

Annual Report 2018







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Mission, Vision and Core Values	3
TG4's Commitments for 2018	5
Key TG4 Performance Highlights of 2018	9
The Board of Teilifís na Gaeilge and Other Information	19
Chairman's Report	20
Director General's Report	22
Governance Statement and Board Members' Report	28
Finance Review 2018	31
Financial Statements	32-50



Mission, Vision and Core Values

TG4's mission is to deliver entertaining and innovative media services that celebrate Irish language creativity and connect with audiences at home and worldwide. Through partnership with the Irish language audio-visual sector, we enable the creation of world-class content and support economic growth in Ireland.

TG4's vision is "to promote successfully Irish language and culture and ensure a central place for TG4 in Irish people's lives, both in Ireland and abroad".

TG4's vision and mission can be encapsulated in TG4's motto "súil eile", which recognises the need to stay mainstream with niche programming through the commissioning/acquisition and broadcasting of high quality programmes, capable of competing for, achieving and maintaining strong viewership levels.

TG4's values influence the way in which its strategy will be achieved, the style in which it operates and overall, reflect the principles which are the core characteristics of the organisation. It is expected that each TG4 employee will use these values as their guiding principles to direct their on-the-job behaviours.

TG4's Core Values

Connection:

- To provide a daily link for the Irish language to every household in the country.
- To put our audiences at the centre of everything we do.
- To offer an alternative viewpoint on national and international affairs.

Quality and Value-for-Money:

- To provide a high quality programme schedule.
- To operate a cost effective and efficient structure.

Creativity:

- To be creative in our output and everything we do.
- To continue to deliver innovative and unique programmes.

Proactive:

- To maintain the "can do" attitude cultivated and now established within our organisation and staff.

'TG4 continues to punch above its weight and budget.'

— Shane Coleman,
Irish Times 25/4/18

'Not for the first time — nor, I'm certain, will it be the last — we find ourselves giving thanks and praise for TG4.'

— Pat Stacey,
Irish Independent 25/4/18



Stars from *Ros na Rún* support our 'Tá Gaeilge Agam' campaign



TG4's Commitments for 2018

For 2018, TG4 presented 17 commitments across 5 themes as follows:

- i Audiences – impact and reach
- ii Content – high quality and distinctive
- iii Promotion and development of the Irish language and culture
- iv Transparency and efficiency
- v Trust and good governance

(i) Audiences – Impact and Reach

1. Maintain share with national television audiences and our strong position with Irish language audiences.
2. Grow non-linear audience engagement by investing in digital content and social media.
3. Develop our partnerships to broaden our multi-platform distribution and audience availability

4. Enhance our media brand and improve audience awareness and appreciation.
5. Achieve the regulatory access sub-titling target for 2018, enhancing accessibility for our audiences.

(ii) Content – High Quality and Distinctive

6. Invest in strong factual, live music and cultural content and enhance our sports brand and content to maintain national audience share.
7. Improve the broadcast schedule and programming for habitual Irish speakers.
8. Engage in partnerships to further develop the content available to audiences and our creativity.
9. Invest in content technology and systems to develop our services and distribution.

‘TG4 has digitised an archive of its news and current affairs output from its first eight years on air, preserving its alternative view into the future.’

— Laura Slattery
Irish Times 24/1/18

‘TG4’s slick new GAA coverage features another reason to love the channel.’

— Mathew Gault
SportsJoe.ie 8/4/18



Lárstáitse at Oireachtas na Samhna 2018



Iomramh an Chamíno by Anú Pictures

(iii) **Promotion and Development of the Irish Language and Culture**

10. Grow our investment in the Irish language independent production sector.

11. Expand our Irish language archive and its access to the public.

12. Deliver a range of unique initiatives to support the Irish language and culture



Martin Hayes and Steve Cooney – *Doolin Folk Festival*

(iv) **Transparency and Efficiency**

- 13. Ensure we make the best use of our public funding and deliver efficiency and value-for-money.
- 14. Grow advertising, sponsorship and other commercial revenues.
- 15. Embed the new organisation structure and continue to develop our culture, skills and talent.

(v) **Trust and Good Governance**

- 16. Ensure greater diversity and inclusiveness as part of our broadcast agenda and strategy.
- 17. Ensure best practice governance and compliance with all codes and regulators.



Hector

'With limited resources, in fairness, TG4 does hold out against the heavyweights of the sports world.'

— Shane Coleman,
Irish Times 25/4/18

'TG4 have done an amazing job at dubbing the most popular children's cartoons in Irish for your children to enjoy and engage in.'

— Naturalbaby.ie



TG4 Presenters – Irial Ó Ceallaigh, Caitlín Nic Aoidh and Sláine Ní Chathalláin



Myles Joyce

a. b. b.

Key TG4 performance highlights of 2018

2018 was a year of changing audiences with the media market being more challenging than ever before. For TG4, the key challenges were specifically in relation to retaining engagement levels with the wider national television audience in an exceptionally competitive market and the financial ability to deliver on its five-year strategy as planned.

The continued fragmentation of how people watch video, combined with unprecedented competition from global media companies with extraordinary financial ability, are having a major impact on TG4's audience performance, along with that of all broadcasters. While TG4 continues to hold a strong position with its core Irish language audience, reach with the wider national television audience is under pressure. As an indigenous language broadcaster in a predominantly English-speaking media market, TG4 is impacted by the extensive choice available to audiences.

While TG4's strategy aims to grow audiences through

a "twin-pole" approach, it can only be delivered by increasing investment in distinctive, entertaining content which engages both poles of the audience – the core Irish language audience and the wider national television audience.

While TG4 secured an increase in funding for 2018 (and is grateful for this increase, acknowledging the challenge facing all publicly funded organisations), funding levels remain significantly lower than recommended by the BAI. This will make it difficult for TG4 to deliver its strategy if not addressed. Current funding needs to be put on a more sustainable level to enable TG4 to deliver high quality content which audiences value, both on television and other content platforms. TG4's current funding increased 2.6% in 2018 to €33.79m. Including a one-off supplementary funding amount of €985k for Bliain na Gaeilge programming, content and events, TG4 had €34.78m in current funding for the year. This was almost €2m less than was required for 2018 to deliver TG4's strategy.

'I think that the broadcaster who gets it right time and time again is TG4.'

— Joanne O'Riordan,
Irish Times 29/3/18

'The long and impressively dramatised film strove to put the grotesque murders and their shabby aftermath into historical context.'

— Emmanuel Kehoe:
Murdair Mhám Trasna
Sunday Business Post 8/4/18



7Lá presenter Páidí Ó Lionáird – produced by Nuacht TG4



Ros na Rún produced by Eo Teilifís & Tyrone Productions

As part of its strategy, TG4 had intended investing €29.2m on programming/content in 2018¹. Actual

investment in the year was €28.31m (73.2% of operating expenditure), only possible to the additional supplementary Bliain na Gaeilge funding received from the Department. This level of content spend will not be possible in 2019 as current funding is €34.2m for 2019, 1.6% less than 2018.



Ronan Loughney & Máire Treasa Ní Dhubhghaill
Rugbaí Beo

Audiences: Impact & Reach in 2018

Broadcast Audiences:

- Reach with the core Irish language audience was 85%. While this was down from 90% in 2017, it met TG4's target for the year which had been reduced to reflect the expansion of the measurement panel with the addition of weekly Irish language speakers (and therefore less frequent) to the panel of daily speakers.
- A satisfaction rating with Irish language user audiences of 8 out of 10 was achieved (against a target of 7.5).
- TG4's average all day share with the national television audience declined by 5.9% to 1.76%² following two years of consecutive growth in 2016 and 2017³. A positive development was that share of prime time viewing was almost 2% in Autumn 2018, the first period in which TG4 was able to schedule material from its new content deals which were put in place as part of its five-year strategy.
- TG4's weekly reach with national TV audiences declined by 9% to 30%. This was extremely

¹ Including €1.8m in production staff costs.

² Consolidated share. Live share was 1.92%. All day, individuals 4 years + (source: Nielsen).

³ Excludes viewing of TG4 on the TG4 Player, deferred viewing watched after 7 days, share in the North of Ireland and in ROI pubs and clubs.

disappointing for TG4 and reflects the highly competitive environment in which it operates and the requirement to invest more in compelling and entertaining content to compete with major global media companies and other broadcasters in the Irish market.

- TG4 maintained its 7th position in the most watched channels in Ireland during the year.
- For 2019, TG4 will consider all programme/content investment to ensure it is maximising audience impact and engagement. While audience performance for Autumn 2018 is encouraging, it is vital to sustain this performance into the future.

Non-linear Audiences:

TG4's non-linear content performed solidly in 2018, exceeding all apart from two of 11 targets with growth well up on 2017 in all metrics apart from one:

- Unique visitors to the website increased 1.3% to over 2m.
- The number of page impressions increased almost 30% to 24.57m in 2018.
- TG4's website remained ranked number 1 in terms of world rankings⁴ of Irish language websites.

- Player streams increased to 2.573m in 2018 (16.3% increase).
- Player hours watched increased 5.3% to 574,457 in 2018.
- App downloads continued to grow with 345.8k downloads in 2018 (49% increase).
- Social media video views increased 47%.
- All social media engagement was down 9.5% due to a very high engagement level in 2017. However, the target for the year was not achieved and TG4 will work on driving growth in 2019.
- Video views to Bloc, TG4's entertainment hub for 18-34 year olds grew by 271% on 2017 exceeding target by almost 117%.
- Children's non-linear engagement also performed well with page views growing over 127% and social media video views by over 173%.

High Quality and Distinctive Content in 2018

Broadcast Content – Core Irish Language Audience

- TG4 broadcast 2,693 hours targeting the core Irish language audience missing the target by 7.4%. This was 31% of total broadcast hours. The largest

'Maybe the organisation once seen as small broadcaster, TG4, could potentially hold the key to setting the bar for the world of sportswriting. After all, we all just want content that feels homely and not invaded by consistent reminders of how terrible the outside world really is.'

— Joanne O'Riordan,
Irish Times 29/3/18

⁴Alexa world rankings.



Eimear Ní Chonaola Nuacht TG4



Rugbaí Beo produced by Iris Productions

shortfalls were in news & current affairs (51.6%), drama/Irish language soap (29.2%) and entertainment (46%)⁵. Children's hours exceeded their target for the year by over 29%.

- Hours for this audience pole declined by 14% compared to 2017 hours. Core Irish language hours were almost 10% less than the strategy target for 2018.
- The shortfall in core Irish language hours compared to target hours for the year and compared to 2017 hours was due to:
 - A strategy current funding gap of €3m for 2018. A major share of the additional current funding sought by TG4 in its five-year strategy was to

increase broadcast hours and quality for the core Irish language audience. With a €3m shortfall, the additional output deals did not happen and this directly impacted core audience broadcast hours.

- While TG4 secured supplementary funding of €985k for Bliain na Gaeilge celebrations in 2018, a share was ring-fenced for celebratory events. In addition, timing was a factor with the funding not received until the last quarter of 2018 resulting in delivery of a significant amount of the content straddling 2018 and early 2019.
- There was a high level of Irish language repeat broadcast hours during 2017. More repeat programming could have been broadcast in 2018

⁵ Music and entertainment hours are combined.



Jack Reynor and Toni Collette – *Glassland*

‘The various big contenders vie for the rights and the result ends up somewhere in the middle but, without a doubt, the forgotten workhorse in all this is TG4.’

— Joanne O’Riordan,
Irish Times 29/3/18

to achieve target hours but TG4’s strategy is to instead focus on providing the best schedule and quality of programming to create more satisfaction for core Irish language audiences.

- TG4 spent €25.83m on Irish language content in 2018⁶. This was 91% of total content spend and 76.4% of current funding (74.3% including the once-off supplementary funding for *Bliain na Gaeilge*).

Broadcast Content – Wider National TV Audience

- TG4 broadcast 6,067 hours for the wider national TV audience exceeding target by 3.7%. This was 69% of total broadcast hours, increasing 7.7% compared to 2017.
- The reason for the increase is that TG4 can licence lower cost programming from international markets for the wider national TV audience to address the shortfall in higher-cost, produced/versioned broadcast hours which target the core Irish language audience predominantly.
- Broadcast hours for the wider national TV audience were 4.6% higher than the strategy target for 2018.

