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Independent Productions Annual Report 2016



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### INTRODUCTION

As Ireland's largest public-service media organisation, RTÉ's range of programming across its services reflects the culture, lives and diversity of modern Ireland.

RTÉ's programme content reflects its ongoing collaboration with the independent sector. In 2016 RTÉ worked with over 100 independent production companies, both well established concerns and emerging players, to deliver a diverse range of quality Irish programming.

Independent commissioning is integral to RTÉ's success. In turn RTÉ acknowledges its responsibility to provide an essential platform that displays to its audiences the creative talents of the Irish media industry.

Prioritising of quality Irish content continues to set RTÉ apart and serve its public purpose in a crowded and competitive international media environment. Successful collaboration between RTÉ and the independent sector supports growth and expansion of employment of companies in that sector. We look forward to strengthening our partnership with the independent sector as we continue to serve our audience in 2017.

Under the Broadcasting Act 2009 (the Act), RTÉ has a statutory obligation to spend a predetermined minimum amount (the statutory amount) every year on independently produced television and radio programmes. This amount is lodged to the Independent Programmes Account, which is required to be reported on under the Act. This report outlines RTÉ's management of this account.

The statutory amount RTÉ was required to spend in 2016 was  $\bigcirc$ 39.5 million (unchanged from 2015). See Schedule 1 for further analysis and explanation. RTÉ's investment in commissioned programmes continues to exceed the required spend. Total expenditure in 2016 was  $\bigcirc$ 40.3 million. Programme production is financially and contractually managed through the Television and Radio Independent Productions departments.

# THE YEAR IN REVIEW TELEVISION



RTÉ One and RTÉ2's unique schedules of publicservice programming brought the nation together for the 1916 centenary commemorations, big sporting moments, quality documentaries, landmark new Irish drama, top-rating comedy and family entertainment.

RTÉ's television services offer distinctive public-service programming that entertains, challenges and informs audiences of all ages. It has the broadest range of home-produced programming in Ireland across RTÉ One HD, RTÉ One +1, RTÉ2 HD, RTÉ News Now and RTÉjr.

RTÉ Television had an exceptional year in 2016. Despite growing competition from home and abroad, RTÉ One and RTÉ2 delivered all of the 20 most watched programmes in Ireland.

RTÉ One and RTÉ2's unique schedules of public-service programming brought the nation together for the 1916 centenary commemorations, big sporting moments, quality documentaries, landmark new Irish drama, top-rating comedy and family entertainment. During 2016 RTÉ broadcast 1,376 hours of independently produced television programmes. The actual expenditure committed to new commissioning activities arising in 2016 was €38.7 million (excluding RTÉ attributable organisational overhead), in respect of a total of 421 hours of programming (see page 18 for further details).

#### **RTÉ One**

RTÉ One's varied and high-quality programming attracted record audiences in 2016. The channel was the most popular in Ireland for all audiences, with a consolidated (national individuals 4+) peaktime share of 24.2%. The schedule was packed with a combination of in-house and independently produced programming. It ranged from compelling drama to high-quality documentaries, national events, comedy, arts, entertainment and music programming – in both languages – along with Ireland's leading news and current affairs service. Almost 860 hours of independently produced programming contributed to the channel's success throughout the year. During 2016 RTÉ broadcast 1,376 hours of independently produced television programmes.



Rebellion



Striking Out



Ireland's Fittest Family

#### **Agenda-setting Drama**

Starting the 100-year commemoration of 1916, RTÉ set the agenda with *Rebellion*. Over five Sundays, *Rebellion* followed the path of history from the week before the Easter Rising to the executions of the leaders in May 1916. The series, written by Colin Teevan and produced by Zodiak Media Ireland and Touchpaper Television, featured some of Ireland's best acting talent – Brian Gleeson, Charlie Murphy, Ruth Bradley, Sarah Green and Barry Ward played the key fictional characters with a strong supporting cast.

RTÉ drama always aims to attract a broad range of audiences and, overall, *Rebellion* achieved an average share of 38.3% across the series. Financiers of the series included RTÉ, the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland (BAI) and Zodiak Media, with international distribution to Sundance TV as co-producers and worldwide availability on Netflix.

Three drama series went into production during the year: *Striking Out*, a legal drama starring Amy Huberman, created by James Phelan and produced by Blinder Films; *Acceptable Risk*, a six-part serial conspiracy drama starring Elaine Cassidy, written by Ron Hutchinson and produced by Saffron Films and Soho Moon Pictures; and *Resistance*, a follow on from *Rebellion* that tells a story around the War of Independence.

In 2016 RTÉ was able to increase the spend on drama production through pre-sales, co-production and deficit financing in addition to BAI funding and Section 481. Fifteen hours of drama were produced during the year.

*Storyland* 2016 in partnership with Northern Ireland Screen developed five 20-minute dramas. The application system for the scheme was restructured in 2016 to encourage more diversity in applications.

#### **World-class Entertainment**

In 2016, RTÉ maintained and consolidated its reputation as a major source of high-quality entertainment programming, delivering compelling content to large and diverse audiences. RTÉ is a major commissioner of prime-time entertainment programming from independent producers and works in partnership with the sector to originate and produce world-class content.

*The Voice of Ireland* returned in 2016 for a fifth series and once again proved very popular with our audiences across the age spectrum. The popular *Ireland's Fittest Family* returned in the autumn for another series with new coach and former soccer international Stephen Hunt joining Anna Geary, Alan Quinlan and Davy Fitzgerald.

With his panel of opinionated commentators dissecting the events of the week, Brendan O'Connor returned to our screens with a new talk show *Brendan O'Connor's Cutting Edge*. Produced by Mind the Gap Films, this IFTA-winning new format proved popular with audiences looking for alternative perspectives on the big news stories as well as some colourful nuggets that may have escaped mainstream attention.

RTÉ was once again the main focal point for all major national celebrations and *St Patrick's Day 2016* featured extensive television coverage of the Dublin parade and *St Patrick's Festival highlights.* 

# THE YEAR IN REVIEW TELEVISION

South Wind Blows and Tyrone Productions produced two inserts for the hugely successful *Centenary*, which marked a very special year for our nation.

We started production preparations in 2016 for the successful international format *Dancing with the Stars*, which began in the first week of January 2017.

#### **Our Daily Lives**

RTÉ offers a varied menu of lifestyle programmes that reflect the daily lives of our audiences. Lifestyle programmes provide the bulk of the station's popular factual output. More than 15 series were commissioned from the independent sector, which offered a huge variety of tone, approach and subject matter.

In 2016, we saw the ninth edition of *Operation Transformation*. The series continues to work with key stakeholders in the public health arena (including Healthy Ireland and Park Run) to promote activity, a healthy lifestyle and a healthy diet. The message was further amplified by a second hit of the series, in the form of *Celebrity Operation Transformation*, which ran in September for three hourlong episodes that were screened post-watershed.

Room to Improve also aired in February but in the Sunday-night slot. The series peaked with a 44% share and 679,000 viewers. Meanwhile, a pilot episode of *Toughest Place To Be* made a 'working-class hero' out of Marc Crosbie, a street cleaner for Dublin City Council who went to Manila to experience his job in some of the world's dirtiest and poorest conditions.

*The Consumer Show* came to the end of its run in 2015. The mantel of consumer advocacy passed to two shows, *What Are You Eating* and *My Money and Me*, which both offered a fresh approach to consumer issues in a highly produced, engaging and provocative way.

Supergarden and Home of the Year offered a lighter tone for the summer months, providing inspiration for garden and design enthusiasts. The year also saw Francis Brennan develop further with a new programme that was part travel show and part documentary. *Francis Brennan's Tour Guide*, produced by Waddell Media, proved a popular vehicle for Francis and reflected the holiday mood of its July broadcast.

Autumn began with another new series, *Find Me a Home.* This observational documentary series followed buyers and sellers in the property market. By following auctioneers and buyers across the country, it offered a snapshot of a very disparate property market. *You Should Really See a Doctor, Lords and Ladles* (supported by the BAI), and *Getaways*, our popular travel series co-produced with BBC Northern Ireland, returned in 2016 for successful runs on RTÉ One.

#### **Under the Skin of Modern Ireland**

Throughout the year RTÉ One provided a slate of provocative or insightful documentaries about modern Ireland.

The health of the nation and the work of people within our health service was captured in *Keeping Ireland Alive: The Health Service in a Day.* This major six-part series saw 75 camera crews sent to 70 locations nationwide to cover the entire workings of the service and the people who access it in one day.

