreign exchange rates and interest rates, will affect the Group's income or the value of its assets and liabilities. These risks are managed by the Group's treasury function as described below.

The Audit Committee is responsible for approving the treasury policy for the Group. The Group's policy is to ensure that adequate liquidity and financial resource is available to support the Group's continuing activities and growth while managing the risks described above. The Group's policy is not to engage in speculative financial transactions. The Group does not seek to apply hedge accounting. The Group's treasury and funding activities are undertaken by a treasury function, which reports to the Group Finance Director. Its primary activities are to manage the Group's liquidity, funding requirements and financial risk, principally arising from movements in interest and foreign currency exchange rates within the parameters of the approved treasury policy.

Group treasury operates within clearly defined objectives and controls and is subject to periodic review by the business assurance function.

15. Trade and other payables		
io. Irado and other payables	2015 £m	2014 £m
Trade payables	10	15
National Insurance	1	1
Other creditors	61	48
Accruals and deferred income	211	200
VAT	10	22
Total trade and other payables	293	286

There is no difference between the fair value and book value of trade and other payables. The contractual cashflows are equal to the carrying amount and are classified as payable within six months or less at 31 December 2015 and 2014.

The Group endeavours to pay all invoices in accordance with contract terms and, unless agreed payment terms specify otherwise, within 30 days of the date of the invoice. Any complaints about failure to pay on time should be addressed to the Group Finance Director, who will ensure that they are investigated and responded to appropriately.

The number of days taken to pay suppliers of services in 2015, as calculated using average payable balances, was six (2014: seven). This is significantly lower than the Group's standard payment terms of 30 days due to the payment arrangements required for programme and transmission costs.

#### Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Group fails to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The management of operational liquidity risk aims primarily to ensure that the Group always has a liquidity buffer that is able, in the short term, to absorb the net effects of transactions made and expected changes in liquidity both under normal and stressed conditions without incurring unacceptable losses or risking damage to the Group's reputation. The cash balances held by the Group are considered to be sufficient to support the Group's medium-term funding requirements.

16. Provisions			
	Onerous lease/ Dilapidations £m	Restructuring costs £m	Total £m
At 1 January 2014	3	-	3
Released in the year	(1)	-	(1)
Charged to the income statement	-	-	-
At 31 December 2014	2	_	2
At 1 January 2015	2	_	2
Released in the year	(1)	-	(1)
Charged to the income statement	-	1	1
At 31 December 2015	1	1	2
Provisions have been analysed as current and non-current as follows:		2015 £m	2014 £m
Current		1	1
Non-current		1	1
Total		2	2

#### Onerous lease and dilapidations provision

Prior to 2015, the provision was an onerous contract related to a rental deficit on a building that was surplus to requirements but for which the Group had contracted commitments at the balance sheet date. In 2015, the property rental agreement was reviewed and revised resulting in a contract that was no longer onerous. The provision as at year end represents the discounted dilapidations cost when the property rental agreement expires in 2020. An amount of  $\mathfrak{L}0.1$  million (2014:  $\mathfrak{L}0.1$  million) has been recognised as an interest cost relating to the passage of time of the discounted provision.

#### **Contingent liabilities**

The Members are not aware of any legal or arbitration proceedings, pending or threatened, against any Member of the Group which gives rise to a significant contingent liability.

17. Commitments				
17. Communicities	Due within	Due within	Due after	
2015	1 year £m	2–5 years £m	5 years £m	Total £m
Programme commitments	324	292	7	623
Operating leases	2	6	-	8
Property, plant and equipment	1	_	-	1
Total	327	298	7	632
	Due within	Due within	Due after	
2014	1 year £m	2–5 years £m	5 years £m	Total £m
Programme commitments	309	288	3	600
Operating leases	2	7	-	9
Total	311	295	3	609

In addition to the above, the Group is party to the shareholder agreement for Digital 3 and 4 Limited. The Group is committed to meeting its share of contracted costs entered into by that company.