Non-Linear Content

- BLOC, a new non-linear brand, was created for 18+ audience with over 40 users/mojos generating content featuring travel, social issues, comedy and short films. Bloc partnered with other Irish language

festivals, to promote and live stream *NÓS*, *Féile na Gealaí* and *Liú Lúnasa* etc. It is available across Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, Twitter and Twitch with very positive feedback from users and reviewers.



Seán Mac an tSíthigh – *Gaeil UK* – produced by Aniar Teo.

⁶Including production staff costs of €1.8m.



Song of Granite produced by Roads Entertainment

- TG4's *Molscéal* App was developed and launched at Oireachtas 2018. It has achieved over 2m video views of its content to date and is the first app to provide short form video content for the Irish language speaking community in one place. It provides

community based, visual entertainment stories, news, archive and sports content. TG4 has partnered with NuachtTG4, Tuairisc.ie and MeonEile.ie to share content and live-stream events.

- *SpórtTG4* social media platform was further



Dornálaíocht Beo – Live Boxing



Eoghan McDermott – *Tabú* – produced by Midas Productions



Gráinne McElwain and Daithí Ó Sé — *Seó Beo Pheil na mBan*

developed to drive audience engagement with SportTG4 programming including providing coverage from key sporting events. The SpórtTG4 YouTube channel was developed to include live and exclusive broadcasts of content.

- TG4 also developed a Trad YouTUBE channel and further developed its learning Irish resource *foghlaim*.

Promotion and Development of the Irish Language and Culture

In addition to Irish language content, TG4 delivered the following:

- **Irish Independent Production Sector:** TG4 spent €24m with the sector in 2018, 85% of total content spend. TG4 aims to increase the number of independent production companies with multi-annual production agreements, however, only 1 new agreement was delivered in 2018 due to limited funding and the requirement to fund existing agreements. TG4 worked with the sector to secure almost €4.5m in BAI Sound & Vision and ILBF funding and supported skills development through a range of training and mentoring initiatives. A second round of Cine4 was also delivered to produce two Irish language feature films for release in 2019 in cinemas and international festivals.

- **Irish Language Learning Resource:** TG4 built on partnerships to extend the reach of the foghlaim Irish learning resource and continued to provide access to its content for other learning portals.
- **Irish Language Digital Archive:** TG4 further developed the Seannós music archive and an App to provide access for educational purposes. It worked with the ITMA to archive 20 years of TG4 Gradaim Ceoil and developed the Molscéal app to provide news and current affairs content for Irish language audiences. Academic course modules have been established with NUIG in journalism, film studies, Irish studies, screenwriting, television and film production and direction.
- **TG4 influence on the Irish Language:** an annual Ipsos MRBI survey measures TG4’s influence on the Irish language. In 2018, the public’s perception of TG4 as a supporter/promoter of the Irish language was very positive and increased since 2017. 92% of respondents recognise TG4 as an important service for supporting and promoting the Irish language. 74% believe TG4 makes the Irish language seem more modern and relevant for everyone. 92% of respondents believe that TG4 supports the Irish language through its programming and content and 80% believe TG4 brings the Irish language to life.

‘It was great to get the chance to watch them perform live all over the world thanks to TG4.’

— Kerryman 20-2-18



GAA Beo produced by Nemeton

Transparency and Efficiency

Operational Expenditure (Opex)

TG4 is committed to making the best use of public funding (including spending the highest possible share on Irish language content) and that overhead costs remain as low as possible.

- TG4 aims to invest at least 70% of current funding in Irish language content every year. In 2018, it spent 76.4%. The remainder was spent on broadcast and related activities.
- TG4 spent €28.3m⁷ on content – 73.2% of Opex. 91% of this was on Irish language content.
- In 2018, staff costs, excluding production staff costs, represented 9.2% of TG4's total Opex⁸. Overheads accounted for 6%, both of which are low for management and administration.
- Cost per-viewer hour was 34c in 2018 reflecting a 16% increase due to the reduction in audience reach and higher cost-per-hour for commissioned content.

Commercial Income

- Total commercial revenue increased by 0.5% in 2018, exceeding target by 4%. This was driven by 6% growth in advertising & sponsorship income but was counteracted by a 9.3% fall in other commercial income. Advertising & sponsorship income growth

well exceeded the 1% growth in the Irish TV advertising market due to more direct sales during the year. Total commercial income was almost 11% of TG4's funding and income.

Capital Investment

- TG4 received capital funding of €2m in 2018. Priority capital investment included further development of systems and platforms for distribution of content; a deep archive storage replacement project; development of social media, apps and data analytics etc. The capital budget was on target for the year.

Economic Benefits

- TG4's value-for-money can also be measured through its impact on the wider national economy. The direct, indirect and induced contribution to national earnings of TG4 was €62.2m in 2018 with an associated employment impact of 786⁹ jobs. This indicates the level of expenditure by TG4 in Ireland on indigenous programming and services. It also

⁷Including production staff costs of €1.8m.

⁸Net of capitalised staff costs.

⁹Based on an analysis of TG4's 2018 expenditure (operating and capital including programme funding) in Ireland.

continues to show that for every €1 invested by TG4 in the creative industries in Ireland, it was worth almost €2 to the Irish economy. TG4 continues to have important financial, employment and creative benefits for the Irish economy.

Trust & Good Governance

Consistent with prior years, TG4's governance performance was solid. In 2018, TG4:

- Delivered all statutory obligations as reflected in its objects and in broadcasting codes etc.
- Held 7 Board, 4 Audit and 1 Remuneration sub-

committee meetings.

- Updated the Code of Practice for Governance of State Bodies – implementation is ongoing.
- Delivered the ASPC, Performance Review, five-year Statement of Strategy and Annual Report.
- Carried out an in-depth risk management review and 3 internal audits.
- Worked with the BAI on the annual PSB review.
- Developed an audience measure to track appreciation levels of TG4's brand & services which will be rolled out in 2019.
- Delivered a number of environmental sustainability initiatives.

'Hats off to the brilliant team at FleadhTV on TG4, who delivered four amazing nights of live highlights from this year's Fleadh Ceoil, in Drogheda — the sheer volume of talent on display was staggering.'

— RTÉ.ie Entertainment, 20/8/19



An Shandon produced by Paper Owl Films



The Board of Teilifís na Gaeilge and other information

The Board of Teilifís na Gaeilge was established in April 2007 under the provision of the Broadcasting Act, 2001. The board consists of a chair and 11 members, including the Director General in an ex-officio capacity and a staff representative. The appointments are made by the Minister for Communications, Climate Change and Environment.

The Board met 7 times during the 12 months to the 31st December 2018.

Board Members and Director General at 31st December 2018



Siún Ní Raghallaigh
(Chairman)



Alan Esslemont
(Director General)



Des Geraghty



Mairéad Ní Cheóinín



Micheál Seoighe



Michelle Ní Chróinín



Diarmuid Ó Ruiséal



Bríd Ní Fhachtna



Frank Reidy



Mairéad Ní Nuadháin



Siobhán Ní Ghadhra



Darach Ó Tuairisg

Company Secretary and Registered Office

Mary Uí Chadhain
TG4
Baile na hAbhann
Co. na Gaillimhe

Secretary to the Board

Lís Ní Dhálaigh

Sub-Committees of the Board

There are two sub-committees of the Board as follows:

Audit and Risk Committee

Bríd Ní Fhachtna (Chairman)
Frank Reidy
Mairéad Ní Nuadháin

During the 12 months to 31st December 2018, the Audit and Risk Committee met on 4 occasions after which they reported to the Board. The Internal Audit function reports directly to the Audit Committee.

Remuneration Committee

Siún Ní Raghallaigh (Chairman)
Des Geraghty
Micheál Seoighe

The Remuneration Committee met once in the year to 31st December 2018.

Auditor

Comptroller and Auditor General
Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General
3A Mayor Street
Spencer Dock, Dublin 1

Bankers

AIB
Lynch's Castle
Shop Street
Galway

Chairman's Report, 2018

2018 was a particularly important year for TG4 with the launch of our new five-year strategy for 2018-2022 by Minister of State, Seán Kyne TD. Our new strategy represents an ambitious plan for renewing TG4's vibrancy, impact and reach. Our vision is to be a brand synonymous with strong, creative Irish language content, to normalise the Irish language in the daily lives of Irish people and support creative industry growth through partnership with the Irish language audio-visual sector.

TG4 is a force for Irish language audio-visual innovation. We have 500,000 daily viewers, an 85% weekly reach with Irish language audiences and over 30% with all national audiences, making us the 7th most watched channel in Ireland. We are proud of this performance, particularly as we are a minority-language media company operating in a market dominated by the English language and hundreds of content channels, streaming and video-on-demand services. We recognise, and continually prioritise, the need to innovate and drive more audience growth thereby remaining relevant and important for both this and the next generation of audiences.

The explosion of content platforms, the financial strength of global media companies and the changing media consumption habits of audiences, driven by global media brands investing heavily in original content production, makes for a challenging market dynamic. With Irish media and culture running the risk of becoming diluted, never before has Irish public service broadcasting and media been more important in the context of national identity. TG4 provides original, quality content which celebrates Irish culture and creativity and which reflects the voices of Irish people and the society and world in which we live.

Working in partnership with the Irish audiovisual production sector, TG4 nurtures skills and talent. Through our investment, hundreds of jobs are created and sustained in the sector, particularly in regional areas, counterbalancing the predominant trend for urban growth. As set out in the recently published *Audiovisual Action Plan Creative Ireland Programme Pillar 4*, there is a clear inter-departmental commitment in relation to the importance and the growth of our indigenous audiovisual sector. TG4 welcomes this renewed emphasis on the importance of the development of our film and television industry and the commitment to bring increased Government support to achieve this.

As a publisher broadcaster, TG4 plays a significant role

in the audiovisual production sector. We contribute positively to the Irish economy. In the decade to 2018, TG4 spent over €200m with the sector. On average every year, we contribute some €70m to the national earnings and support over 700 jobs. Every €1 invested by TG4 in the creative industries in Ireland is worth €2 to Ireland's economy. Our strategy can impact this further, delivering real benefits for the Irish economy particularly in the regions, by supporting over 930 jobs by 2022 and contributing almost €80m annually to national earnings.

To deliver on our vision and to ensure the strength and continuity of a vibrant public service broadcasting environment where Irish voices can be heard, TG4 needs the resources detailed in our five-year strategy. The Broadcasting Authority of Ireland (BAI) has endorsed our new strategy and agrees that increased funding for TG4 is justified to assist us to address continually evolving audience expectations along with the many operating, competitive and financial challenges which are facing us. The BAI recommended an increase of €6m per annum in public funding for TG4 (with full effect from 2018 on) with funding currently available not considered to be sufficient to ensure our future sustainability.

We view the Authority's conclusions as a statement of confidence in our new strategy and a recognition of the value the TG4 service delivers to audiences in Ireland and abroad.

To deliver our new strategy, an average increase in current funding of 5.07% per annum is required. Following many years of minimal or no increases and indeed reductions in our current funding, TG4 was given an additional €1m in current and €1m in capital funding for 2018. This brought our current funding to €33.79m. This increase, while appreciated, means our funding levels remain significantly lower than recommended by the Authority. It will make it extremely difficult for us to deliver TG4's new strategy if not addressed. Our current funding needs to be put on a more sustainable level to enable us deliver high quality content which audiences value, both on television and other content platforms.

As an important funder of original Irish content through our publisher broadcaster model, TG4's reduced funding levels have impacted on the independent production sector. Our strategy seeks to increase our investment in original commissioned content for our broadcast and digital services and ensure the presence of a strong, vibrant Irish language production sector. Securing additional funding to invest in content is critical

if TG4 is to drive audience growth and ensure the future of our public service role.

Thanks

I would like to thank our former Minister Denis Naughten TD and welcome, as well as thank, our new Minister Richard Bruton TD for his support. We also thank his Department officials in particular the Secretary General Mark Griffin who continues to encourage TG4 and to recognise the value of what we do for audiences.