*Room to Improve* aired in February in the Sundaynight slot. The series peaked with a 44% share and 679,000 viewers.



Room to Improve

*Bypassed* looked at the impact of Ireland's first motorway, the M7, on the thousands of people who live in the towns along its way and considered how they have also benefitted. In *Peacekeepers: The Irish in South Lebanon* the cameras followed the men and women of the Irish Defence Forces as they prepared for their six-month mission to the Lebanon.

The year finished with *Pull Like a Dog*, a documentary about Olympic silver medallists Paul and Gary O'Donovan. It followed the rowing duo as they returned to their parish of Lisheen and the Skibbereen rowing club in the aftermath of their success in the summer Olympics.

#### A Year of Commemoration

RTÉ Television marked the centenary of the Easter Rising with a range of bold, innovative documentaries. Audiences were invited to understand this momentous event with landmark documentary series, provocative authored documentary, drama and arts programming.

The Enemy Files, a challenging and controversial documentary, looked at the Easter Rising from the point of view of the British. Presented by Michael Portillo, it looked at events of the Rising from the other side.

Presented by Ryan Tubridy and filmed in the GPO, *16 Letters* was a major television event specially commissioned as part of RTÉ's 1916 commemorations. It saw the written words of ordinary and extraordinary people – caught up in a time of blood, sacrifice and rebellion – brought back to life.

Meanwhile a season of specially commissioned documentaries reflected on the cultural revival that preceded the 1916 revolution and the legacy of the poets, artists, playwrights and novelists whose work inspired and transformed Ireland more than a century ago.

A Fanatic Heart: Geldof on Yeats was an award-winning and critically acclaimed two-part documentary series. Musician and activist Bob Geldof examined the life, poetry and political career of WB Yeats and, through Yeats' poetry and writings, questioned the legacy of the 1916 revolutionaries and the governing class who took over the new state.

RTÉ arts output didn't just look back; it also sought to celebrate the living Irish artists who carry on the work of the cultural revivalists and the mould-breaking Irish artists who continue to challenge and question audiences in 2016.

The two-part film *Christy Moore: Journey* examined the legacy of musician and political activist Christy Moore. It told the story of Ireland in the second half of the century after independence, captured by an artist who has tirelessly documented the lives and stories of Ireland's oppressed and marginalised – and the people and events that made them so.

The autumn also saw a new peak-time arts format: *Painting the Nation.* Over five weeks, seven amateur artists (chosen from the hundreds who applied) were challenged to capture on canvas the people, places and pastimes of Ireland. Three talented finalists battled it out to have a work acquired by the Office of Public Works to hang in the National Collection.

Other highlights in the autumn included Neasa Ní Chaináin's acclaimed *The Stranger* and David Blake-Knox's *The Waiting Game*. This documentary on the Gate Theatre's ground-breaking production of *Waiting for Godot* was commissioned to mark the passing of one of the cast and a much-loved actor, Johnny Murphy.



The Enemy Files



16 Letters

Presented by Ryan Tubridy and filmed in the GPO, *16 Letters* was a major television event specially commissioned as part of RTÉ's 1916 commemorations.

# THE YEAR IN REVIEW TELEVISION

#### **Regional and Wildlife**

RTÉ is committed to creating regional programming content from outside of Dublin or produced by independent producers based outside of Dublin.

After the success of Cork-based Encore Productions' *Garda Down Under*, RTÉ commissioned *Making It Down Under*. It profiled Irish people starting new careers in Australia and provided insight into emigrants' lives.

The popular *The Pet Surgeons* focused on pets and their owners at the dedicated Cork-based Gilabbey Vets. This observational series was produced by Gmarsh TV in Crossmolina.

In wildlife, the BAI-supported four-part series *Wild Cities* looked at the unique wildlife hidden in Ireland's largest cities. Produced by Wicklow-based Crossing the Line Films, Gerry Nelson won best director for it at the IFTAs and the series achieved significant audience share.

Returning favourites included *Living the Wildlife, Stetsons and Stilettos* and *Ear to the Ground. CrimeCall* also returned for a new series with a new look and presenter, and was produced by 360 Productions/Green Inc Film & TV.

#### **Science and Education**

Science and wildlife came together in *Big Week on the Farm*, a weeklong television event that came live from a purpose-built studio on a sheep farm on the shores of Derravaragh Lake in Co Westmeath. Presented by Áine Lawlor and Ella McSweeney in front of a live audience, the show brought viewers right to the heart of the Irish countryside in spring.

RTÉ One broadcast two blue-chip documentaries to mark Science Week. *Hacked* looked at the growth of cyber-crime globally and *Cloud Control – Who Owns Your Data* explored the implications of big data in our day-to-day lives.

*Ploughing Live* was once again broadcast live over the course of three nights from the National Ploughing Championships in Tullamore. Presented by Marty Morrissey and Áine Lawlor, it was a popular addition in early autumn.

The season was especially busy from September, starting with an acclaimed profile of Fr Peter McVerry in *Peter McVerry: A View from the Basement. John Connors: The Travellers* and *Inside Trinity* were both BAI-supported education projects that delivered impact, conversation points and audience share in equal part.

Elsewhere, the David Puttnam-fronted digital literacy series *Making Ireland Click* was also produced with the support of the BAI. As well as the four-part television series, it also left a strong digital footprint via the website www.makingirelandclick.ie, produced by Fizzy Thinking.

*Building Ireland* also returned to RTÉ One for a second series, supported again by the BAI. Another BAI-supported series *Crumlin*, broadcast in September 2015, won the Best Factual Series category at the 2016 Celtic Media Festival in Dungarvan.



Wild Cities



Big Week on the Farm



John Connors: The Travellers

#### **Cláracha Gaeilge**

It was a rich, busy and varied year for Cláracha Gaeilge, with highend strands from RTÉ's in-house unit complemented by strong output from the independent sector. *Polaitíocht: Power on the Box*, a four-part series from Loose Horse Productions and made with the support of the BAI, looked at the influence of television on Irish politics. It played to positive notices and strong audiences.

Also produced with the support of the BAI, *Timpeall na Páirce* is a four-part series presented by Dara Ó Cinnéide in which he examines the use of science and technology in Gaelic Games. Produced by Meangadh Fíbín the series is due to be broadcast during 2017.

#### Religion

Strange Occurrences in a Small Irish Village was an arresting feature documentary from Underground Films, the team who produced 2014's multi-award-winning documentary One Million Dubliners. It used a similar co-production funding model – RTÉ, the BAI, the Irish Film Board (IFB), Section 481, theatrical release and DVD distribution – to deliver exceptionally high-quality content.

In *Last Orders with Gay Byrne*, made by Tyrone Productions, Gay Byrne used his own experience of a Christian Brothers education as the gateway to a wider examination of the influence of the Catholic Church and its orders in Ireland over the past 250 years.

RTÉ continues to enhance its in-house Christian worship content with commissioned outside broadcasts of masses and services. Produced by Kairos Communications, the masses and services come from locations and on dates chosen to resonate with public consciousness. *Christmas Carols from Cork* featured a rare performance by Ireland's most successful female artist, Enya. The broadcast was shared with ARTE – one of RTÉ's first shared broadcasts with the German-French broadcaster following a recent co-production treaty.

Kairos also made three short films to mark minority faith festivals – Passover, Ramadan and Diwali – with subjects, stories and narrative approaches chosen to maximise mainstream interest.

#### **Entertainment, Comedy and Music**

RTÉ One brought a number of exciting new faces and new formats to air in 2016. These included three major new series: the inventive chat show format *The Tommy Tiernan Show*, where the well-known comedian doesn't know who the guests are until they walk onto the set; the family friendly sports quiz *Know the Score*, hosted by Jacqui Hurley and with team captains Ruby Walsh and Shane Byrne; and Nathan Carter's eclectic music performance series from Sligo, *The Nathan Carter Show*. The year also saw the debut of the new format *Senior Moments* in which elderly members of the public tell jokes, comment on modern life and carry out pranks.

RTÉ One's music offering remained strong with the return of *Fleadh Cheoil*, the inaugural *RTÉ Irish Country Music Awards*, *Classic Joe Dolan*, and *Christmas with Daniel O'Donnell*. Other new projects given development funding included *The Vintage Diaries* and *Naked Celebrity*.

It was a rich, busy and varied year for Cláracha Gaeilge, with high-end strands from RTÉ's inhouse unit complemented by strong output from the independent sector.