The Group's share of Digital 3 and 4 Limited's committed payments was £24 million in 2015 (2014: £25 million) and is forecast to be £23 million in 2016. Digital 3 and 4 Limited has entered into long-term distribution contracts that expire in 2022 and 2034 and the Group is committed to funding its contractual share.

The Group is committed to paying capacity costs for transmission on the digital terrestrial and satellite network. Committed payments for digital terrestrial transmission capacity costs amounted to £26 million in 2015 (2014: £37 million) and are forecast to be £24 million in 2016. Committed payments for satellite transmission capacity costs were £14 million in 2015 (2014: £16 million) and are forecast to be £14 million in 2016. The digital terrestrial transmission contracts expire between 2026 and 2031 and the satellite transmission contracts expire between 2018 and 2022.

The Group has commitments for equity subscriptions for minority shareholdings in companies in the Indie Growth Fund due within one year as disclosed in note 7.

#### 18. Employee benefits – pensions

During the year, the Group operated a defined benefit pension scheme – the Channel 4 Television Staff Pension Plan (the 'Plan'), providing benefits based on final salary for employees.

#### Nature of benefits, regulatory framework and governance of the Plan

The Plan is a registered defined benefit final salary scheme subject to the UK regulatory framework for pensions, including the Scheme Specific Funding requirements. The Trustees of the Plan are responsible for operating the Plan and have a statutory responsibility to act in accordance with the Plan's Trust Deed and Rules, in the best interest of the beneficiaries of the Plan, and UK legislation (including Trust law). The employer has the power to set the contributions that are paid to the Plan, following advice from the scheme actuary. However, these must be agreed by the Trustees to the extent required by Part 3 of the Pensions Act 2004 (Scheme Funding).

#### Risks to which the Plan exposes the employer

The nature of the Plan exposes the employer to the risk of paying unanticipated additional contributions to the Plan in times of adverse experience. The most financially significant risks are likely to be:

- members living for longer than expected;
- higher than expected actual inflation and salary increase experience;
- lower than expected investment returns; and
- the risk that movements in the value of the Plan's liabilities are not met by corresponding movements in the value of the Plan's assets.

The sensitivity analysis disclosed on page 165 is intended to provide an indication of the impact on the value of the Plan's liabilities of the risks highlighted.

#### Plan amendments, curtailments and settlements

There have not been any material curtailments or settlements during the year.

The scheme closed to future accrual with effect from 31 December 2015 without material impact to the Group's defined benefit obligation.

Amounts recognised in the consolidated balance sheet	2015	2014
	£m	£m
Present value of funded obligations	(388)	(396)
Fair value of plan assets	332	323
Recognised liability for defined benefit obligations	(56)	(73)
Movements in the fair value of plan assets recognised in the balance sheet:	2015 £m	2014 £m
Fair value of scheme assets at 1 January	323	270
Interest income on plan assets	12	12
Return on plan assets (excluding amounts in interest income)	(7)	37
Employer contributions net of charges	11	8
Employee contributions net of charges	1	1
Benefits paid	(8)	(5)
Fair value of scheme assets at 31 December	332	323
The fair value of the plan assets at the balance sheet date is comprised as follows:	2015	2014
	£m	£m
UK equity	7	7
Overseas and emerging markets equity	79	75
Total equity securities	86	82
Corporate bonds	65	61
Index linked gilts	-	101
Total debt securities	65	162
Multi-asset absolute return	79	_
Liability driven investments	84	_
Equity-linked inflation	_	78
Total investment funds	163	78

The plan assets do not include any directly or indirectly owned financial instruments issued by the Corporation.