We are extremely grateful for the additional funding we received from the Department in 2018 to enable us to deliver important celebratory Bliain na Gaeilge initiatives. 2018 was constituted by the Government as a special year to celebrate the Irish language. It was the 125th anniversary of the Irish language revival movement by Conradh na Gaeilge and was seen as a timely initiative to celebrate the Irish language nationally and internationally and a major opportunity to revitalise the language among Irish people. The aim of Bliain na Gaeilge was to stimulate use of the Irish language, its image and visibility in everyday lives. A year-long programme of creative and community events was delivered under the patronage of President Michael D. Higgins. As Ireland's Irish language public service broadcaster, TG4 played an important role in the Bliain na Gaeilge activities with additional broadcast, online, community and cultural events. We provided an exciting start to Bliain na Gaeilge through a special broadcast on New Year's Eve and through our online services, we ensured that the Irish Diaspora had access to that first celebratory event of the year.

I would like to thank the independent production sector. The success of TG4's service depends heavily on the sector's original and compelling programming and content. Our strategy seeks to ensure that this continues and grows by increasing our investment in the sector, strengthening and encouraging the development and growth of the companies who deliver content to us. The growth of these companies is an important part of the overall eco-system of the audiovisual production sector. Without the funding increase outlined in the five-year strategy, it will be difficult to ensure sufficient funding is in place for existing production commitments and investment.

I would like to thank my fellow Board members. Their ongoing commitment and dedication to TG4 is invaluable in contributing greatly to the organisation's

effectiveness. I would also like to thank the Board Sub-committees and Secretaries for the work they do.

The Board's thanks of course goes to the Audience Council under the chairmanship of Frank Reidy. We appreciate the work the Council does in helping TG4 to



TG4 Director General Alan Esslemont with Minister of State, Seán Kyne TD

understand the views and needs of our audiences.

We are also grateful to the Broadcast Authority of Ireland, the Irish Language Broadcast Fund and Fís Éirinn/Screen Ireland for their ongoing support, to RTÉ for its support which includes the annual statutory provision of 365 hours of Irish language.

Under the vital leadership of Ard-Stiúrthóir, Alan Esslemont, TG4 management and staff have worked hard in 2018 to deliver the new strategy and the ongoing renewal of the service and its operations. It was another challenging but interesting year and I would like to thank Alan and the staff for their unfailing dedication and the great strides made in securing TG4's position for the future. The Board and I look forward to engaging with Alan and the team throughout 2019 and beyond.

Siún Ní Raghallaigh
Cathaoirleach

Director General's Report, 2018

2018 was a year of changing audiences for all broadcasters and while this was mirrored in TG4's own strategy and performance, it was a year of many significant achievements for our service.

Continued Advance of Audience Consumption and Content Choice

For television audiences, there has never been more choice with broadcasters, video-on-demand and streaming services providing content in the Irish market. Pay-TV operators offer large portfolios of channels with extensive content choice for Irish audiences.

Along with content choice, content consumption is evolving, particularly amongst younger audiences. Overall, live television's share of audio-visual minutes viewing has declined from 84.1% in 2014 to 72.7% in 2018¹⁰ with short-form video, on-demand services and stand alone, paid-for services increasing their share. More and more, audiences are accessing content across a range of platforms from multiple sources which has resulted in a decline in the reach and share of all broadcasters.

TG4 Strategy 2018-2022

TG4's new strategy aims to grow audience share and find new ways of extending audience reach. To do this, we are delivering a "twin-pole" audience approach to retain our core Irish language audience and increase its satisfaction with TG4 while also growing reach and share with the wider national television audience.

Through our new strategy, we intend to restore TG4's vibrancy, impact and reach. It can however, only be achieved by increasing investment in distinctive, entertaining content which engages both poles of our audience, our 'core' audience and our 'national' audience.

In 2018, our regulator, the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland (BAI), worked with the public service broadcasters (PSBs) on a five-year review of public funding. As part of this review, TG4's strategy was evaluated in depth. The BAI endorsed the strategy and concluded that TG4 continues to deliver value for Irish audiences. It also concluded that there is strong justification to support increased funding to assist us in meeting audience expectations along with addressing the environmental, technological and financial challenges facing us.

TG4 Gach Áit/TG4 Everywhere

TG4's vision is *TG4 Gach Áit/TG4 Everywhere*. We want our brand to be synonymous with strong, creative Irish language content which is available in the home, on the go and in cinemas, in Ireland and worldwide. To achieve this, we must collaborate. We are establishing TG4's own platforms as the destination for Irish language audio-

visual media as well as developing partnerships with others for distribution of our content to expand reach and prominence.

We made great strides with this aspect of our strategy in 2018. We continued to develop our social media platforms to engage with audiences and to drive viewership to our programmes and events. We officially launched Bloc, our social media channel for 18 to 34 year olds and *Molscéal*, our news and entertainment channel in the last quarter of the year. *Molscéal* is the first ever channel and app to provide short form video content for the Irish language speaking community in one place. It provides community based, visual entertainment stories, news, archive and sports content. Both channels performed very strongly with audiences and surpassed our expectations for their first year.

We continue to develop *SpórtTG4* social media platforms to drive audience engagement with *SportTG4* programming including providing coverage from key sporting events. As part of this, we provided exclusive online coverage of a number of games during the Allianz League season. On Easter Sunday, the Kilkenny v Wexford Hurling League Division 1 semi-final was transmitted live on TG4's YouTube channel, attracting over 77,000 views, the most of any broadcast since the channel first started showing live sports events on the platform last year.

We also built on partnerships to extend the reach of our learning Irish resource, *TG4.ie/foghlaim Portal* and continued to provide access to our content for other learning portals. The breadth and richness of TG4's online archive, music and educational content was showcased in a special presentation at the Oireachtas 'Market'.

TG4 in Cinemas – Cine4

TG4 has launched *Cine4* with the BAI and Fís Éireann/Screen Ireland, a joint-funding initiative to support the development and production of feature films in the Irish language. In 2018, we delivered a second round of *Cine4* for production of two films which will be released in 2019 in cinemas nationwide and into international festivals thereafter, securing audiences and international recognition for Irish language film. Two more films will be produced under the *Cine4* scheme in 2019 for cinema release in 2020.

Our Digital Audiences

Our ongoing content development was reflected in our performance on our digital platforms, with both our users and their engagement with our content continuing to grow.

Unique visitors to our website grew to over 2m with the number of page impressions growing almost 30%

¹⁰TAM Ireland Viewing Habits, 2018.

to 25m. TG4.ie remains ranked number 1 in terms of world rankings¹¹ of Irish language websites. TG4's Player performed strongly. Streams increased over 16% and hours watched grew over 5%. We experienced almost 50% growth in the downloading of our Apps.

Our social media engagement also grew strongly during 2018 with video views increasing 47%.

We are constantly increasing TG4's presence on digital platforms so audiences can access us worldwide through the Player or on our app which is available in IOS, Android and SmartTV versions.

Engaging Younger Audiences

TG4 wants to play a lead role among European public service broadcasters, in particular indigenous language broadcasters, to improve content and services for children across all platforms.

Public service broadcasters can make a real contribution to provision of high quality, entertaining and educational content for children. We acknowledge the important role TG4 must play in this. We already broadcast a comprehensive daily service for children, *Cúla4 na nÓg* for preschool kids and *Cúla4* for older children. We also provide a range of on-demand, online and mobile Irish language services. But we accept that we can do even more. While we have more than doubled our spend on children's content over the decade to 2017, increased children's broadcast hours by almost 20% and launched new digital content and services for children, competition for children's viewing comes from an exceptionally broad variety of sources.

As part of our strategy, we aim to offer a strong broadcast schedule of children's Irish language programming. In 2018, we broadcast 1,305 hours of Irish content for children. Our schedule included newly commissioned programmes such as *Ár Scéal*, where children brought 52 newly written stories to life through the medium of art. The series follows presenter, Úna Ní Fhlatharta, in her art-filled van, as she visits 52 primary schools nationwide to collect stories illustrated by children with the stories written by award winning children's author Patricia Forde. Programmes also included *CLUB*, where young people introduced their GAA club in the company of some of their sporting heroes.

TG4 also commissioned two new series targeting children during 2018. *Is Mise Ciara/Is Mise Jeaic* and *Ár Scéalsa* along with two series co-funded by the BAI, *An GAA* and *Lurgan 2017*. This content aims to celebrate Irish cultural identity and diversity and reflect Irish children's voices.

As the Irish language public service broadcaster, it is important that we can deliver our strategy for children. A

crucial part of this is provision of more original, high-quality Irish content which children value. Not only must TG4 foster a positive attitude towards the Irish language, we must also entertain and inspire children and build relationships with this audience in order to retain



relevance into the future.

For younger audience demographics, the internet is the main medium through which they consume content. They are watching less live, scheduled television and more on-demand and online content.

Continuing to build on the opportunities presented by digital and online services is therefore crucial for TG4 to reach younger audiences. The changes in their viewing habits will continue apace in the future as increased connectivity and high speed broadband roll out and as technology evolves further. *Bloc*, our social media channel for 18 to 34 year olds, is a pioneer in Ireland in that new media space.

Quality Irish Programming

TG4 constantly strives to provide the most comprehensive, high quality broadcast schedule possible with our *súil eile* perspective, for audiences at home and abroad. We are particularly proud of the strong entertainment programmes and documentaries we broadcast during 2018, especially from Autumn 2018 on, which was the first period in which TG4 was able to schedule a significant amount of new material from our new output deals.

TG4's Irish language entertainment programmes included a new series on the history, traditions and culture of food in Ireland, *Blasta*, as well as a programme which followed a year in the life of a renowned rural hotel in

¹¹ Alexa world rankings.

Donegal, *Shandon. Hector – Ó Siberia go Saigon* was also broadcast following Hector as he starts an epic journey in the heart of Siberia. The highly successful *Underdogs* returned to TG4 with renowned footballers putting a group of skilled hopefuls under pressure and creating



Underdogs produced by Adare Productions

plenty of healthy competition for places on their team.

The hard hitting documentary series *Finné* and *Tabú* dealt with controversies relating to injustice and the burning questions facing Irish society today. Series such as *Bailte*, *Gaeil UK*, *Turas Bóthar*, *Beidh Aonach Amárach* and *Bádóirí* provided unique insight into the lives of ordinary people and particular communities in Ireland and Britain in a contemplative but entertaining way.

Sports coverage on TG4 continued to go from strength to strength in 2018. We provided extensive coverage of the Allianz Football and Hurling Leagues during 2018. Our coverage of the competitions reached 1.47m people in total, more than a third of the available TV population. The final was watched by an average of 207,500 people commanding a 25% share of viewing. The Dublin and Galway match on Easter Sunday was watched by an average of 278,600 individuals, a 30.1% share of viewing. The game reached 549,000 people in total.

We screened 19 Ladies Gaelic Football Association (LGFA) fixtures covering the senior and intermediate championships from July to All-Ireland final day. The championship culminated at Croke Park when the TG4 All-Ireland junior, intermediate and senior champions were crowned. A new programme, building up to the finals, was also broadcast live the night before from the Mansion House in Dublin with music, sports stars and other female role models taking centre stage. TG4 also

broadcast the best of the *Guinness Rugby PRO14* championship, as well as the County Finals and AIB Club championship in football and hurling, between October and December 2018, with a live match every Sunday. On a lighter sporting note, TG4 provided an insight into the personal lives of some of Ireland's greatest GAA stars in a new series of *Laochra Gael*.

Our traditional music programmes also went from strength to strength. A new series of *Sé Mo Laoch* was broadcast and as is customary for TG4, we broadcast *Gradam Cheoil TG4*, *Tradfest*, *Lurgan 2K18* and *Junior Eurovision*. We also broadcast a range of country music programmes including *Opry le Daniel*, *Glór Tíre* and the *Irish Post Country Music Awards* which were live from the Millennium Forum in Derry.

TG4 is building a reputation for outstanding live events over the last number of years and they were central to our 2018 schedule. This was reflected in programmes such as *Samhain Live* (a live Halloween night extravaganza from Derry), *Fáilte 2019* on New Year's Eve and *The Irish Post Awards* in addition to comprehensive coverage of events as part of *Oireachtas na Samhna*, in programmes such as *Steip* and *Lár Stáitse*. *Oireachtas na Gaeilge* included live coverage from Killarney, over four days, of Ireland's premier Irish language arts and cultural festival. *Gradam Ceoil* is an important programming initiative and in 2018, we built on our very successful collaboration with the ILBF and Belfast City Council for the event which was broadcast live from Belfast.