The Tommy Tiernan Show



Christmas with Daniel O'Donnell

# THE YEAR IN REVIEW TELEVISION

#### RTÉ2

RTÉ2 had a 9.1% consolidated peak-time share of viewers among its target audience (15-34 year olds), making it the second most popular channel after RTÉ One with younger audiences. The channel put contemporary Irish voices, stories, talent and culture at the very heart of its public-service mission, creating a diverse schedule for younger viewers – and those who 'think young'.

Cupid's arrow hit Irish shores this year when new series *First Dates Ireland* aired on RTÉ2 to audience and critical acclaim.

The development of Irish comedy and talent remained a cornerstone of RTÉ2 in 2016. The IFTA award-winning *Bridget & Eamon*, the nation's favourite unhappily married '80s couple, returned with a new series to RTÉ2 as the first series aired in the UK on UKTV's Gold. Scripted comedy drama proved a hit with audiences with *Can't Cope*, *Won't Cope*, a darkly comic drama detailing the unravelling of a friendship between two co-dependent young women as the hangover wears off and their lives and priorities begin to radically diverge.

The year also saw a number of one-off programmes going to series, including *The Des Bishop Show* and the anarchic comedy series *The Rubberbandits' Guides*.

New scripted comedy projects were commissioned and developed, including Mark Baldwin's adult animation project *Ends Meet* and CCCahoots primary school-based comedy project *Best Days*.

The next generation of Irish comedic voices and production talents (including Ronan Grace, Alison Spittle and Foil Arms & Hog) were mentored in the digital arena, with the continuation of the *Comedy Bites* strand on RTÉ Player.

Through the Format Farm initiative, RTÉ developed new prank show *TMI* and *Search*, the quiz where contestants were plucked from the street and able to use their mobile phones to answer questions.

#### **Contemporary Issues**

RTÉ2 broadcast a number of thought-provoking documentaries exploring themes and topics of particular relevance to younger Irish adults in 2016. Travellers, immigrants and what it means to be Irish all featured in a new three-part documentary series on identity and Irishness that aired in spring. The series began with *I Am Traveller* featuring John Connors. In this personal journey, John tackled uncomfortable truths about racial stereotypes and traveller identity in Ireland today.

The schedule also featured a series of personal-authored documentaries including *Asking For It*, in which author Louise O'Neill forensically explored the issue of consent and the rise in sexual assault in Irish society today; and *Finding Banni* by filmmaker Colm Flynn, which told the story of his personal journey to discover what happened to the boy who had been fostered into his family from Belarus.

*The Story of Yes* commemorated the first anniversary of the passing of the same-sex marriage bill and the celebrations that ensued.



First Dates Ireland



The Des Bishop Show

New factual series included *Kevin McGahern's America*, which looked at a variety of social, political and cultural trends emerging from the US, including the rise of the right wing and Donald Trump. Vogue Williams brought us a four-part series probing contemporary issues in her unique style with *Vogue Williams: On the Edge*.

The life of drug addicts in Ireland was examined in a very successful two-part series *Rural Addiction. The Guards* was a well-received, two-part observational series following the work of the gardaí on the beat.

Also new to RTÉ2 in 2016 was a part science-based panel series *Eureka! The Big Bang Query.* It was hosted by Neil Delamere and produced with the support of the BAI and Science Foundation Ireland.

RTÉ2 continued its support of the Irish music industry with the return of key music propositions *Other Voices, The Choice Music Awards* and RTÉ's in-house coverage of Electric Picnic.

Future projects for 2017 for RTÉ2 include *Born in the Wrong Body*, a landmark series on transgendered people, supported by the BAI; and *Generation What*, also supported by the BAI, which will reveal for the first time how Irish young people's attitudes to sex, politics, gender and society compare with their European counterparts. Also commissioned for broadcast in 2017 is *Body Shopping*. Presented by Dr Ciara Kelly, it follows the growth in Irish people availing of plastic surgery abroad.

#### Sport

Live sport dominated much of the schedule on both RTÉ One and RTÉ2 in the summer of 2016. RTÉ Sport's commissions offered viewers a wider context and complemented the schedule of live sport on RTÉ2 with the stories behind the athletes and the sports. Complementing RTÉ Sport's live GAA Championships, Loosehorse produced *Thank GAA It's Friday* for a third year. Setting the scene for the Rio Olympic Games, Strike Films produced *Road to Rio*, a 2014 commission that gave the audience a look at what it takes to become an Olympian.

Following a successful run in 2015, the *Après Match* team return in early 2017 with another mix of nostalgia, sport and fun. The six-part series, again produced by Ely Productions, will take us back through the ages, reliving some glory days from a variety of sports.

#### TRTÉ

RTÉ's young people's programming explores and reflects the lives of young people in Ireland. The TRTÉ slot on RTÉ2 is dedicated to providing programming for 7 to 15-year-olds.

New commissions in 2016 included *I've Got Your Back*, a studio quiz show presented by Simon Delaney; and *Bernard Dunne's Mythical Heroes*, a six-part documentary series in which Bernard Dunne told the tales of Irish mythological heroes through animation, drama reconstruction and documentary. Also, commissioned was *Drop Dead Weird*, a co-production between Ireland and Australia, which sees Pauline McLynn and David Rawle among the cast in an Irish zombie comedy caper.



Vogue Williams: On the Edge



Bernard Dunne's Mythical Heroes

RTÉ2 put contemporary Irish voices at the very heart of its mission, creating a diverse schedule for younger viewers – and those who 'think young'.

# THE YEAR IN REVIEW TELEVISION

*The 1916 Challenge* was a one-off reality challenge as part of RTÉ's 1916 commemorations. Six kids were plunged into 1916 living conditions for 24 hours to see how they would cope. *Project Proclamation* invited teenagers to interpret their visions and hopes for Ireland through music, dance, recitation and poetry. They then submitted their videos to the project.

#### RTÉjr

RTÉjr is RTÉ's dedicated commercial-free service for children under seven. The service delivers a range of programming across the genres to engage, educate and entertain younger viewers.

It continued its journey into factual programming for the under sevens with a range of science and nature programming. New series *Rocketeers* explored space and the universe. *Wonder What?* adventured into the world of technology and manufacturing, while the excellent wildlife documentary series *Wild Things* enjoyed a second series featuring Irish wild animals such as the peregrine falcon, fallow deer, grey seal and kingfisher.

In a new documentary series, *What Makes My Day*, RTÉjr explored difference and disability through the stories of 10 extraordinary children, including 7-year-old Alannah, who can't see like other children; and 10-year-old Callum, who loves caring for his little brother, Richard, who has special needs.

*Circus World*, a colourful observational documentary series, brought viewers into the world of the Gerbola children who spend 10 months of the year on the road with their family circus. *How to do Everything* took children on a magical make-and-do adventure in the outdoors to learn how to do fun stuff such as finding the north star and teaching a dog to fetch.

In animation, the success of *Kiva Can Do!* was acknowledged with the commissioning of a second series. Ink and Light produced a new slapstick comedy shorts series *Harry & Bip*, featuring the exploits of two penguins. It was a good year for *The Day Henry Met*, which saw the series commissioned for a second run of 26 five-minute episodes, while series one picked up an IFTA.

Animations commissioned to air in 2017 include *Pablo*, a new animation series whose central character is a little boy who is on the autism spectrum and *Brewster the Rooster*, featuring a little girl, Maggie, and Brewster the Rooster as they question how the world works in an entertaining series.

In 2016 the first RTÉ Animated Shorts Scheme took off with the commissioning of shorts from five Irish animation studios – Pink Kong Studios, Wiggleywoo, Studio PowWow, Whackala and Treehouse Republic – which screened during the autumn mid-term break.



Rocketeers

RTÉjr delivers a range of programming across the genres to engage, educate and entertain younger viewers.



Kiva Can Do!



**Circus World** 



# THE YEAR IN REVIEW



300 hours of programmes were commissioned from the independent radio sector for RTÉ Radio in 2016. The annual statutory spend by RTÉ Radio within the sector was €1.2 million.

#### **New Ideas**

In November 2015, RTÉ IRP held a commissioning round with a view to broadcasting some new and fresh programming in 2016. As a result, all four FM stations had new and inventive content to add to their schedules, as well as recommissioning a number of independent companies to continue with existing productions.

300 hours of programmes were commissioned from the independent radio sector for RTÉ Radio in 2016. The annual statutory spend by RTÉ Radio within the sector was €1.2 million.