Movements in the present value of scheme liabilities for defined benefit obligations recognised in the balance sheet:	2015 £m	2014 £m
Present value of scheme liabilities at 1 January	396	309
Current service cost	4	3
Interest expense on pension scheme liabilities	14	14
Remeasurement deficit on plan liabilities arising from changes in demographic assumptions	-	31
Remeasurement (gain)/deficit on plan liabilities arising from changes in financial assumptions	(14)	43
Experience remeasurement	(5)	-
Employee contributions net of charges	1	1
Benefits paid	(8)	(5)
Present value of scheme liabilities at 31 December	388	396
Expenses recognised in the income statement arose as follows:	2015 £m	2014 £m
Current service cost	4	3
Net interest expense	2	2
Net charge to income statement	6	5
The expense has been recognised in the following lines in the income statement:	2015 £m	2014 £m
Cost of transmission and sales	3	2
Other operating expenditure	1	1
Net financial expense	2	2
Net charge to income statement	6	5
The remeasurement deficit recognised in other comprehensive income arose as follows:	2015 £m	2014 £m
Remeasurement gain/(deficit) on plan liabilities	19	(74)
Remeasurement (deficit)/gain on plan assets (excluding amounts in interest income)	(7)	37
Net remeasurement gain/(deficit) on pension scheme	12	(37)

The cumulative amount of net remeasurement deficits/gains recognised in the Statement of Changes in Equity since transition to IFRS is £87 million (2014: £99 million).

18. Employee benefits – pensions continued		
Principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date	2015 %	2014 %
Discount rate	3.65	3.50
Rate of increase in salaries	2.60	2.65
Rate of increase in pensions	3.05	3.05
Inflation	3.10	3.15
	2015 years	2014 years
Life expectancy from 65 (now aged 45) – male	23.3	23.2
Life expectancy from 65 (now aged 45) – female	26.6	26.5
Life expectancy from 65 (now aged 65) – male	23.0	22.9
Life expectancy from 65 (now aged 65) – female	26.1	26.0

These assumptions were adopted in consultation with the independent actuary to the Channel Four Television Staff Pension Plan. If experience is different from these assumptions, or if the assumptions need to be amended in future, there will be a corresponding impact on the net pension scheme liability recorded on the Group balance sheet. The expected returns on plan assets are set by reference to historical returns, current market indicators and the expected long-term asset allocation of the Plan.

#### Sensitivity analysis

The table below sets out the sensitivity of the scheme's pension liabilities to changes in actuarial assumptions at 31 December 2015:

	Revised
	present
	value of
	scheme
	liabilities
	£m
0.5% decrease in discount rate	431
1 year increase in life expectancy	400
0.5% increase in inflation (and inflation-linked) assumptions	422

The sensitivities disclosed are calculated using approximate methods taking into account the duration of the Plan's liabilities.

#### **Funding arrangements**

Contribution rates to the scheme are determined by a qualified independent actuary (the 'Actuary to the Plan') on the basis of triennial valuation using the projected unit method. The most recent triennial valuation was carried out as at 31 December 2012. The results of the valuation at 31 December 2012 showed that the scheme's assets represented 71% of the benefits that had accrued to Members, reflecting a deficit of £101 million. The next triennial valuation will be carried out as at 31 December 2015.

Following the valuation and discussions with the Actuary to the Plan, the Trustees and the Board agreed a revised schedule of contributions to reduce the Plan's funding deficit of £588,000 per month with effect from 1 August 2014 to 31 December 2014 and increasing to £708,000 per month with effect from 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2025.

The estimated total employer contributions in 2016 are £8.5 million representing the deficit funding payments described above.

The weighted average duration of the Plan's defined benefit obligation is approximately 22 years. The majority of the Plan's benefits are to be paid as annuities from retirement of a Member until their death.

The Plan is closed to future accrual with effect from 31 December 2015.

## 19. Related party transactions

#### **Members**

Details of transactions in which Members have an interest are disclosed in the Report of the Members (page 119).

Details of Members' remuneration are shown in the Members' Remuneration Report (page 133).

#### Joint ventures and associates

Details of transactions between the Group and its joint ventures and associates are disclosed in note 7.