Comprehensive coverage from *Nuacht TG4* was also delivered. The news service has created a distinctive *súil eile* perspective and is proudly head-quartered outside of Dublin. During 2018, TG4 entered into a new phase of partnership with RTÉ in relation to the service. This saw the *Nuacht RTÉ* bulletins on RTÉ One and RTÉ News Now re-launch with a brand-new look and feel. The new brand, *Nuacht RTÉ* le TG4 acknowledges our partnership on-air. We invested resources in 2018 to bring our news studio up to world-class standards and in April, the RTÉ bulletins moved to the newly designed and upgraded news studio at TG4 in Baile na hAbhann. TG4 is delighted that the bulletin now has a window on RTÉ television channels and over 420,000 viewers tune in to *Nuacht* programmes on RTÉ One or TG4 each week.

TG4's weekly current affairs series *7Lá* returned in addition to the highly acclaimed documentary series *Fíorscéal* which launched with the Irish broadcast premiere of John & Gerry McColgan's hard hitting film *This is Palestine*.

Along with our Irish language soap drama *Ros na Rún*, we broadcast other quality Irish language and international drama. TG4 is particularly proud of its feature length docu-drama, *Murdair Mhám Trasna* (The Mám Trasna Murders), which centred on an infamous event in

Irish history, the brutal slaying in 1882 of a family of five in the remote village of Mám Trasna in the west of Ireland. The response from the British authorities led to the conviction of innocent people, the hanging of some and the imprisonment of others as a result of perjured evidence and bribery. The events were described by the prominent British historian Robert Kee as “one of the most blatant miscarriages of justice in British legal history”.

A campaign, supported by President Michael D. Higgins, to secure posthumous pardons for innocent men, received a significant boost with the screening on TG4. *Murdair Mhám Trasna* was selected to represent Ireland in the history category at the Celtic Media Festival.

Awards

The quality of our content and personalities was once again reflected in the awards and nominations secured by TG4 during 2018. These included Féile na Meán Ceilteach awards for *An Béal Bocht*, *Rocky Ros Muc* and *Murdair Mhám Trasna*. In addition, Irish Screen America Film Festival, Dingle International Film Festival and Luxembourg British & Irish Film Season awards/nominations were received for *Camino Voyage*. Three IFTA awards were received for *TG4XX BEO* (Gifted Empire/ TG4), *Fir Bolg* (Dearg Films / TG4) and *Domenico Pontillo, Wild Ireland – the Edge of the World*. 19 Gradaim Chumarsáide an Oireachtais awards/nominations were secured for *Camino an tSáile, Song of Granite, An Focal Scoir, Beidh Mé Ar Ais, Grace Harte, Rocky Ros Muc, Anseo i Lár an Ghleanna, Cúl Stáitse* and other programmes as well as for TG4 personalities. We also won Sockies, Círcóm and Radharc awards/nominations, among many others, during the year.

Two of TG4’s landmark documentaries (co-funded by the BAI Sound & Vision fund) were chosen to headline at the Irish Film Festival in Boston in 2018. *Noel Hill – Broken Dream* (Aisling Ghéar), a searing portrait of one of Ireland’s most renowned traditional musicians as he recovers from a serious assault and *In the Shadow of the Glen*, which chronicles the decline of a once vibrant West of Ireland village and raises wider questions about culture and sustainability, headlined at the festival. The Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh said that the films “show the quality of work being done by TG4 and that it’s clear they can compete with the best on any international stage”. TG4 was delighted that they were selected to screen at such a prestigious event. As part of our ‘TG4 Gach Áit’ initiative, it is important for us to connect with Irish audiences, wherever they are.

Bliain na Gaeilge — and the continuation of TG4’s promotion of women in sport

During 2018, TG4 delivered a range of special activities and programmes to mark Bliain na Gaeilge. We are

especially grateful for the additional funding we received from the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment to enable us to deliver these Bliain na Gaeilge initiatives.

In conjunction with the LGFA, as championship



Murdair Mhám Trasna produced by Rosg Teo.

sponsors, we broadcast the senior and intermediate championships. A new logo bearing the words ‘Peil na mBan’ was unveiled to mark Bliain na Gaeilge and the LGFA Official Guide was also made available ‘as Gaeilge’. We supported an activity day at Croke Park during the year. Lá Náisiúnta Blitz na gClub Gaeltachta 2018 saw U12 girls from all over Ireland gather at Croke Park to compete and to meet Ladies football’s leading stars. This was a unique event which celebrated the Irish language through the medium of the game. Through TG4’s successful partnership with LGFA and Lidl, we are extremely proud that we can help to give women’s football the prominence it deserves. We also launched the #properfan campaign which has contributed to a surge in interest in the games. The success of the LGFA Championship has brought a very welcome focus to all women’s sports throughout Ireland.

TG4 is recognised for supporting women in sport for many years, for pioneering the broadcast and helping to increase the profile of women’s sport since our establishment in 1996. In December 2018, we signed up as Media Partner for the 20x20 Women in Sport initiative. This partnership will see TG4 consolidate our role in women’s sport, while increasing the visibility and coverage of womens sport at all levels of the station’s output. Our successful collaboration with the LGFA, as well as our coverage of women in other sports such as camogie, basketball, tennis, badminton. swimming,

athletics and more, has been an integral part of our development policy. In 2018 alone, TG4 broadcast around 90 hours of women's sport reaching almost 1.2 million people, including live events, highlights, news reports and documentaries. We look forward to building on this foundation and to increasing visibility and awareness across a range of women's sports on TG4 in the coming years.

Broadcast Audiences

2018 was a challenging year with more competition for viewing than ever before. Lack of sufficient funding to invest in compelling and entertaining content and to compete with major global media companies began to impact our linear audience engagement. While reach with our core Irish language audience was 85%, a very strong performance, for the first time in three years, our reach and share with the national television audience fell.

Average all day share with the wider TV national audience was almost 1.8% in 2018, down from almost 1.9% in 2017. A positive development was however that our share of prime time viewing, the most competitive slot in the broadcast schedule, was almost 2% in Autumn 2018, the first period in which we were able to schedule material from our new content deals which were put in place as part of our strategy. Our highest share for any one day was over 9% and we remained in 7th position as the most watched channel in Ireland in 2018, a strong performance given the many channels available to Irish audiences.

Investing in the Independent Production Sector

The content market is increasingly global, dominated by international media corporations with exceptional creative and financial capability. Nationally however, investment in Irish content has declined. In the report *Economic Analysis of the Audiovisual Sector in the Republic of Ireland*¹², Olsberg SPI concludes that due to public funding cuts, the "production of culturally Irish content in the independent production sector has been significantly curtailed". With global companies creating and controlling the distribution of their own content and with the reduction in funding for Irish content, the risk of Irish content being pushed out of the market increases.

As a key funder of original Irish content through our publisher broadcaster model, part of our strategy is to increase investment in commissioned content and support the development of a strong, vibrant Irish language production sector. In 2018, we invested €24m in content from the Irish independent production sector. We sought to increase our investment in multi-annual

output agreements with the sector. We delivered one new agreement in 2018 but with limited funding increases, we were unable to put additional deals in place.

We continued to broadcast TG4's Irish language soap *Ros na Rún*. Now in its 23rd year, it employs over 150 direct and contracted personnel in the regional economy and provides an important platform for developing native Irish language writers, actors and film crew.

A key aim for TG4 is to support the development of diverse, Irish language audio-visual talent and give new creative voices a platform from which to develop their skills and experience.

In 2018, in conjunction with BBC ALBA, S4C and Northern Ireland Screen's Irish Language Broadcast Fund (ILBF), we set up the Celtic International Fund to develop new drama, animation and factual programmes in the Celtic languages. Annual joint-commissioning rounds will be run with the aim of promoting co-development and co-production through Scottish Gaelic, Welsh and Irish, and of encouraging a broader European and worldwide internationalisation of productions which are originally conceived in those Celtic languages. In a media landscape dominated by high production values, driven by international giants with deep pockets, it is more and more important that TG4 creates an environment for Irish independent companies where quality Irish ideas can flourish in the international market.

In 2018, we also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Korean broadcaster Jeonju Television (JTV) to facilitate ongoing collaboration in relation to the development of content between Ireland and South Korea. This agreement facilitates the exchange of best content and programmes, fosters co-production of creative content, funds co-production projects and supports marketing. A similar agreement is in place between JTV and the Welsh language broadcaster S4C for a number of years and it has resulted in a host of high quality co-productions. The initiative fits in extremely well with TG4's strategic goal of developing the creative industries in Ireland and of supporting the internationalisation of independent production companies, facilitating access to international markets for Irish content. We are grateful to Údarás na Gaeltachta for supporting this initiative, offering advice and practical support to Gaeltacht companies who want to take part in the process.

Financial Challenges and Funding

Following many years of no or minimal increases or reductions in current funding, TG4 sought an average annual increase in current funding of 5% as part of our strategy.

¹² Olsberg SPI le Nordicity, 2017

The BAI recommended an increase of €6m per annum in public funding for TG4 and that this should have full effect from 2018 and onwards over the period of TG4's strategy. The increase were considered justified as the funding currently available is not sufficient to ensure TG4's sustainability.

While TG4 was grateful for the additional €1m in current and €1m in capital funding allocated for 2018, this does not meet the service's strategy funding requirements which means that TG4's new strategy will be difficult to fully deliver.

As the Irish language public service broadcaster and media company, TG4 must play a pivotal role in creating distinctive Irish content and in helping to grow the Irish language creative economy.

We must increase our investment in content for our broadcast and digital services to retain our relevance for current and future audiences and to ensure we continue to impact critical cultural public policy objectives such as promoting the Irish language, culture and creativity, celebrating cultural and linguistic diversity.

Thanks

On behalf of TG4, I would like to extend thanks to many individuals and organisations.

Firstly, I would like to thank former Minister Denis Naughten T.D. for his support for TG4. We welcome and also thank our new Minister Richard Bruton T.D. along with his officials in the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment. I would particularly like to thank the Secretary General Mark Griffin who has been so supportive of TG4. We are grateful for the additional funding and look forward to working with him and his officials over the coming year.

We thank the TG4 Board members and Cathaoirleach Siún Ní Raghallaigh for their continued dedication to, and hard work on behalf of, TG4. 2018 was the first year of our new strategy and it proved to be a tough year as we faced many funding and market challenges. We are deeply grateful for the guidance and support the Board continues to provide to TG4.

Our thanks also goes to the Broadcast Authority of Ireland, Fís Éireann/Screen Ireland, the Northern Ireland Irish Language Broadcast Fund, RTÉ and to the Irish independent production sector. We acknowledge the contribution each make to our services and in particular, the creative talent of the independent production sector which provides such unique and entertaining content Irish language content. Thanks also go to many other cultural, Irish language and sporting organisations with which we work and we look forward to working with them all again during 2019.

On a personal note, I would like to sincerely thank my

colleagues here in TG4. I would especially like to mention Mary Uí Chadhain, TG4's Director of Finance and Company Secretary, who has been a pivotal figure in the growth of TG4 over the last twenty years and a great source of strength and support for me since I was appointed in 2016. Mary announced that she will retire from TG4 during 2019 and TG4 will be forever grateful to her for the way she has worked over the years to grow TG4's income and for the vision she has shown in helping the independent production sector to expand and flourish. She will prove a tough act to follow.

2018 and 2019 will be years of significant change for the organisation as our new strategy is rolled out. Everyone has demonstrated commitment, enthusiasm and energy in delivering our strategy and while we have achieved much in the first year, many challenges remain. I would like to express my gratitude for their hard work and I look forward to working with them all in 2019 and beyond.

Alan Esslemont
Ard-Stiúrthóir

Governance Statement and Board Members' Report

Governance

The Board of TG4 was established under the Broadcasting Act 2001. The functions of the Board are set out in section 87 of the Broadcasting Act 2009. The Board is accountable to the Minister for Communications, Climate Action & Environment and is responsible for ensuring good governance and performs this task by setting strategic objectives and targets and taking strategic decisions on all key business issues. The regular day-to-day management, control and direction of TG4 are the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the senior management team. The CEO and the senior management team must follow the broad strategic direction set by the Board, and must ensure that all Board members have a clear understanding of the key activities and decisions related to the entity, and of any significant risks likely to arise. The CEO acts as a direct liaison between the Board and management of TG4.