In 2016 IRP spend was split evenly between recommissions and new commissions. A small percentage was also invested in development opportunities and further development opportunities will be pursued in 2017.

Radio's commissioning round in 2016 was opened in December and is seeking programming for the summer, including late night and Sunday mornings on RTÉ Radio 1, and a music specification for 2fm.

#### **Co-funding**

The independent sector can offer a variety of new ideas and voices to RTÉ's schedule. RTÉ Radio commissioned the BAI-funded comedy series *Comedy Showhouse*. Produced by Sideline Productions, the series consisted of 18 half hours of radio comedy, which was recorded in front of a live audience over eight days in the Project Arts Centre in Dublin. Funded by the BAI and RTÉ Radio, *Comedy Showhouse* will return for a second series, which will be broadcast on RTÉ Radio 1 in the second half of 2017.



Callan's Kicks

*Pantisocracy* quickly made an impact with the intelligence and liveliness of the presenter and guests. It gained a popular late night following as well as a strong social media presence.



Pantisocracy

#### **RTÉ Radio 1**

#### Recommissions

The independent sector can develop and deliver new, home-grown Irish comedy to the listener. *Callan's Kicks*, which is produced and written by comedian and journalist Oliver Callan, continued its weekly satirical look at public figures and the news cycle to popular acclaim. Callan's company, Catchy Title, has a writers' room that sees a roster of up to eight comedy writers contribute to the show under the directorship of a comedy script writer. This is an example of a skill set that RTÉ Radio 1 sees as instrumental in the growth of broadcast comedy talent on Irish radio.

The award-winning *The Book Show*, presented by Sinéad Gleeson and produced by independent media company New Normal Culture, continued its successful run in 2016. *The Poetry Programme*, produced by Rockfinch and presented by Rick O'Shea, was also recommissioned in 2016. Both shows contributed significantly to RTÉ Radio 1's coverage of books and the arts in Ireland.

Kairos Communications again provided an important function for many radio listeners, producing broadcasts of masses and services on RTÉ Radio 1 Xtra and RTÉ Radio 1 Longwave every week.

#### **New Commissions**

*Pantisocracy* is a new format hosted by Panti Bliss and developed by Athena Media. It brought new voices and a diverse mix of music to late night RTÉ Radio 1 in 2016. The programme quickly made an impact with the intelligence and liveliness of the presenter and guests, and the freshness of its line-up. It gained a popular late night following as well as a strong social media presence.

Second Captains Sunday made a success of the 10 o'clock slot on Sunday mornings on RTÉ Radio 1. The show replaced *Miriam Meets* for the summer months. The three presenters are primarily known for their sports knowledge, but have expanded their repertoire to include comedy, journalism, the arts and sport. They attracted new listeners while entertaining the existing RTÉ Radio 1 audience on Sunday mornings.

New Normal Culture also won a new commission in 2016 when it was awarded the Monday night 10 o'clock arts and culture slot. Its submission, *Inside Culture*, was hosted by Fionn Davenport and presented a lively, smart and fresh account of contemporary cultural issues and stories from a wide perspective, including geographical – from America to Amsterdam to Dublin, Belfast, Cork and a lot more of Ireland.

Other new programmes included *The County Line*, a three-part series that documented lives, music and culture from the Irish midlands, with a different county explored each week. Presented by writer and broadcaster Vincent Woods, the show struck a chord for a weekend summer morning.

The Irish Country Music Awards Backstage, a cross-platform initiative, was in response to RTÉ One television's inaugural *RTÉ* Irish Country Music Awards. RTÉ Radio 1 commissioned a one-off show, which began an hour and a half before the TV show and went backstage with the Irish country stars and nominees. The programme created some original music recordings and unlikely collaborations with some of the musicians featured.

# THE YEAR IN REVIEW

All of these programmes have added variety in format, on-air talent and diversity to the RTÉ Radio 1 schedule.

#### RTÉ 2fm

Tracy Clifford's afternoon show incorporates two different inserts produced by independent companies. *Pump Up the Slump*, produced by Reel World Europe is a daily 20-minute mix to pick you up at the mid-point of your afternoon. It's a custom mix of hit music, with a few great songs from the last 10 years that are guaranteed to 'surprise you'. It has also featured custom mixes around special occasions such as bank holidays, Christmas and Halloween.

Before They Were Famous, produced by Red Hare Media, is a weekly item that reveals the story of some of the world's biggest singers. Featuring rarely heard audio and compelling stories, we learn just how they made it big. Around two minutes in length the item is followed with a song from the singer in question.

#### **RTÉ lyric fm**

The popular culture insert, *Culture File*, on RTÉ lyric fm's drivetime show was put out to commission. Luke Clancy's Soundsdoable company won the contract again. *Culture File* is lyric fm's flagship daily arts feature, offering a unique and accessible take on music, media, technology, craft, art, play, comedy, food and design. Broadcast daily at 6.05pm on *Lorcan Murray's Classic Drive* to 46,000 listeners, *Culture File* also has an extensive online presence via daily podcasts. It reaches out to a replenisher audience with its Soundcloud hub and Twitter presence, as well as through daily updates to Facebook, Tumblr and major blogging sites.

Sound in Union by Pine Valley Studios won another RTÉ lyric fm commission for a weekly piece on orchestras. It is part of the *The Lyric Concert* programme. It gives audiences an insight into the orchestral world from management and artistic values points of view, to the relationship with guest conductors and artists with the music. Sound in Union is also available as an educational resource on a standalone basis outside the remit of the *The Lyric Concert*.

#### RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta

The IRP output from RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta has been important and has allowed RTÉ to strengthen the schedule and reach new audiences.

An open competition for secondary schools, 1916 - Dearcadh na hÓige gave seven schools the opportunity to produce their own radio programmes. With the help of a professional producer, the schools demonstrated what the 1916 Rising meant to them. The winning school was announced on a live show broadcast from the Mansion House in Dublin and presented with a cheque by the Lord Mayor of Dublin. It got children involved in history, radio, and the Irish language, and increased awareness among young people nationally about RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta.

Scéalta na nDaoine features strong personal stories that greatly affect members of the community. Donncha Mac Con Iomaire, who presents and produces the series, travels and stays with people who have stories to tell about organ donation, stay-at-home dads, people who commute to England from the West of Ireland for work and many other topics. It has been an important addition where we get to hear the public talk about the Ireland of today. *Bláthnaid Libh* is a live entertainment chat show. It has a lively mix of chat and everyday life with human interest stories. Features include a look at the lighter side of the news, great interviews, quizzes, and panel discussions. The audience get to have their say as their messages are read out on air. This programme has lightened our Saturday morning schedule, attracted non-traditional RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta listeners from around the country, and created a focus and connection for the station with Irish speakers based predominantly in Dublin.



Luke Clancy



Tracy Clifford

### OTHER FUNDING

### CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The BAI Sound & Vision 3 scheme continued to be a key partner in RTÉ Television's commissioning output in 2016. Nineteen television productions, which have or will be broadcast on RTÉ, were commissioned in 2016 with BAI support. They include: *Can't Cope, Won't Cope; Lords and Ladles Series 2; Brewster the Rooster; Bernard Dunne's Mythical Heroes; Blow In; One Woman's Story of Life and Death in the IRA; Generation What; Timpeall na Páirce; Ends Meet; 700 Hundred Million Light Years from Birr; The Embalmer; Big Week on the Farm; Kiva Can Do; The Day Henry Met Series 2; John Hume in America; Born in a Body I Hate; Striking Out; Acceptable Risk; and Resistance.* 

In addition to the programmes commissioned by RTÉ Radio, over 70 hours programming by independent producers for broadcast on RTÉ Radio secured BAI Sound & Vision 3 funding during 2016. This included thirty two productions providing 33 hours on arts and culture, 19 hours of children's education and drama programmes, and 20 hours of programming based on Irish culture, heritage and experience.

Several drama, animation and scripted comedy commissions benefitted from Section 481 funding. The IFB also provided funding towards a number of animation programmes. In 2016, RTÉ also entered into a number of co-productions with BBC NI and BBC. A full analysis of funding from other sources can be found on page 19. RTÉ has complied with the revised *Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies*, published by the government on 15 June 2009, together with the corporate governance and other obligations imposed by the *Broadcasting Act 2009*, the *Ethics in Public Office Act 1995* and the *Standards in Public Office Act 2001*.