#### **Equity investments**

The Group holds a 15% equity holding in Protagonist Pictures Limited. During 2015, Channel 4 paid £0.1 million to Protagonist Pictures Limited for agency sales and film acquisition services (2014: £0.1 million). No amounts were due at 31 December 2015 (2014: £0.1).

#### Other

The Group contributes to the funding of several not-for-profit, cost-sharing organisations. Details of transactions between the Group and these organisations are disclosed in note 8.

## 20. Business combinations during the year

On 30 July 2015, the Group purchased 80% of the shares and voting interests in Global Series Network Limited ('GSN'). The acquisition of GSN secured access to foreign drama content rights for distribution on the Group's portfolio of channels and platforms.

The total consideration paid was £2 million satisfied in cash. The fair value of identifiable net liabilities acquired was £66,000. The non-controlling interest of GSN is considered to be immaterial. No intangible assets were separately identified. Goodwill of £2 million has been recognised at acquisition. The goodwill is not deductible for tax purposes.

From the acquisition date to 31 December 2015, GSN has contributed £nil revenue and £0.3 million net loss to the Group results. There are no commitments and contingencies in respect of GSN to be included within the Group's consolidated financial statements.

# Channel 4 balance sheet as at 31 December

	Group note	Channel 4 note	2015 £m	2014 £m
Assets				
Property, plant and equipment	9		112	103
Intangible assets		2	3	2
Investments in subsidiaries and joint ventures		3	28	28
Deferred tax assets	11		16	18
Total non-current assets			159	151
Programme and film rights		4	252	242
Trade and other receivables	13		178	196
Other financial assets	14		87	70
Cash and cash equivalents	14		165	152
Total current assets			682	660
Total assets			841	811
Liabilities				
Employee benefits – pensions	18		(56)	(73)
Provisions	16		(1)	(1)
Deferred tax liabilities	11		_	(5)
Total non-current liabilities			(57)	(79)
Trade and other payables		5	(431)	(431)
Provisions	16		(1)	(1)
Total current liabilities			(432)	(432)
Total liabilities			(489)	(511)
Net assets			352	300
Revaluation reserve			55	39
Retained earnings:				
Content reserve			50	30
Other retained earnings			247	231
Total equity			352	300

The financial statements on pages 167 to 171 were approved by the Members of the Board on 7 April 2016 and were signed on its behalf by:

**Charles Gurassa** 

Chair

**David Abraham**Chief Executive

# Channel 4 statement of changes in equity for the year ended 31 December

	Retained	Retained earnings		
	Other retained earnings £m	Content reserve £m	Revaluation reserve £m	Total equity £m
At 1 January 2014	287	-	28	315
Surplus for the year	3	-	-	3
Reserve transfer	(30)	30	-	_
Other comprehensive (cost)/income	(29)	-	11	(18)
Total comprehensive (cost)/income for the year	(56)	30	11	(15)
At 31 December 2014	231	30	39	300
At 1 January 2015	231	30	39	300
Surplus for the year	26	_	_	26
Reserve transfer	(20)	20	-	-
Other comprehensive income	10	-	16	26
Total comprehensive income for the year	16	20	16	52
At 31 December 2015	247	50	55	352

## Channel 4 accounting policies

## **Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except that freehold properties, derivatives and certain financial instruments are stated at fair value, and are presented in pounds Sterling, rounded to the nearest million.

The financial statements have been prepared under the Financial Reporting Standard 101 *Reduced Disclosure Framework*. The Corporation's financial result and balance sheet are included in the consolidated financial statements presented on pages 138 to 166. As permitted by the Financial Reporting Standard 101, the Corporation has not presented its own cashflow statement and has not provided the disclosures required by IFRS 7 Financial Instruments: Disclosures.

As permitted by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006, the Corporation has not presented its own income statement. A surplus of £26 million (2014: £3 million) was recorded in relation to the Corporation. Accounting policies applied in the preparation of the Corporation's financial statements are consistent with the Group policies presented on pages 142 to 146, except as stated below.