Board Responsibilities

The work and responsibilities of the Board are set out in Board terms of reference which also contain the matters specifically reserved for Board decision. Standing items considered by the Board include:

- declaration of interests,
- reports from committees,
- financial reports/management accounts,
- performance reports, and
- reserved matters.

Section 109 of the Broadcasting Act 2009 requires the Board of TG4 to keep, in such form as may be approved by the Minister for Communications, Climate Action & Environment with consent of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, all proper and usual accounts of money received and expended by it.

In preparing these financial statements, the Board of TG4 is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that it will continue in operation, and
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The Board is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, its financial position and enables it to ensure that the financial statements comply with section 109 of the Broadcasting Act 2009. The maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information on the TG4's website is the responsibility of the Board.

The Board is responsible for approving the annual plan and budget. An evaluation of the performance of TG4 by reference to the annual plan and budget was carried out by the board on 29 April 2019.

The Board is also responsible for safeguarding its assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Board considers that the financial statements of TG4 give a true and fair view of the financial performance and the financial position of TG4 at 31 December 2018.

Board Structure

The Board consists of a Chairperson, CEO (in an ex-officio capacity) and 10 ordinary members, all of whom are appointed by the Minister for Communications, Climate Action & Environment. The members of the Board were appointed for a period of five years and meet on a regular basis. The table below details the appointment period for current members:

Board Member	Role	Appointment Date
Alan Esslemont (Director General)	CEO	14/10/2016
Siún Ní Raghallaigh	Chairman	Reappointed 17/04/17
Des Geraghty	Ordinary Member	Reappointed 17/04/17
Mairéad Ní Cheoinín	Ordinary Member	Reappointed 17/04/17
Micheál Seoighe	Ordinary Member	Reappointed 17/04/17
Michelle Ní Chróinín	Ordinary Member	Reappointed 17/04/17
Diarmuid Ó Ruiséal	Ordinary Member	03/03/2015
Bríd Ní Fhachtna	Ordinary Member	22/07/2015
Frank Reidy	Ordinary Member	29/09/2015
Mairéad Ní Nuadháin	Ordinary Member	21/11/2017
Siobhán Ní Ghadhra	Ordinary Member	21/11/2017
Darach Ó Tuairisg	Ordinary Member	21/11/2017

The Board commenced a Board Effectiveness and Evaluation Review in December, 2017 for that period, which was completed in June, 2018. A review for 2018 is expected to be completed in June 2019.

Schedule of Attendance, Fees and Expenses

A schedule of attendance at the Board and Committee meetings 2018 is set out below including the fees and expenses received by each member

	Board	Audit & Risk Committee	Remuneration Committee	Fees 2018 €'000	Expenses 2018 €'000
Number of Meetings	7	4	1		
Alan Esslemont	7	-	-	-	-
Siún Ní Raghallaigh (Chairman)	7	-	1	21,683	-
Des Geraghty	6	-	1	12,648	3,866
Mairéad Ní Cheoinín	5	-	-	12,648	982
Micheál Seoighe	6	-	1	12,648	503
Michelle Ní Chróinín	4	-	-	-	1,511
Diarmuid Ó Ruiséal	7	-	-	12,648	609
Bríd Ní Fhachtna	7	4	-	12,648	4,410
Frank Reidy	6	4	-	12,648	310
Mairéad Ní Nuadháin	6	3	-	12,648	4,480
Siobhán Ní Ghadhra	7	-	-	12,648	841
Darach Ó Tuairisg	7	-	-	12,648	984
Sundry expenses	-	-	-	-	3,998
Lís Ní Dhálaigh (Secretary to the Board)	-	-	-	-	-
Mary Uí Chadhain (Company Secretary)	-	-	-	-	-
				135,515	22,494

There was one board member, Michelle Ní Chróinín, who did not receive a Board fee under One Person One Salary (OPOS) principle.

The Board has established two committees, as follows:

1. Audit and Risk Committee: comprises three Board members. The role of the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) is to support the Board in relation to its responsibilities for issues of risk, control and governance and associated assurance. The ARC is independent from the financial management of the organisation. In particular the Committee ensures that the internal control systems including audit activities are monitored actively and independently. The ARC reports to the Board after each meeting, and formally in writing annually.

The members of the Audit and Risk Committee are: Bríd Ní Fhachtna (Chairperson), Frank Reidy and Mairéad Ní Nuadháin. There were 4 meetings of the ARC in 2018.

2. Remuneration Committee: comprises three Board members. The members of this committee are: Siún Ní Raghallaigh (Chairperson), Des Geraghty and Micheál Seoighe. There was 1 meeting of the Remuneration Committee in 2018.

Key Personnel Changes

There was no change to the members of the Board in 2018. In February 2018, Pádraic Ó Ciardha, deputy CEO and secretary to the Board, retired and Lís Ní Dhálaigh was appointed as secretary. There were no other changes to senior management in 2018.

Disclosures Required by Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016)

The Board is responsible for ensuring that TG4 has complied with the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies ("the Code"), as published by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in August 2016. The following disclosures are required by the Code:

Consultancy Costs

Consultancy costs include the cost of external advice to management and exclude outsourced 'business-as-usual' functions.

	2018 €'000	2017 €'000
Legal advice	1,848	4,004
Financial advice	49,379	8,617
Marketing	141,961	183,038
Human Resources/Pension	21,352	16,630
Business improvement	43,827	38,760
Other	39,447	60,102
Total consultancy costs	297,814	311,151
Consultancy costs capitalised	-	1,251
Consultancy costs charged to the Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves	297,814	309,900
Total	297,814	311,151

Travel and Subsistence Expenditure

Travel and subsistence expenditure is categorised as follows:

	2018 €'000	2017 €'000
Domestic		
– Board	15,687	12,594
– Employees	87,680	52,585
International		
– Board	2,810	-
– Employees	102,430	83,385
Total	208,607	148,564

Legal costs

TG4 did not incur legal costs in 2018.

Hospitality Expenditure

The Income and Expenditure Account includes the following hospitality expenditure:

	2018 €'000	2017 €'000
Staff hospitality	48,731	40,664
Client hospitality	19,703	11,821
Total	68,434	52,485

Statement of Compliance

TG4 has complied with the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies, as published by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in August 2016, with the following exceptions:

TG4 does not disclose details of employee short-term benefits over €60,000 in bands of €10,000 in the annual report as required by the Code due to the commercial sensitivity of this information. This departure from the Code has been agreed with the Department of Commu-

ications, Climate Action & Environment. This information will be disclosed in the Chairman's Report to the Minister.



Siún Ní Raghallaigh
Cathaoirleach
24 May 2019

Finance Review 2018

Income and Expenditure Reviews

This report reviews TG4's income and expenditure performance in 2018 in terms of the key sources and use of income, the channel's principal cost drivers and its overall focus on efficiency and value-for-money. The review also compares TG4's performance in 2018 to that of 2017 under the following 4 headings:

1. Income
2. Operating Expenditure
3. Cost Control & Efficiency in 2018
4. Irish Language Content Expenditure 2018

1. Income

As can be seen from **Table 1** below, total income (exchequer current funding and commercial revenue) in 2018 was €38.86m (2017: €36.86m). Compared to the previous year TG4's total income increased by 5.4%. Exchequer current funding was €33.79m (2017: €32.79m) of this and represented 87% (2017: 89%) of TG4's total income with the commercial income share representing 10.5% in 2018 at €4.083m (2017: €4.07m). There was an additional grant in 2018 of €985,000.

Commercial income marginally increased by .32%. This is a solid performance in a very competitive advertising and television advertising market in Ireland.

Table 1: Income TG4 2018

Description	2018		2017	
	€'000	%	€'000	%
Grant-in-aid	33,790	87%	32,790	88.9%
Commercial (advertising and sponsorship)	2,763	7.1%	2,614	7.1%
Other commercial	1,320	3.4%	1,456	4.0%
Special programme grant	985	2.5%	–	0.0%
Total income	38,858	100%	36,860	100%

2. Operating Expenditure

In terms of annual operating expenditure, TG4 placed a continued emphasis on an operating model, which works as efficiently as possible and on cost management to ensure value-for-money across all activities. Total operating expenditure was €38.4m in 2018, a 6.5% increase on the €36.1m spent in 2017. See **Table 2** below.

Table 2: Operating Expenditure TG4 2018 Vs 2017

Description	€'000		% Change 2018 & 2017
	2018	2017	
Cost of Sales	980	984	-0.4
Staff Costs	5,372	5,653	-5%
Programme Expenditure	26,510	23,971	10%
Other Expenditure (Overheads, Transmission and Marketing costs included)	5,617	5,519	1.9%
Total Operating Expenditure	38,479	36,127	6.5%

3. Cost Control and Efficiency

TG4 continued to operate efficiently, cost effectively and prudently in 2018. Savings were achieved across a wide range of cost centres and internal resources were further utilised to provide content at more cost effective rates.

4. Irish Language Content Expenditure 2018

As reflected in its commitments for the year, TG4 committed to spend at least 70% of its Exchequer current funding on the production of Irish language content. As shown in **Table 3** below, the actual spend was 77% of Exchequer funding. Transmission, broadcast and promotion of schedule and general overheads accounted for the remaining 23% of Exchequer funding in 2018.

Overall, there was a slight decrease in TG4's daily output levels of new Irish language content from 4.44 to 4.14 hours per day.

Overall, TG4 provided 1,511 hours of original Irish Language content in 2018 down from 1,619 in 2017.

Table 3: Irish Language Content Expenditure

Description	2018		2017	
	€'000	%	€'000	%
Current Exchequer funding & grant for Bliain na Gaeilge received in the year (received in 2018)	34,775	100%	32,790	100%
*Irish language programmes purchased:				
Commissioned	21,971	63%	19,169	58%
Acquired/dubbed/subtitled	3,101	9%	3,623	11%
Production staff costs (including salaries)	1,800	5%	1,780	6%
Total Irish Language Content Production Costs	26,872	77%	24,572	75%

*This is the actual expenditure incurred on these costs in 2018.

Financial Statements

Contents

Statement of Board Members' Responsibilities	33
Statement on Internal Control	34
Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for presentation to the Houses of The Oireachtas	36
Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves	38
Statement of Comprehensive Income	39
Statement of Financial Position	40
Statement of Cash Flows	41
Notes to the Financial Statements	42-50

Financial Statements

Statement of Board Members' Responsibilities

For the year ended 31st December 2018

The Board is required by the Broadcasting Act, 2009 to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of Teilifís na Gaeilge and of its income and expenditure for that year.

In preparing those statements, the Board is required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- Disclose and explain any material departures from applicable accounting standards and,
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that Teilifís na Gaeilge will continue in existence.

The Board is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of Teilifís na Gaeilge and to enable the Board to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Act and with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in Ireland.

The Board is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of Teilifís na Gaeilge and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and the detection of fraud and other irregularities. The Board's books of account are held in Teilifís na Gaeilge offices in Baile na hAbhann, Co. na Gaillimhe.

On behalf of the Board of Teilifís na Gaeilge:



Siún Ní Raghallaigh
Cathaoirleach

24 May 2019

Financial Statements

Statement on Internal Control

Scope of Responsibility

On behalf of TG4 I acknowledge the Board's responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal control is maintained and operated. This responsibility takes account of the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016).

Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a tolerable level rather than to eliminate it. The system can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or detected in a timely way.

The system of internal control, which accords with guidance issued by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform has been in place in TG4 for the year ended 31 December 2018 and up to the date of approval of the financial statements.

Capacity to Handle Risk

TG4 has an Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) comprising three Board members, with financial and audit expertise, one of whom is the Chair. The ARC met four times in 2018.

TG4 has also established an internal audit function which is adequately resourced and conducts a programme of work agreed with the ARC.

The ARC has developed a risk management policy which sets out its risk appetite, the risk management processes in place and details the roles and responsibilities of staff in relation to risk. The policy has been issued to all staff who are expected to work within TG4's risk management policies, to alert management on emerging risks and control weaknesses and assume responsibility for risks and controls within their own area of work.

Risk and Control Framework

TG4 has implemented a risk management system which identifies and reports key risks and the management actions being taken to address and, to the extent possible, to mitigate those risks.