RTÉ is committed to ensuring that the commissioning of independently produced programmes for public broadcast is performed in a transparent manner. RTÉ adheres to formal and clear procedures, which are available to independent producers on the RTÉ website, for sourcing and commissioning, including recommissioning, independently produced television and radio programmes. During the year, RTÉ engaged KPMG to perform specified procedures over the application of specified commissioning procedures to television and radio programme submissions in 2016. KPMG tested sample items and was satisfied that the documentary evidence maintained by RTÉ reflected our compliance with the relevant commissioning procedures.



#### **Summary of Expenditure 2016**

RTÉ's 2016 statutory obligation for expenditure on independent commissions under the *Broadcasting Act 2009* was  $\in$ 39.5 million, in respect of both television and radio. The actual expenditure on television and radio commissioning activities during 2016 was  $\in$ 40.3 million. Expenditure for 2016 was 2% in excess of the statutory amount.

	2016	2016	2016	2015
	т	Radio	Total	Total
Expenditure Incurred	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
Statutory Expenditure (Sch. 5)	38,376	1,189	39,565	39,583
Additional Expenditure (Sch. 6)	234	-	234	362
Direct Expenditure on Commissioned Programmes	38,610	1,189	39,799	39,945
RTÉ Attributable Overhead	514	2	516	696
Expenditure Incurred on Commissioning Activities	39,124	1,191	40,315	40,641

The amount incurred on commissioned independent productions through the Independent Programmes Account in 2016 was  $\bigcirc$ 38.4 million for television and  $\bigcirc$ 1.2 million for radio. This total of  $\bigcirc$ 39.6 million includes administration costs. This is in excess of the statutory amount of  $\bigcirc$ 39.5 million. A further  $\bigcirc$ 0.2 million incurred by RTÉ on television programmes was in addition to the expenditure recorded on the statutory Independent Programmes Account. Therefore, RTÉ Television and Radio incurred a total spend of  $\bigcirc$ 39.8 million on commissioned programmes during 2016 (2015:  $\bigcirc$ 39.9 million), excluding RTÉ attributable overhead.

RTÉ Independent Productions relies on a range of RTÉ services including office space and related utilities, information technology and systems, consumables, technical services and human resources. The cost of these services amounted to  $\oplus 0.5$  million for 2016 (2015:  $\oplus 0.7$  million).

In 2016, the independent production statutory expenditure was used to commission 719 hours (300 radio, 419 television) of programming across a broad range of categories. These are detailed in Schedule 3. A further two hours of television programming was commissioned as part of the non-statutory independent production expenditure in 2016, as detailed in Schedule 4.

An analysis of 2016 expenditure by programme category is detailed in Schedule 5 for statutory expenditure and in Schedule 6 for nonstatutory expenditure.

#### **Commissioning and Overhead Spend 2016**

An analysis of RTÉ's independent television and radio productions expenditure in 2016 is contained in the table below. Further detail by genre is contained in Schedules 5 and 6.

Expenditure Incurred on Commissioning Activities	39,124	1,191	40,315	40,641
Awards/Schemes	146	-	146	302
Administration Costs (Schedule 7)	2,242	83	2,325	2,412
Less Commissions for Delivery in 2017	(6,535)	-	(6,535)	(5,428)
New Commissions during 2016 (see below)	38,682	1,108	39,790	33,888
2015 Commissions Brought Forward as Restated	4,589	-	4,589	9,467
Change in Spend on 2015 Commissions (Note 1)	(839)	-	(839)	372
2015 Commissions Brought Forward	5,428	-	5,428	9,095
Expenditure Incurred	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
	т	Radio	Total	Total
	2016	2016	2016	2015

Note 1: 2015 commissioned spend brought forward has been updated for cost variances and retiming of programme commitments that occurred during 2016.

#### New commissions during 2016 of €39.8 million can be analysed as follows:

	Statutory	N	lon-statutory		Total	
New Commissions	Spend €'000	%	Spend €'000	%	Spend €'000	%
Television Commissions <sup>12</sup>	37,049	94%	196	100%	37,245	94%
Television Development <sup>1</sup>	125	0%	-	0%	125	0%
Television Completion <sup>12</sup>	1,312	3%	-	0%	1,312	3%
Television	38,486	<b>97</b> %	196	100%	38,682	97%
Radio	1,108	3%	-	0%	1,108	3%
RTÉ Total	39,594	100%	196	100%	39,790	100%

<sup>1</sup>See Schedule 1 for definition of commissions, development and completion funding

<sup>2</sup>Includes RTÉ funding in respect of the BAI Sound & Vision 3 scheme

Television commissions of  $\notin$ 18.5 million, representing 48% of the value of new 2016 television commissions, were awarded to six independent production companies. An additional  $\notin$ 8.2 million or 21% was awarded to a further six independent production companies.

#### **Commissioning Activities 2016**

Apart from the rolling commissioning round in television (whereby commissioning proposals can be submitted by independent producers throughout the year), separate tenders were conducted for individual programme strands as follows:

- CrimeCall
- Wedding format

In 2016 Independent Radio Productions recommissioned various productions across a range of genre, including factual, religion, entertainment, drama and arts. The 2016 commissioning round for radio opened in December 2016 with decisions expected in early 2017.

Proposals for commissions received in 2016 are detailed below:

Location		No. of Companies	No	o. of Proposals Received	No. of	Commissions Awarded	c	No. of Hours commissioned
	тv	Radio	тv	Radio	тν	Radio	тv	Radio
Dublin	111	-	576	-	94	9	289	138
Rest of Ireland	81	-	217	-	26	6	100	74
Northern Ireland	19	-	74	-	10	1	32	2
Great Britain	10	-	10	-	-	2	-	86
Others	5	-	7	-	-	-	-	-
Total	226	-	884	-	130	18	421	300

Note 1: RTÉ Radio holds one new commissioning round each year. This is for operational reasons. The closing date for the most recent commission round is Monday 13 February 2017. The closing date for the round before that was 22 December 2015. This accounts for the anomaly in the figures illustrated in the table where it appears there were no 2016 radio commissions.

#### **Other Sources of Funding to the Sector**

In addition to the €39.8 million committed by RTÉ to new commissions in 2016, producers of RTÉ commissioned programmes attracted funding from other sources. The total value of this additional funding on 2016 contracts was €19.4 million.

Sources of Funding	Drama & Animation €'000	Other Genres €'000	Total Third Party Funding €'000
Co-funding	6,095	2,116	8,211
Section 481	5,221	2,356	7,577
BAI Funding	1,350	2,243	3,593
Total	12,666	6,715	19,381

Therefore, the total value of RTÉ independent television programming activities in 2016, including all third-party funding, was €59.2 million. The amounts above for other sources of funding do not include projects where RTÉ provided development/completion funding only, except in programmes categorised as drama or animation, or were part-funded by the BAI Sound & Vision scheme.

### FINANCIAL AND COMMISSIONING REVIEW

#### **Administration Costs**

A full analysis of administration costs is detailed in Schedule 7. In 2016 direct administration costs incurred by RTÉ Independent Productions amounted to  $\pounds$ 1.8 million (or 4.5% of the total Independent Productions direct expenditure on commissioned programmes in 2016).

As mentioned above, RTÉ Independent Productions relies on a range of RTÉ services (such as office space, utilities, information technology, systems, consumables, technical services and human resources). A full-cost absorption/usage allocation basis is used to reflect a fair and reasonable cost of the services used by RTÉ Independent Productions. In 2016, this amounted to  $\ge 0.5$  million (2015:  $\ge 0.7$  million).

#### **International Financial Reporting Standards**

RTÉ's 2016 Annual Report and Group Financial Statements (RTÉ Annual Report), with 2015 comparatives, have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and their interpretations approved by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) as adopted by the European Union.

Under IFRS, RTÉ records the cost of transmitted commissioned programmes rather than the expenditure incurred on commissioning activities. The RTÉ Annual Report records the level of programme inventories held – that is programmes made and for which costs have been incurred during the period, but which have not been transmitted at the period end.

As required under the *Broadcasting Act 2009*, the Independent Productions Annual Report covers RTÉ's activities with regards to commissioning of independent television and sound programmes during the year and RTÉ's operation of the Independent Programmes bank account. Therefore, it is not deemed appropriate to adopt IFRS for the purpose of the Independent Productions Annual Report. A reconciliation of the expenditure on commissioning activities in this report, with programme costs as reported in the 2016 RTÉ Annual Report and Group Financial Statements, is set out below.