#### Investments in subsidiaries

Investments in subsidiaries are carried at historical cost less provision for impairment.

## Investments in associates and joint ventures

Investments in associates and joint ventures are carried at historical cost less provision for impairment.

## **Equity investments**

Equity investments represent equity holdings without significant influence. Equity investments are normally carried at fair value. Where an active market value is not available, the Members believe that valuation at cost less provision for impairment is a reasonable approximation of fair value.

## Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are reflected net of an estimated impairment for doubtful accounts if applicable.

## Notes to the Channel 4 financial statements

## 1. Operating expenditure

#### **Auditor's remuneration**

Fees in relation to the audit of the Corporation financial statements and additional fees paid to the auditor for the year ended 31 December 2015 are presented in note 3 to the consolidated financial statements on page 149.

#### Staff costs

All staff costs are borne by Channel 4 and are presented in note 4 to the consolidated financial statements on pages 149 to 150.

#### 2. Intangible assets Developed software Cost At 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2014 23 At 1 January 2015 23 Additions 2 At 31 December 2015 25 **Amortisation** At 1 January 2014 20 Amortisation for the year 1 At 31 December 2014 21 At 1 January 2015 21 Amortisation for the year 1 At 31 December 2015 22 **Carrying amount** At 1 January 2015 2 At 31 December 2015 3 At 1 January 2014 3 At 31 December 2014

## Notes to the Channel 4 financial statements

## 3. Investments

#### Joint ventures

The investment in The Box Plus Network Limited is recorded on the Corporation's balance sheet at historical cost. The balance as at 31 December 2015 is £28 million (2014: £28 million).

#### Subsidiary undertakings

The cost of investments at 31 December is:	2015 £000	2014 £000
4 Ventures Limited	1	1

The subsidiary undertakings incorporated in the United Kingdom at 31 December 2015 are as follows:

Name	Nature of business	Issued ordinary £1 shares	Ownership interest
4 Ventures Limited	Intermediate holding company and non-primary function activities	1,000	100%
Film Four Limited <sup>1</sup>	Film distribution	1,000	100%
Channel Four Investments Limited <sup>1</sup>	Indie Growth Fund	1	100%
Global Series Network Limited¹ (Group note 20)	TV and film distribution	2,0002	80%
Channel Four Television Company Limited	Non-trading	100	100%
Channel Four Racing Limited <sup>1</sup>	Non-trading	2	100%
E4.com Limited <sup>1</sup>	Non-trading	1,000	100%
E4 Television Limited <sup>1</sup>	Non-trading	1,000	100%
Film on Four Limited <sup>1</sup>	Non-trading	100	100%
Four Ventures Limited <sup>1</sup>	Non-trading	1,000	100%
Sport on Four Limited <sup>1</sup>	Non-trading	2	100%

<sup>1</sup> Indirect shareholding through 4 Ventures Ltd.

Film Four Limited sells rights from its film library to Protagonist Pictures Limited (Group note 19).

## Associated undertakings

For the Corporation's indirect shareholdings in the Indie Growth Fund through Channel Four Investments Limited, refer to Group note 7. For the Corporation's direct shareholdings in not-for-profit, cost-sharing organisations, refer to Group note 8.

4. Programme and film rights		
	2015 £m	2014 £m
Programmes and films completed but not transmitted	87	91
Acquired programme and film rights	63	51
Programmes and films in the course of production	102	100
Total programme and film rights	252	242

Certain programmes and film rights may not be utilised within one year.

5. Trade and other payables	2015	2014
Trade payables	£m 10	£m
National Insurance	1	1
Other creditors	60	48
Amounts due to subsidiaries	139	145
Accruals and deferred income	211	200
VAT	10	22
Total trade and other payables	431	431

<sup>2</sup> Issued 'A' Ordinary shares of £1,000 each.