A risk register is in place which identifies the key risks

facing TG4 and these have been identified, evaluated and graded according to their significance. The register is reviewed and updated by the ARC on an annual basis. The outcome of these assessments is used to plan and allocate resources to ensure risks are managed to an acceptable level.

The risk register details the controls and actions needed to mitigate risks and responsibility for operation of controls assigned to specific staff. I confirm that a control environment containing the following elements is in place:

- procedures for all key business processes have been documented,
- financial responsibilities have been assigned at management level with corresponding accountability,
- there is an appropriate budgeting system with an annual budget which is kept under review by senior management,
- there are systems aimed at ensuring the security of the information and communication technology systems,
- there are systems in place to safeguard the assets

Ongoing Monitoring and Review

Formal procedures have been established for monitoring control processes and control deficiencies are communicated to those responsible for taking corrective action and to management and the Board, where relevant, in a timely way. I confirm that the following ongoing monitoring systems are in place:

- key risks and related controls have been identified and processes have been put in place to monitor the operation of those key controls and report any identified deficiencies,
- reporting arrangements have been established at all levels where responsibility for financial management has been assigned, and
- there are regular reviews by senior management of periodic and annual performance and financial reports which indicate performance against budgets/forecasts.

Procurement

I confirm that TG4 has procedures in place to ensure compliance with current procurement rules and guidelines and that during 2018 TG4 complied with those procedures.

Review of Effectiveness

I confirm that TG4 has procedures to monitor the effectiveness of its risk management and control procedures. TG4's monitoring and review of the effectiveness of the system of internal financial control is informed by the work of the internal and external auditors, the Audit and Risk Committee which oversees their work, and the senior management within TG4 responsible for the development and maintenance of the internal financial control framework.

I confirm that the Board conducted an annual review of the effectiveness of the internal controls for 2018 on the 17th of December 2018.

Internal Control Issues

No weaknesses in internal control were identified in relation to 2018 that require disclosure in the financial statements.



Siún Ní Raghallaigh
Cathaoirleach
24 May 2019

Financial Statements

Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for Presentation to the Houses of the Oireachtas

For the year ended 31st December 2018



Ard-Reachtair Cuntas agus Ciste An tArd-Reachtair Cuntas agus Ciste

Tuarascáil le cur faoi bhráid Thithe an Oireachtais

Teilifís na Gaeilge

Tuairim ar na ráitis airgeadais

Rinne mé iniúchadh ar ráitis airgeadais Theilifís na Gaeilge don bhliain dar chríoch an 31 Nollaig 2018 mar a éilítear faoi fhorálacha ailt 109 den Acht Craolacháin 2009. Tá na ráitis airgeadais comhdhéanta de

- ráiteas maidir le hioncam agus caiteachas agus cúlchistí ioncain coinnithe
- ráiteas maidir le hioncam cuimsitheach
- ráiteas maidir leis an staid airgeadais
- ráiteas maidir le sreabhadh airgid agus
- na nótaí gaolmhara lena n-áirítear achoimre ar bheartais shuntasacha chuntasaiochta.

Is é mo thuairim go dtugann na ráitis airgeadais léargas fíor agus cothrom ar shócmhainní, dlíteanais agus staid airgeadais Theilifís na Gaeilge amháil an 31 Nollaig 2018 agus ar a hioncam agus ar a caiteachas do bhliain 2018 de réir Chaighdeán Tuairiscithe Airgeadais (CTA)102 - *An Caighdeán Tuairiscithe Airgeadais is in infheidhme san Ríocht Aontaithe agus i bPoblacht na hÉireann.*

An bonn atá leis an tuairim

Rinne mé iniúchadh ar na ráitis airgeadais de réir na gCaighdeán Idirnáisiúnta maidir le hIniúchóireacht (CII) arna bhfógairt ag an Eagraíocht Idirnáisiúnta d'Ard-Institiúidí Iniúchóireachta. Déantar cur síos san aguisín atá leis an tuarascáil seo ar na freagrachtaí atá orm de réir na gcaighdeán sin. Táim neamhspleách ar Theilifís na Gaeilge agus tá mo fhreagrachtaí eitiiciúla eile comhlionta agam de réir *Chód Eitice na hEagraíochta Idirnáisiúnta d'Ard-Institiúidí Iniúchóireachta.*

Measaim go bhfuil an fhianaise iniúchóireachta atá aimsithe agam leordhóthanach agus ábhartha chun bonn a chur faoi mo thuairim.

Tuairisc ar fhaisnéis seachas na ráitis airgeadais, agus ar nithe eile

Tá faisnéis ar leith eile curtha i láthair ag Teilifís na Gaeilge in éineacht leis na ráitis airgeadais. Tá an fhaisnéis sin comhdhéanta den tuarascáil bhliantúil, an ráiteas faoi chúrsaí rialachais agus tuarascáil chomhaltai an Bhoird agus an ráiteas um rialú inmheánach. Tá cur síos san aguisín atá leis an tuarascáil seo ar na freagrachtaí atá orm tuairisciú i leith faisnéis den chineál sin agus ar ábhair ar leith eile lena dtuairiscim trí eisceacht.

Níl aon ní le tuairisciú agam i leith sin.

Seamus Mac Cárthaigh
Ard-Reachtair Cuntas agus Ciste

31Bealtaine 2019

Aguisín don tuarascáil

Freagrachtaí chomhaltaí an Bhoird

Leagtar amach sa ráiteas faoi chursáil rialachas agus tuarascáil comhaltaí an Bhoird na freagrachtaí atá ar chomhaltaí an Bhoird. Tá an Bord freagrach as

- na ráitis airgeadais a ullmhú ar an mbealach a fhorordaítear faoi alt 109 den Acht Craolacháin 2009
- a chinntiú go dtugann na ráitis léargas fíor agus cothrom de réir CTA 102
- rialtacht na n-idirbheart a chinntiú
- a mheas cibé an bhfuil úsáid as an mbonn cuntasaiochta gnóthas leantach oiriúnach, agus
- rialú inmheánach a chinneann siad atá riachtanach d'fhonn ráitis airgeadais a ullmhú atá saor ó mhiráiteas ábhartha, cibé mar thoradh ar chiallois nó earráid.

Freagrachtaí an Ard-Reachtair Cuntas agus Ciste

Éilítear orm faoi alt 109 den Acht Craolacháin 2009 ráitis airgeadais Theilifís na Gaeilge a iniúchadh agus tuairisc a thabhairt orthu chuig Títhe an Oireachtais.

An cuspóir atá agam le linn an iniúchta ná teacht ar dhearbhu réasúnach cibé an bhfuil na ráitis airgeadais tríd is tríd saor ó aon mhiráiteas ábhartha mar thoradh ar chiallois nó earráid. Is ionann dearbhú réasúnach agus leibhéal ard dearbhaithe ach ní hionann é is barántas go dtiocfar i gcónaí, le linn iniúchadh a dtugtar faoi de réir na gCaighdeán Idirnáisiúnta maidir le hiniúchóireacht, ar mhiráiteas ábhartha nuair is ann dóibh. D'fhéadfadh míráitis eascairt ó chiallois nó ó earráid agus meastar iad a bheith ábhartha má tá ionchas réasúnach ann go n-imreoidh siad, astu féin nó le chéile, tionchar ar chinntí eacnamaíochta úsáideoirí a dhéantar bunaithe ar na ráitis airgeadais seo.

Mar chuid d'iniúchadh a sheoltar de réir na gCaighdeán Idirnáisiúnta maidir le hiniúchadh, cleachtaim breithiúnas gairmiúil agus sceipteachas gairmiúil i gcaitheamh an iniúchta. Is mé á dhéanamh sin,

- aithním na rioscaí atá ann i leith míráiteas ábhartha sna ráitis airgeadais cibé mar thoradh ar chiallois nó earráid agus déanaim measúnú orthu; leagaim amach nósanna imeachta iniúchta mar fhreagra ar na rioscaí sin agus cuirim i bhfeidhm iad; agus tagaim ar fhianaise iniúchta atá leordhóthanach agus iomchuí chun bonn a chur faoi mo thuairim. Tá an riosca a bhaineann le gan míráiteas ábhartha ó chiallois a bhrath níos airde ná ó earráid mar go bhféadfadh claonpháirteachas, brionnú, easnaimh d'aon turas, mífhaisnéis nó sárú ar rialú inmheánach a bheith i gceist le callois.
- Faighim tuiscint ar rialú inmheánach atá ábhartha don iniúchadh d'fhonn nósanna imeachta iniúchta a leagan amach atá ábhartha sna cúinsí atá i gceist, ach ní chun críocha tuairim a thabhairt ar éifeachtacht na rialuithe inmheánacha.
- Déanaim measúnú ar ábharthacht na mbeartas cuntasaiochta agus a réasúnach is atá meastacháin chuntasaiochta agus nochtuithe bainteacha.

- Socraím chomh oiriúnach is atá sé úsáid a bhaint as an mbonn cuntasaiochta gnóthas leantach agus, bunaithe ar an bhfianaise iniúchóireachta a dtagaim air, cibé an bhfuil neamhchinnteacht ábhartha ann maidir le himeachtaí nó coinníollacha a chaithfeadh amhras suntasach ar chumas Theilifís na Gaeilge leanúint mar ghnóthas leantach. Má shocraím go bhfuil mhíchinn-teacht ábhartha ann, éilítear orm aird a tharraingt i mo thuarascáil ar na nochtuithe bainteacha sna ráitis airgeadais nó, má tá nochtuithe den chineál sin neamhleordhóthanach, mo thuairim a leasú. Tá mo chonclúidí bunaithe ar an bhfianaise iniúchóireachta a dtángthas uirthi go dtí dáta mo thuarascála. D'fhéadfadh imeachtaí amach anseo stop a chur ar Theilifís na Gaeilge leanúint mar ghnóthas leantach.
- Déanaim measúnú ar an gcur i láthair, struchtúr agus ábhar na ráiteas airgeadais tríd is tríd lena n-áirítear na nochtuithe agus cibé an léiríonn na ráitis airgeadais na hidirbhearta agus na himeachtaí bunúsacha ar bhealach a thugann léiriú cóir.

Chomh maith le nithe eile, cuirim scóip agus am an iniúchta in iúl dóibhsean atá freagrach as rialachas chomh maith le torthaí suntasacha iniúchta lena n-áirítear aon easnaimh mhóra sa chóras rialaithe inmheánaigh a aithním le linn m'iniúchta.

Faisnéis eile seachas na ráitis airgeadais

Ní chuimsíonn mo thuairim ar na ráitis airgeadais an fhaisnéis eile a cuireadh i láthair in éineacht leis na ráitis sin agus ní thugaim aon dearbhú ar aon bhealach ina leith.

Maidir le m'iniúchadh ar na ráitis airgeadais, éilítear orm faoi na Caighdeán Idirnáisiúnta maidir le hiniúchadh an t-eolas eile a chuirtear i láthair a léamh agus lena linn sin a bhreithniú cibé an bhfuil an fhaisnéis eile ag teacht go hábhartha leis na ráitis airgeadais nó le heolas a fuarthas le linn an iniúchta nó más léir go bhfuil míráiteas ábhartha i gceist. Má shocraím, bunaithe ar an obair atá déanta agam, go bhfuil míráiteas ábhartha i gceist sa bhfaisnéis eile seo, éilítear orm tuairisciú ina leith sin.

Tuairisc ar nithe eile

Tugadh faoin iniúchadh de réir breithnithe speisialta a bhaineann le comhlachtaí Stáit i ndáil lena mbainistiú agus a bhfeidhmiú. Tuairiscim má fhaighim go bhfuil nithe ábhartha eile ann a bhaineann leis an tsli a ndearnadh gnó poiblí.

Lorgaim fianaise faoi rialtacht na n-idirbheart airgeadais le linn an iniúchta. Tuairiscim má thug m'iniúchadh aird ar aon chás ábhartha nár feidhmíodh suimeanna airgid chun na gcricoch a bhí beartaithe, nó sa chás nach mbíonn na hidirbhearta ag cloí leis na húdaráis a dhéanann rialú orthu.

Tuairiscim freisin trí eisceacht, más é mo thuairim,


- nach bhfaighim an fhaisnéis agus na mínithe go léir a theastaigh uaim chun m'iniúchadh a dhéanamh, nó
- cibé an raibh na taifid chuntasaiochta leordhóthanach chun iniúchadh ceart a dhéanamh ar na ráitis airgeadais nó
- mura bhfuil na ráitis airgeadais ag teacht leis na taifid chuntasaiochta.