2016 Reconciliation	TV €'000	Radio €'000	Total €'000
Independent Productions Annual Report:			
Expenditure incurred on Commissioning Activities <sup>1</sup>	39,124	1,191	40,315
Add: Opening Stock of Programmes	17,116	-	17,116
Less: Closing Stock of Programmes	(19,490)	-	(19,490)
Less: Stock adjustment during the year	(114)	-	(114)
Total Cost of Transmitted Programmes	36,636	1,191	37,827
RTÉ Annual Report:			
Cost of Transmitted Programmes			
Commissioned Programmes Costs <sup>2</sup>	36,636	1,191	37,827
Total Cost of Transmitted Programmes	36,636	1,191	37,827

<sup>1</sup>See Table on page 18 <sup>2</sup>2016 RTÉ Annual Report and Group Financial Statements, Note 2(d)

#### **Other Support Activities**

- In 2016, RTÉ continued to support the development of the sector through its involvement in development schemes. We provided speakers
  for industry seminars and for film and television production training colleges, participated in international co-production conferences,
  provided support for producers seeking co-production partners, and met with and gave guidance to emerging new companies.
- Screen Producers Ireland, the representative body for independent producers in Ireland, is partly funded by a levy on production budgets for programmes commissioned by RTÉ from its members. The levy is a direct charge against the Independent Programmes Account.
- Animation Ireland is the newly formed trade association representing the interests of the majority of animation studios in Ireland. In 2016 RTÉ agreed to provide an annual contribution to Animation Ireland as part of its commitment to the development of the animation sector in Ireland. In addition, RTÉ undertook a number of new initiatives as part of its commitment to the development of the industry and new talent, including RTÉ's Animated Shorts Scheme, which commissioned five animated shorts.

### INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

#### Independent Accountants' Agreed-upon Procedures Report to the RTÉ Board in respect of the RTÉ Independent Productions Annual Report for the year-ended 31 December 2016

We have performed the procedures agreed with you and enumerated below with respect to the RTÉ Independent Productions Annual Report ('the Annual Report') and Schedules ('the Schedules') for the year ended 31 December 2016. Our engagement was undertaken in accordance with the International Standard on Related Services (ISRS 4400) applicable to agreed-upon procedures engagements. The procedures were performed solely to assist you in evaluating your compliance with your statutory obligations with regard to Independent Productions Reporting Requirements.

These procedures have been undertaken based upon financial information provided by the management of RTÉ and is the responsibility of the RTÉ Board. The procedures we have undertaken and our findings are set out below:

#### **Procedures**

- We have checked that the information included in Schedule 2 'Operation of the Independent Programmes Bank Account for the year ended 31 December 2016' has been correctly extracted from the detailed general ledger transactions of the Independent Programmes Bank Account for the year ended 31 December 2016.
- 2. We have checked that the information included in Schedules 5, 6 and 7 has been correctly extracted from the underlying records and detailed analysis prepared for the purposes of the preparation of the Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2016.
- 3. We have checked the mathematical accuracy of the Schedules.

#### **Findings**

We have performed the procedures set out in 1-3 above and noted no exceptions arising from our work.

Because the above procedures do not constitute either an audit or a review made in accordance with International Standards on Auditing or International Standards on Review Engagements, we do not express any assurance on the RTÉ Independent Productions Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2016.

Our report is solely for the purposes set out in the first paragraph of this report and for your information. It is not to be used for any other purpose. This report relates only to the items specified above and does not extend to any financial statements of RTÉ taken as a whole.

1/M/G

KPMG Chartered Accountants 1 Stokes Place St Stephens Green Dublin, Ireland

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017

## SCHEDULE 1: RTÉ'S STATUTORY OBLIGATION WITH REGARD TO INDEPENDENT PRODUCTIONS

#### **Expenditure Requirement**

Under Section 116, subsection (2) of the *Broadcasting Act 2009*, RTÉ has a statutory obligation to spend a predetermined minimum amount (the statutory amount) each year on independently produced television and radio programmes. This money is lodged to a separate account known as the Independent Programmes Account (the account).

2016	2015
Statutory Expenditure evoo	€'000
Total Statutory Expenditure 39,519	39,519

The statutory amount for 2009 was €40 million. For subsequent years, the amount varied in line with the annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) measured from August 2008 to August immediately preceding the financial year concerned. Since the CPI measured from August 2008 to August 2015 was -1.2%, the statutory amount for 2016 was reduced accordingly. Under Section 116, the minimum percentage to be spent on sound broadcasting in 2016 was 3% (€1.186 million).

#### **Reporting Requirement**

As required under Section 116, subsection (9) of the *Broadcasting Act 2009*, RTÉ must, within three months after the end of each financial year, make a report to the minister of:

- its activities during that financial year regarding the commissioning of independent television or sound broadcasting programmes
- the name or corporate identity of those commissioned to make independent television or sound broadcasting programmes
- the operation by it of the account during that financial year (details of the operation of the Independent Programmes Account for 2016 are set out in Schedule 2) and
- any other matters as the minister may direct regarding the above

#### **Definition of Commissions, Development & Completion Funding**

The amount spent on 'commissions' is defined in Section 116, subsection (11) of the *Broadcasting Act 2009*. It states that, for a programme to be regarded as having been commissioned, RTÉ must incur 'a legal obligation to pay at least 25% of the cost' of making the programme before work on the programme begins.

The amount spent on 'development' and 'completion' is defined in Section 116, subsections (2)(a)(ii) and (2)(a)(iii), namely respectively 'procuring the formulation by persons of proposals' for independent television or radio programmes for commission by RTÉ and 'assisting the completion of independent television or sound broadcasting programmes the making of which has not been commissioned by RTÉ'.

## SCHEDULE 2: OPERATION OF THE INDEPENDENT TELEVISION PROGRAMMES BANK ACCOUNT FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS TO 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2016

	€'000
Opening Balance as per RTÉ at 1st January 2016	7,613
Lodgements	
Receipts from RTÉ	39,520
Less Payments	
Payments	(42,032)
Closing Balance as per RTÉ at 31st December 2016	5,101
Add	
Cheques written in 2016 not presented	
for payment as at 31st December 2016	-
Closing Balance per Bank Statement as at 31st December 2016	5,101

Note 1: Actual bank charges totalled  $\textcircled{\mbox{e}97}$  for the year.

## SCHEDULE 3: 2016 STATUTORY TELEVISION PROGRAMMES / HOURS COMMISSIONED, COMPLETED AND DEVELOPED

#### Category

#### **Production Company**

Factual Lifestyle & Formats	Coco Television	First Dates Ireland Series 2	14.0
	Vision Independent Productions	Operation Transformation Series 10	8.0
	Coco Television	Don't Tell the Bride Series 7	8.0
	Animo Television	Manor House Revival	6.0
	Mind the Gap Films	Lords and Ladles Series 2 (Compl) <sup>1</sup>	6.0
	Independent Pictures	Then Comes Marriage	6.0
	ShinAwiL	Home of the Year Series 3	4.0
	Waddell Media	At Your Service Series 9	4.0
	Waddell Media	At Your Service Series 10	4.0
	Vision Independent Productions	Supergarden Series 8	3.0
	Waddell Media	Francis Brennan's Grand Tour	3.0
	Independent Pictures	You Should Really See A Doctor Series 2	3.0
	Waddell Media	Find Me A Home	3.0
	Waddell Media	Getaways Series 5	3.0
	ShinAwiL	What Are You Eating Series 2	3.0
	Vision Independent Productions	Celebrity Operation Transformation	3.0
	JMACTWO Ltd	Toughest Place To Be Series 2	2.0
	Coco Television	The 80 Million Euro Hospital	1.0
	Vision Independent Productions	Bloom Live 2016	1.0
	WakaTV	We Need to Talk About Dad	1.0
	ShinAwiL	Celebrity Home of the Year	1.0
	Invisible Thread Films	The Story of Yes	1.0

**Programme Title** 

Various development contracts with Animo Television, Firebrand Productions, Independent Pictures, Kite Entertainment, New Decade TV, ShinAwiL, Vision Independent Productions and Waka TV

<sup>1</sup> Commissions which were part funded by the BAI Sound and Vision Scheme **(Compl)** Denotes Completion Contracts