Financial Statements

		Teilifís na Gaeilge	
		Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves for the year ended	
		31 December 2018	
	Notes	2018 €'000	Restated 2017 €'000
Sales			
Commercial income	4	4,083	4,070
Cost of sales	4	(980)	(984)
Net Sales		3,103	3,086
Expenditure			
Staff costs	5	5,372	5,653
Board members' fees and expenses	6	158	123
Programme expenditure	7	26,510	23,971
Transmission costs		1,598	1,600
Marketing and research	8	1,672	1,749
Overheads	9	2,347	2,170
Depreciation	10	2,371	1,568
Total Expenditure		40,028	36,834
Net operating expenditure for the year		(36,925)	(33,748)
Surplus/(deficit) on disposal of fixed assets		(3)	(46)
		(36,928)	(33,794)
State funding	14	36,907	33,792
Surplus/(deficit) on ordinary activities before taxation		(21)	(2)
Taxation	15	4	-
Retained surplus/(deficit) for the financial year		(17)	(2)

The notes 1 - 31 form an integral part of the financial statements.

On behalf of the Board of Teilifís na Gaeilge:



Siún Ní Raghallaigh
Cathaoirleach



Alan Esslemont
Ard-Stiúrthóir

24 May 2019

Financial Statements

Teilifís na Gaeilge			
Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended			
31 December 2018			
	Notes	2018 €'000	2017 €'000
Retained deficit for the financial year		(17)	(2)
Actuarial (loss)/gain on retirement benefit scheme assets		-	-
Total recognised (losses)/gains for the year		(17)	(2)

The notes 1 - 31 form an integral part of the financial statements.

On behalf of the Board of Teilifís na Gaeilge:



Siún Ní Raghallaigh
Cathaoirleach



Alan Esslemont
Ard-Stiúrthóir

24 May 2019

Financial Statements

Teilifís na Gaeilge				
Statement of Financial Position as at				
31 December 2018				
	Notes	€'000	2018 €'000	Restated 2017 €'000
Fixed Assets				
Tangible fixed assets	10		7,321	7,621
Intangible fixed assets	12		1,914	1,475
			9,235	9,096
Current Assets				
Receivables	16	3,040		2,318
Cash at bank and in hand	17	19		174
Programme prepayments	18	2,865		3,119
		5,924		5,611
Current Liabilities				
Payables	19	(3,563)		(2,962)
Net Current Assets			2,361	2,649
Net Assets			11,596	11,745
Capital and Reserves				
Capital grants	11		7,205	7,522
Deferred current grants	13		4,779	4,594
Revenue reserves	20		(388)	(371)
			11,596	11,745

The notes 1 - 31 form an integral part of the financial statements.

On behalf of the Board of Teilifís na Gaeilge:



Siún Ní Raghallaigh
Cathaoirleach



Alan Esslemont
Ard-Stiúrthóir

24 May 2019

Financial Statements

Teilifís na Gaeilge			
Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended			
31 December 2018			
	Notes	2018 €'000	Restated 2017 €'000
Surplus/(deficit) on ordinary activities before taxation		(21)	(2)
Depreciation		2,371	1,568
Amortisation of programme costs		24,532	21,421
Amortisation of capital grants		(2,317)	(1,584)
Amortisation of grants allocated to programme costs		(24,532)	(21,421)
(Increase)/decrease in receivables		(469)	(559)
Increase/(decrease) in payables		602	663
Taxation		4	–
Interest received		–	–
Cash from operations		170	86
Interest paid		–	–
Net cash generated from activities		170	86
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	10	(2,074)	(1,515)
Purchase of commissioned and acquired programmes	12	(24,971)	(22,311)
Surplus/(deficit) on disposal of fixed assets		3	46
State capital grants	11	2,000	1,450
Grants received and allocated to programme assets		24,717	22,146
Net cash flow from investing activities		(325)	(184)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	21	(155)	(98)

The notes 1 - 31 form an integral part of the financial statements.

On behalf of the Board of Teilifís na Gaeilge:



Siún Ní Raghallaigh
Cathaoirleach



Alan Esslemont
Ard-Stiúrthóir

24 May 2019

Notes to the Financial Statements

Notes

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the financial statements.

a) Establishment of Teilifís na Gaeilge

Teilifís na Gaeilge is the Irish language broadcaster established under Statute and continues in being under the Broadcasting Act 2009.

b) Statement of Compliance

The financial statements of Teilifís na Gaeilge for the year ended 31 December 2018 have been prepared in accordance with the FRS 102, the financial reporting standard applicable in the UK and Ireland issued by the Financial Reporting Council (FRC), as promulgated by Chartered Accountants Ireland.

c) Significant accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the Statement of Financial Position date and the amounts reported for revenue and expenses during the year.

However, the nature of estimation means that the actual outcomes could differ from these estimates. The following judgements have had the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements:

Impairment of Property, Plant and Equipment: Assets that are subject to amortisation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use. For the purpose of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows (cash generating units). Non-financial assets that suffered impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

Depreciation and Residual Values: Management have reviewed the asset lives and associated residual values of all fixed asset classes, and in particular, the useful economic lives and residual values of fixtures and fittings, and have concluded that asset lives and residual values are appropriate.

Foreign Currency Exposure: Teilifís na Gaeilge enters into contractual arrangements for payments to suppliers in currencies other than the euro. Teilifís na Gaeilge generally accounts for these transactions at currency rates applicable at the payment date. Forward contracts are entered into to hedge against currency fluctuations. Reasons for entering into such contracts are based on best estimates of future exchange rates and professional advice sought.

d) Income recognition

Commercial income: Commercial income represents revenue from airtime sales, sponsorship and ancillary activities. Sales, which are shown net of VAT, are recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves when the service is provided. Commission in relation to these sales is charged to the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves Account as incurred.

e) Expenditure

Expenditure comprises operational and capital expenditure. Net operating expenditure comprises programming and administration expenditure, net of commercial revenue.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Notes

f)

State grants

Net operating expenditure of Teilifís na Gaeilge is funded by way of a grant received from the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment, as well as grants received from time to time for specific projects from the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland under their Sound and Vision Programme. Grants are recognised under the accruals method. The portion of the grant that is related to the Capitalised programme costs are deferred and recognised in the Income and expenditure statements as the expenses are recognised.

Capital expenditure is funded by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment by way of capital grants, as well as grants received from time to time for specific projects from the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland under their Sound and Vision Programme. These grants are amortised on the same basis as the related assets are depreciated.

g)

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are shown at cost less accumulated depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, except land, at rates calculated to write off the original cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a straight line basis over its expected useful life as follows;

	%
Buildings	2.5
Fixtures	20
Fittings	10
Mobile devices	33

Software development costs including wages, software costs on major systems for content distribution, portals, phone apps etc. are capitalised and depreciated in line with the related equipment cost from the date of implementation or over the expected useful life of the costs capitalised. These rates vary between 33% and 100%.

h)

Financial assets – investment in Multiplex Broadcasting Services Northern Ireland Limited

Teilifís na Gaeilge accounts for its investment in Multiplex Broadcasting Services Northern Ireland Limited at cost (see note 25). Fixed Assets includes an amount of €1 in respect of its investment in the ordinary shares of that company. The company was established as a not for profit organisation with costs being funded by RTE and the UK Department of Culture, Media and Sport. As a result, Teilifís na Gaeilge financial statements do not reflect any revenues, costs or commitments in respect of the joint venture.

i)

Taxation

Corporation tax payable is provided on taxable profits at current rates.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the Statement of Financial Position date where transactions or events that result in an obligation to pay more tax in the future or a right to pay less tax in the future have occurred at the Statement of Financial Position date.

Timing differences are temporary differences between surplus as computed for tax purposes and surplus as stated in the financial statements which arise because certain items of income and expenditure in the financial statements are dealt with in different years for tax purposes.

Deferred tax is measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the years in which the timing differences are expected to reverse based on tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the Statement of Financial Position date.

Deferred tax is not discounted.

j)

Foreign currency

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Euro at the exchange rates ruling at the day of the transactions.

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Euro at the exchange rate ruling at the Statement of Financial Position date and resulting gains or losses are included in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves Account for the year.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Nótaí

k) Retirement Benefit

Teilifís na Gaeilge operates a defined contribution scheme for its employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company.

Annual contributions to the scheme are charged to the Statement of Income and Expenditure in the year to which they relate.

l) Intangible Fixed Assets

Commissioned Programme costs and Acquired Programme costs are capitalised as Intangible fixed assets in the financial statements. Commissioned Programmes are programmes commissioned by TG4 from independent producers and are based on the full contract price.

The cost of the Commissioned programme is amortised based on the expected audience repeat viewership of each transmission as follows:

High Value Commissioned programmes:	70% in year of first transmission
	20% in year following first transmission
	10% in 2nd year following first transmission

Other Commissioned programmes & live sports:	100% in year the rights or sporting events are first broadcast.
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Acquired programmes are programmes purchased by TG4 from third party studios and broadcasters. These are charged to the Income and Expenditure statement based on the expected audience repeat viewership of each transmission as follows:

Acquired programmes:	90% in year of first transmission
	10% in year following first transmission

Commissioned & Acquired programmes are only capitalised once the programme is available for screening.

m) Programme Prepayments

Any Commissioned and Acquired programme amounts paid in advance of the programme being available for screening are recognised as a prepayment.

2. Prior year adjustment

In 2018, following a review of its policy on commissioned and acquired programme expenditure, the Board adopted a revised policy whereby expenditure on such programmes is to be capitalised and treated as an intangible asset under the Statement of Financial Position. The assets are amortised based on expected service potential of the programmes. In addition, the Board now treats as prepayments expenditure on programmes in the year where such programmes are not broadcast by the year end.

This resulted in the accounts for 2017 being restated to account for the changes in the accounting policy and recognise in the balance sheet, Intangible fixed assets, programme prepayments and deferred grant Income, which arose following the new accounting treatment. This resulted in an increase in Net assets and reserves of €4,594,000 as at 31 December 2017.

Reconciliation of Reserves as previously stated

	1 January 2017	31 December 2017
	€'000	€'000
Capital and Reserves as previously stated	7,287	7,151
Increase in prepayments	3,284	3,119
Increase in intangible fixed assets	584	1,475
Capital and Reserves as restated	11,155	11,745

Reconciliation of Deficit for the year ended 31 December 2017

	2017
	€'000
Deficit for the year ended 31 December 2017 as previously stated	(2)
Reduction in Programme expenditure in the year following change in policy	725
Grant deferred in the year following change in policy.	(725)
Deficit for the year ended 31 December 2017 as restated	(2)

Notes to the Financial Statements

Notes		2018 €'000	2017 €'000
3.	Principal Activity Teilifis na Gaeilge's principal activity is the operation of the Irish language television channel TG4.		
4.	Net Sales		
	Commercial Income		
	Airtime and sponsorship sales	2,763	2,614
	Facilities charge-out	581	579
	Sundry income	739	877
		4,083	4,070
	Cost of Sales		
	Commission on advertising and sponsorship sales	691	696
	Direct costs	289	288
		980	984
	Net sales	3,103	3,086
5.	Staff Costs		
	The average number of employees employed by Teilifis na Gaeilge during the year was 89 (2017: 84). Employee costs during the year comprised:		
	Wages and salaries	4,971	4,667
	Social welfare costs	551	519
	Retirement benefit costs	533	497
	Travel and subsistence	190	136
	Training	63	94
	Other staff costs	63	47
		6,371	5,960
	Staff costs capitalised	(999)	(224)
	Staff costs allocated to archive project	–	(83)
	Total staff costs	5,372	5,653
	Other staff costs include a charge of €43,400 (2017: €33,250) in respect of payments to staff arising from a Labour Relations Commission ruling.		
	Circular 13/2014 issued by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform requires disclosure of the number of employees whose total employee benefits (excluding employer Retirement benefit costs) for the reporting period fell within each band of €10,000, from €60,000 upwards and an overall figure for total employer Retirement benefit contributions. In recognition of data protection implications or other risks, taking cognisance of the fact that TG4 operates in a highly competitive commercial environment, and with the consent of the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment the disclosure of salary bands shall be made in the Chairperson's annual statement to the Minister.		
	Emoluments of Director General – Alan Esslemont		
	Basic salary	140	140
	Employer's Retirement benefit contributions	21	21
	Other benefits	–	–
		161	161
	The Director General is a member of the TG4's defined contribution scheme and TG4 contributes 15.29% of the Director General's salary to that scheme on his behalf.		