Documentaries & Arts	Independent Pictures	Keeping Ireland Alive: The Health Service in a Day	5.0
	Independent Plctures	Painting the Nation	3.0
	JMACTWO Ltd	Generation F'd	3.0
	Creeney Films	John Hume in America (Compl) <sup>1</sup>	1.5
	New Decade TV	One Woman's Story of Life and Death in the IRA (Compl) <sup>1</sup>	1.5
	Soho Moon Pictures	Vermeer: The Sphinx of Delft (Compl)	1.C
	Animo Television	Gabriel Byrne on George Bernard Shaw	1.0
	Moondance Productions	Peacekeepers: The Irish in South Lebanon	1.0
	Below The Radar	Prison in Peru: Michaella's First Interview	1.0
	Parallel Films/Blueprint Pictures	The Waiting Game (Compl)	1.0
	Bang Bang Teoranta	Fallout	1.0
	Wildfire Films	Pulling Like A Dog	1.0

Various development contracts with Alchemy Electronic Media, Areaman Productions, Below the Radar, Blueprint Pictures, El Zorerro Films, Frontline Films, Icebox Films, Midas Productions, Poolbeg Productions, Red Shoe Productions, Scratch Films and ShinAwiL

<sup>1</sup> Commissions which were part funded by the BAI Sound and Vision Scheme **(Compl)** Denotes Completion Contracts

88.0

**Total Hours** 

### SCHEDULE 3: 2016 STATUTORY TELEVISION PROGRAMMES / HOURS COMMISSIONED, COMPLETED AND DEVELOPED CONTINUED

#### Category

Regional, Education, Religion & Other Factual **Production Company** 

360 Productions/Green Inc Film & TV	CrimeCall Series 13	10.0
Independent Pictures	Ear to the Ground Series 24	8.0
Independent Pictures	Big Week on the Farm <sup>1</sup>	5.0
Gmarsh TV	The Pet Surgeons	3.0
AlleyCats Films	Stetsons and Stilettos Series 2	3.0
Vision Independent Productions	Daniel & Majella's Road Trip	3.0
Moondance Productions	The Park	3.0
Sherwin Media Group	Tracks and Trails Series 7	2.5
Stirling Film and TV Productions	Body Shopping	2.5
KMF Productions	What in the World Series 10	2.0
Meangadh Fíbín	Timpeall na Páirce (Compl) <sup>1</sup>	2.0
Midas Productions	Generation What (Compl) <sup>1</sup>	2.0
Midas Productions	Rural Addiction	2.0
Frontline Films	John Connors' America	2.0
Praxis Pictures	Tomi Reichental: Condemned to Remember	1.5
Vision Independent Productions	Ploughing Live 2016	1.5
Frontline Films	Hacked	1.0
KMF Productions	Peter McVerry: A View from the Basement	1.0
Firebrand Productions	Autism and Me	1.0
Firebrand Productions	Key Player	1.0
Frontline Films	Henry Shefflin - Winning	1.0
Loosehorse	Cloud Control - Who Owns Your Data	1.0
Independent Pictures	Big Year on the Farm	1.0
Mind the Gap Films	Hands Up	1.0
Soilsiú Teoranta	In Loco Parentis (Compl)	1.0
Midas Productions	700 Million Light Years from Birr (Compl) <sup>1</sup>	1.0
Gmarsh TV	The Embalmer (Compl) <sup>1</sup>	1.0
That's A Wrap	Becoming Jake	1.0
That's A Wrap	Born in A Body I Hate (Compl) <sup>1</sup>	1.0
Midas Productions	Asking for It	1.0
Waddell Media	Emma Murphy Fights Back	1.0
Moon TV Productions	Finding Banni	1.0
Forefront	U2 agus an ARC	0.5
Stirling Film and TV Productions	Christmas at the Cathedral	0.5
5		

**Programme Title** 

**Total Hours** 

Various development contracts with Animo Television, Cameo Productions, Léirithe Rúnda, NPE Media, Seabed Productions, Sideline Productions, Sixsem, The Connected Set and Waka TV.

<sup>1</sup> Commissions which were part funded by the BAI Sound and Vision Scheme **(Compl)** Denotes Completion Contracts

70.0

## SCHEDULE 3: 2016 STATUTORY TELEVISION PROGRAMMES /HOURS COMMISSIONED, COMPLETED AND DEVELOPED

#### Category

Drama, Sport & Young Peoples

Production Company	Programme Title	<b>Total Hours</b>
Abú Media	Whiz Sa Chistin	33.0
Telegael Teo	Drop Dead Weird (Compl)	13.0
Loosehorse	Thank GAA It's Friday Series 3	7.5
Soho Moon Pictures/Saffron Films	Acceptable Risk <sup>1</sup>	6.0
Zodiak Media Ireland/Touchpaper TV	Resistance <sup>1</sup>	5.0
Kavaleer Productions	Pablo	5.0
Blinder Films	Striking Out <sup>1</sup>	4.0
Ely Productions	Apres Match - The Wonder Years Series 2	3.5
Salty Dog Pictures	Brewster the Rooster (Compl) <sup>1</sup>	3.5
Kavaleer Productions	Kiva Can Do (Compl) <sup>1</sup>	2.8
Wiggleywoo	The Day Henry Met Series 2 (Compl) <sup>1</sup>	2.5
Firebrand Productions	Bernard Dunne's Mythical Heroes (Compl) <sup>1</sup>	2.0
Crossing the Line Films	What Makes My Day	1.9
Adare Productions	I've Got Your Back	1.5
Macalla Teo	How to do Everything	1.5
stop.watch tv	Wonder What?	1.5
Crossing the Line Films	Rocketeers	1.2
Kite Entertainment	Brain Freeze Series 3 (Compl)	1.0
Tailored Films	Miss Mogul	0.8
Meangadh Fíbín	Face It	0.8
Ink and Light	Harry & Bip (Compl)	0.5
Macalla Teo	How to do Everything Series 2	0.5
Ink and Light	Portrait of an Age	0.5
Wiggleywoo	Don't Forget the Bread	0.2
Pink Kong Studios	Urban Tails - Madra Rua	0.2
Whackala	The Last Wrangler	0.2
Treehouse Republic	The Everyday Adventures of Slaps	0.2
Studio POWWOW	and Sandbags Donkeys Farm	0.2

Various development contracts with Blinder Films, Element Pictures and Ripple Films

100.5

<sup>1</sup> Commissions which were part funded by the BAI Sound and Vision Scheme **(Compl)** Denotes Completion Contracts

### SCHEDULE 3: 2016 STATUTORY TELEVISION PROGRAMMES /HOURS COMMISSIONED, COMPLETED AND DEVELOPED CONTINUED

#### Category

Entertainment, Comedy & Music

Production Company	Programme Title	<b>Total Hours</b>
ShinAwiL	Dancing with the Stars	30.0
Mind the Gap Films	Brendan O'Connor's Cutting Edge	16.0
Adare Productions	An Ril Deal/Junior Eurovision	14.0
Animo Television	Irelands Fittest Family Series 4	9.0
South Wind Blows	Other Voices Series 15	9.0
Power Pictures	The Tommy Tiernan Show	6.0
Vision Independent Productions	Search	5.0
Loosehorse	Know the Score	4.5
Tyrone Productions	The Nathan Carter Show	4.0
WakaTV	Vogue Williams: On The Edge	4.0
Pure Class Productions	Bridget & Eamon Series 2	3.5
Deadpan Pictures	Can't Cope, Won't Cope <sup>1</sup>	3.0
Areaman Productions	Kevin McGahern's America	3.0
Deadpan Pictures	Blow In <sup>1</sup>	3.0
C Squared	The Des Bishop Show	3.0
Blue Ink Films	Ends Meet <sup>1</sup>	3.0
Forefront	Fleadh Cheoil 2016	3.0
Happy Endings Productions	The Rubberbandits' Guides	2.0
Vision Independent Productions	RTÉ Irish Country Music Awards	1.5
Tyrone Productions	Nathan Carter Christmas Special	1.0
Vision Independent Productions	Christmas with Daniel O'Donnell	1.0
Happy Endings Productions	Des Bishops Election	1.0
Strike Films	Playing It Straight	1.0
WakaTV	Scorchio 2	1.0
Areaman Productions	Alison Spittle's Culchie Club	1.0
Vision Independent Productions	Road to the Dome	1.0
Blueprint Pictures	Miss Nigeria Ireland	1.0
Kite Entertainment	Classic Joe Dolan	1.0
Southpaw Pictures	Choice Music Awards 2016	1.0
South Wind Blows	Other Voices - Gavin James Christmas Special	1.0
Vico Films	Senior Moments	0.5
Waka TV	Scorchio	0.5
Strike Films	TMI	0.5