Notes to the Financial Statements

Notes		2018 €'000	2017 €'000		
6. Board Costs					
	Board members fees and expenses (Note 23)	135	109		
	Travel and subsistence and other expenses	23	14		
		158	123		
	Board members are reimbursed for travel and subsistence costs. The tax payable by Teilifís na Gaeilge in relation to such expenses amounted to €2,378 (2017:€3,106)				
7. Programme Expenditure		2018 €'000	Restated 2017 €'000		
	Commissioned programmes expensed and amortised in the period	21,338	18,913		
	Acquired programmes expensed and amortised in the period.	3,194	2,588		
	Dubbing and other costs	1,978	2,470		
		26,510	23,971		
8. Marketing and Research		2018 €'000	2017 €'000		
	Advertising and marketing	1,460	1,571		
	Audience measurement and research	212	175		
	Audience Council expenses	–	3		
		1,672	1,749		
9. Overheads		2018 €'000	2017 €'000		
	Premises and equipment expenses	774	792		
	Professional and financial expenses*	432	337		
	Industry levies paid	609	579		
	General and office expenses	532	462		
		2,347	2,170		
	(*Professional and financial expenses includes a charge of €2,099 in interest and €1,868 in penalties paid over to the Revenue commissioners for underdeclaration of VAT for €17,033 in the period. The additional Vat has been charged to the Income and Expenditure account under the relevant headings where applicable.)				
10. Tangible Fixed Assets					
		Land and Buildings €'000	Equipment €'000	Fixtures and fittings €'000	Total €'000
	Cost				
	At 1 January 2018	8,575	7,177	416	16,168
	Assets reinstated	–	305	1	306
	Additions	1	1,974	99	2,074
	Disposals	–	(11)	(1)	(12)
	At 31 December 2018	8,576	9,445	515	18,536
	Accumulated Depreciation				
	At 1 January 2018	3,567	4,821	159	8,547
	Accumulated depreciation on assets reinstated	–	305	1	306
	Charge for the year	234	2,109	28	2,371
	Disposals	–	(8)	(1)	(9)
	At 31 December 2018	3,801	7,227	187	11,215
	Net Book Value				
	At 31 December 2018	4,775	2,218	328	7,321
	At 31 December 2017	5,008	2,356	257	7,621
	(After a review of the fixed asset register, it was noted that a number of assets were written off in the prior year that are currently in use. These assets were reinstated in the current year. Their net book value as at 31 December 2018 was €0. (2017: €0))				

Notes to the Financial Statements

Notes		2018 €'000	2017 €'000	
11. Capital Grants				
	Capital grants – received and receivable			
	Opening balance	24,999	23,549	
	Grants received during the year (Note 14)	2,000	1,450	
	Closing balance	26,999	24,999	
	Amortisation			
	Opening balance	17,477	15,893	
	Amortised during the year	2,317	1,584	
	Closing balance	19,794	17,477	
	Net book value – capital grants	7,205	7,522	
	Capital grants represent state funding received in relation to capital expenditure incurred by Teilifís na Gaeilge. Capital grants are amortised on the same basis as the related assets are depreciated.			
12. Intangible Fixed Assets				
		Commissioned Programmes €'000	Acquired Programmes €'000	Total €'000
	Cost			
	At 1 January 2018	42,154	4,646	46,800
	Additions	21,644	3,327	24,971
	At 31 December 2018	63,798	7,973	71,771
	Accumulated Amortisation			
	At 1 January 2018	40,828	4,497	45,325
	Amortised in the year	21,338	3,194	24,532
	At 31 December 2018	62,166	7,691	69,857
	Net Book Value			
	At 31 December 2018	1,632	282	1,914
	At 31 December 2017	1,326	149	1,475
13. Deferred current grants				
		2018 €'000	2017 €'000	
	Grants deferred at 1 January	4,594	3,869	
	Current grants – received in the year (Note 14)	34,775	32,933	
	Grants utilised in the year	(34,590)	(32,208)	
	Grants deferred at 31 December	4,779	4,594	
14. State Funding				
	Grants received from the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment represent state funding received in relation to current expenditure incurred by Teilifís na Gaeilge.			
	State funding credited to the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves		Restated 2017 €'000	
		2018 €'000		
	Grant utilised in the year (Note 13)	34,590	32,208	
	Capital grant amortised (Note 11)	2,317	1,584	
		36,907	33,792	
	The total allocation for 2018 was €36.775m comprising of:			
		2018 €'000	2017 €'000	
	Grants received for current expenditure from DCCAE (Vote 29 – Subhead B5)	33,790	32,790	
	Grants received for current expenditure from BAI Archive project	–	143	
	Grants received for expenditure in relation to Bliain na Gaeilge	985	–	
	Grants applied for capital purposes from DCCAE (Vote 29 – Subhead B5)	2,000	1,450	
	Total received	36,775	34,383	

Notes to the Financial Statements

Notes				
15.	Tax on Profit on Ordinary Activities	2018	2017	
		€'000	€'000	
(a)	<i>Analysis of tax charge in year</i>			
	Corporation tax charge for year	–	–	
	Refund of Corporation tax charge in prior years	(4)	–	
		(4)	–	
(b)	<i>Factors affecting the tax charge for the year</i>			
	The effective rate of tax for the year is higher than the standard corporation tax in Ireland of 12.5%. The differences are explained below:			
		2018	2017	
		€'000	€'000	
	Profit/(Loss) on ordinary activities before taxation	(21)	(2)	
	Profit/(Loss) on ordinary activities multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax in Ireland of 12.5% (2017: 12.5%).	–	–	
	<i>Effects of:</i>			
	Income taxable at a higher rate of taxation	8	8	
	Excess of capital grants amortised and capital allowances over depreciation	–	–	
	Allocation of current year losses	(8)	(8)	
		–	–	
16.	Receivables	2018	2017	
		€'000	€'000	
	Receivables	2,121	1,721	
	VAT repayable	247	242	
	Corporation tax receivable	–	4	
	Prepayments and accrued income	672	351	
		3,040	2,318	
	All balances are deemed recoverable within one year.			
17.	Cash at Bank and in Hand	2018	2017	
		€'000	€'000	
	Cash in hand	3	1	
	Bank	16	173	
		19	174	
18.	Programme Prepayments	2018	Restated 2017	
		€'000	€'000	
	Commissioned Programmes	2,464	2,136	
	Acquired Programmes	401	983	
		2,865	3,119	
19.	Payables – falling due within 1 year	2018	2017	
		€'000	€'000	
	Trade payables	227	218	
	Accruals and deferred income	3,336	2,744	
	Corporation tax payable	–	–	
		3,563	2,962	
20.	Reserves	Revenue Reserve	Total	
		€'000	€'000	
	Balance at 1 January 2018	(371)	(371)	
	Deficit for the year	(17)	(17)	
	Closing balance as at 31 December 2018	(388)	(388)	
21.	Analysis of Changes in Net Funds	Opening Balance	Cash Flows	Closing Balance
		€'000	€'000	€'000
	Cash at bank and in hand	1	2	3
	Short term deposits	173	(157)	16
		174	(155)	19

Notes to the Financial Statements

Notes 22.

Retirement benefit

Teilifís na Gaeilge operated a defined contribution scheme for its employees. The scheme is funded and the assets are held separately from those of Teilifís na Gaeilge.

The following Retirement benefit costs were incurred in the year:
Defined contribution scheme

2018 €'000	2017 €'000
533	497
533	497

23.

Board Members Fees and their Expenses

The Directors and Secretary who served during the year are as stated below:

Director/Secretary	Date of appointment during year (if applicable)	Fees 2018 €'000	Fees 2017 €'000
Alan Esslemont (Director General)		–	–
Seosamh Ó Conghaile (Cessation date 16/4/2017)		–	3.6
Siún Ní Raghallaigh (Chairman)		21.6	21.6
Andréa Ní Éalaithe (Cessation date 16/4/2017)		–	3.6
Des Geraghty		12.6	12.6
Mairéad Ní Cheóinín		12.6	12.6
Micheál Seoighe		12.6	12.6
Michelle Ní Chróinín		–	–
Diarmuid Ó Ruiséal		12.6	12.6
Bríd Ní Fhachtna		12.6	12.6
Frank Reidy		12.6	12.6
Mairéad Ní Nuadháin (Appointed 21/11/2017)		12.6	1.4
Siobhán Ní Ghadhra (Appointed 21/11/2017)		12.6	1.4
Darach Ó Tuairisg (Appointed 21/11/2017)		12.6	1.4
Mary Uí Chadhain (Company Secretary)		–	–
		135.0	108.6

Board members' expenses in 2018 were €22,494 (2017: €14,500), of which: domestic travel accounted for €14,200 (2017: €9,700), subsistence €4,297 (2017: €3,000) and other expenses (including secretarial, entertainment and training) €3,998 (2017: €1,800).

The Board adopted procedures in accordance with the requirements of the Broadcasting Act 2009 in relation to the disclosure of interests by Board members and these procedures have been adhered to in the year.

24.

Premises

Teilifís na Gaeilge operates from premises located in Baile na hAbhann, Co na Gaillimhe. Teilifís na Gaeilge owns the freehold to the premises and also rents offices in Dublin under licence for a term of three years commencing on the 24th November 2013 at an annual rental charge of €23.5k. An extension to the licence of the Dublin office is not yet finalised.

25.

Financial Assets

Multiplex Broadcasting Services Northern Ireland Limited (MBSN) was established as a not for profit joint venture company by TG4 and RTE in October 2012. The joint venture was set up to facilitate the transmission of free to air digital television services in Northern Ireland in relation to RTE1, RTE2 and TG4. The company's share capital comprises three ordinary shares, two owned by RTE and one owned by TG4. MBSN concluded an agreement with RTE and the UK Department of Culture, Media and Sport which provided for transmission costs incurred by MBSN to be funded by RTE (two thirds) and the UK Department of Culture, Media and Sport (one third). Other costs such as pre incorporation expenses and on-going administration costs are funded in the same proportion by RTE and the UK Department of Culture, Media and Sport.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Notes			
26.	Programme/Rights Purchase Commitments Teilifís na Gaeilge has programme/rights commitments as follows:	2018 €'000	2017 €'000
	Contracted for but not provided for at the year end	46,263	36,102
27.	Commitments Teilifís na Gaeilge has capital commitments as follows: Contracted for but not provided for at the year end	2018 €'000	2017 €'000
		194	138
28.	RTÉ Transactions Teilifís na Gaeilge received 342.5 hours of Irish language programming free of charge from RTÉ in the year ended 31 December 2018 out of their statutory obligation of 365 hours. RTÉ has committed to make up the 2018 deficit in hours in 2019.		
29.	Foreign Currency Exposure Foreign currency exposures arise primarily from payments for acquired programmes. Teilifís na Gaeilge hedges its foreign currency exposures by entering into US Dollar forward contracts when it deems it appropriate. The total value of such contracts in 2018 was €0 (2017: €0). There were no contracts outstanding at the year end (2017: €0).		
30.	Board Members – Disclosure of Transactions In the normal course of business, TG4 entered into contractual arrangements with undertakings in which Board Members of TG4 are employed or otherwise interested. TG4 adopted procedures in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department of Finance in relation to the disclosures of interests by Board members and TG4 adhered to these procedures during the year. Transactions to the value of €4,277,330 were approved in 2018 in respect of undertakings with which members of TG4 were associated or in which they had a direct or indirect interest which they disclosed at meetings. Included were undertakings in which board members of TG4 were employed or to which they were providing a service. The Board members and TG4 complied with the Department of Finance guidelines covering situations of personal interest. In cases of potential conflict of interest, Board Members did not receive board documentation on the proposed transactions nor did those members participate in or attend any board discussions relating to the matter.		
31.	Approval of the Financial Statements The Board of Directors' approved the financial statements on the 24 May 2019.		