Various development contracts with CCCahouts, Coco Television, Four Giants, Green Inc Film & TV/Kite Entertainment, Lads of Comedy, Scratch Films and ShinAwiL

 $^{\rm 1}$  Commissions which were part funded by the BAI Sound and Vision Scheme (Compl) Denotes Completion Contracts

TOTAL 2016 STATUTORY TELEVISION HOURS COMMISSIONED

419

139.0

## SCHEDULE 3: 2016 STATUTORY RADIO PROGRAMMES/HOURS COMMISSIONED, COMPLETED AND DEVELOPED

Category	Production Company	Programme Title	<b>Total Hours</b>
Arts, Regional, Education,			
Religion & Other Factual	Kairos Communications	Masses and Services	39.0
	New Normal Culture	Inside Culture	34.0
	Soundsdoable	Culture File	30.5
	New Normal Culture	The Book Show	16.0
	Cian Mac Carthaigh	Bláithnaid Libh	16.0
	Rockfinch	The Poetry Programme	15.0
	Katcom	Dearcadh na hÓige	7.0
	Donncha Mac Con Iomaire t/a Sú	Scéalta na nDaoine	6.7
	Pine Valley Studios	Sound in Union	6.0
	HG Productions	The County Line	3.0
			173.2
Sport, Entertainment & Music	Reel World Europe	Pump Up the Slump	43.3
	Reel World Europe	Pump Up the Slump Series 2	43.3

Reel World Europe	Pump Up the Slump Series 2	43.3
Catchy Title	Callan's Kicks	12.0
Sideline Productions	Comedy Showhouse	9.0
Second Captains	Second Captains Sunday	9.0
Athena Media	Pantisocracy	7.0
Red Hare Media	Before They Were Famous	1.5
OJO Productions	The Irish Country Music Awards Backstage	1.3
		126.4

300

#### TOTAL 2016 STATUTORY RADIO HOURS COMMISSIONED

## SCHEDULE 4: 2016 NON-STATUTORY TELEVISION PROGRAMMES/HOURS COMMISSIONED, COMPLETED AND DEVELOPED

Category	<b>Production Company</b>	Programme Title	<b>Total Hours</b>
Factual, Entertainment & Lifestyle	Coco Television	St Patrick's Day Coverage 2016	2.0
	TORY TELEVISION HOURS COMMIS		2

Note: The above commissioned programme is classified as a non-statutory commission on the basis that it is a hybrid commission Hybrid commissions are where RTÉ provides facilities at cost in addition to the commissioned contract.

## SCHEDULE 5: 2016 STATUTORY EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON COMMISSIONED PROGRAMMES BY PROGRAMME CATEGORY

#### **TELEVISION**

PROGRAMME CATEGORY	Total Hours	2015 Commissions Carried Forward	2016 New Commissions	2016 Commissions Carried Forward	2016 Total Cost
		€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
		(Note 2)			(Note 1)
Factual					
Lifestyle & Formats	88.0	1,214	8,188	(972)	8,430
Documentaries & Arts	21.0	(86)	1,862	(61)	1,715
Regional, Education, Religion & Other Factual	70.0	1,201	5,901	(1,300)	5,802
Drama, Sport & Young Peoples	100.5	814	9,815	(1,264)	9,365
Entertainment, Comedy & Music	139.0	1,410	12,720	(2,911)	11,219
Overall Totals:	419	4,553	38,486	(6,508)	36,531
Awards / Schemes					117
Overheads and other costs (Schedule 7)					1,728
Direct Expenditure Incurred					38,376

#### RADIO

PROGRAMME CATEGORY	Total Hours	2015 Commissions Carried Forward	2016 New Commissions	2016 Commissions Carried Forward	2016 Total Cost
		€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000 (Note 1)
Arts, Regional, Education, Religion & Other Factual	173.2	-	667	-	667
Sport, Entertainment & Music	126.4	-	441	-	441
Overall Totals:	300	-	1,108	-	1,108
Overheads and other costs (Schedule 7)					81
Direct Expenditure Incurred					1,189

DIRECT EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON	
COMMISSIONED PROGRAMMES	
TELEVISION & RADIO	

39,565

Note 1: Total cost is inclusive of Non Recoverable VAT (NRV) Note 2: 2015 Commissions have been restated for cost variances and the retiming of programme commitments Note 3: Excludes RTÉ attributable overhead

## SCHEDULE 6: 2016 NON-STATUTORY EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON COMMISSIONED PROGRAMMES BY PROGRAMME CATEGORY

#### **TELEVISION**

PROGRAMME CATEGORY	Total Hours	2015 Commissions Carried Forward €'000	2016 New Commissions €'000	2016 Commissions Carried Forward €'000	2016 Total Cost €'000
Factual, Entertainment & Lifestyle	2.0	36	196	(27)	(Note 1) 205
Overall Totals:	2	36	196	(27)	205
Awards / Schemes					29
Direct Expenditure Incurred					234

Note 1: Total cost is inclusive of Non Recoverable VAT (NRV)

Note 2: 2015 Commissions have been restated for cost variances and the retiming of programme commitments

Note 3: Excludes RTÉ attributable overhead

Note 4: Non-statutory expenditure includes online costs for statutory commissions which are not allowable to

be charged to the Statutory Account under the Broadcasting Act 2009

## SCHEDULE 7: 2016 ADMINISTRATION COSTS AND ATTRIBUTABLE ORGANISATIONAL OVERHEAD

Expenditure Description	Television €'000	Radio €'000	Total €'000
Payroll Costs	1,319	68	1,387
Festivals/Industry Contributions	266	-	266
Set Storage	103	-	103
Travel and Subsistence	13	1	14
Computer & Phone Costs	8	1	9
Advertising and Consultancy Costs	4	5	9
Office and Miscellaneous Expenses (Note 1)	15	6	21
Sub-Total:	1,728	81	1,809
Attributable Organisational Overhead	514	2	516
Overall Total:	2,242	83	2,325

Note 1: Office and Miscellaneous expenses include costs in respect of printing, stationery, couriers etc.

### SCHEDULE 8: AWARDS

#### **Production Company**

#### **Programme Title**

#### (a) Frameworks

1	Pink Kong Studios	Departure
2	Cartoon Saloon	Late Afternoon
3	Whirligig Animation	Macarooned

#### (b) Filmbase Short Film

1	PIO Media	Leap of Faith
2	Parallel Films	The Date
3	Character Films	Acorn
4	28 Films	Propellor

### SCHEDULE 9: 2016 TOP 50 PROGRAMMES

Rank	Programme Title	Channel	Transmission Date
1	The Late Late Toy Show	RTÉ One	02-12-2016
2	UEFA EURO 2016 Live - Live Play - Rep of Ireland v France	RTÉ2	26-06-2016
3	UEFA EURO 2016 Live - Live Play - Italy v Rep of Ireland	RTÉ2	22-06-2016
4	UEFA EURO 2016 Live - Live Play - Rep of Ireland v Sweden	RTÉ2	13-06-2016
5	The Sunday Game Live (SFF: Dublin v Mayo) Draw	RTÉ One	18-09-2016
6	UEFA EURO 2016 Live - Live Play - Belgium v Rep of Ireland	RTÉ2	18-06-2016
7	The Saturday Game Live (SFF: Dublin v Mayo) Replay	RTÉ2	01-10-2016
8	The Sunday Game Live (SHF: Kilkenny v Tipperary)	RTÉ One	04-09-2016
9	UEFA EURO 2016 Live - Live Play - Portugal v France	RTÉ2	10-07-2016
10	UEFA EURO 2016 Live - Live Play - Portugal v Wales	RTÉ2	06-07-2016
11	RTÉ News: Nine O'Clock	RTÉ One	27-02-2016
12	Rebellion	RTÉ One	10-01-2016
13	Mrs Brown's Boys: Mammy's Forest	RTÉ One	25-12-2016
14	Guinness Series Live - New Zealand v Ireland	RTÉ2	19-11-2016
15	Mrs Brown's Boys: Chez Mammy	RTÉ One	31-12-2016
16	Room To Improve	RTÉ One	28-02-2016
17	The Late Late Show	RTÉ One	19-02-2016
18	RBS 6 Nations - Live - France v Ireland	RTÉ2	13-02-2016
19	RBS 6 Nations - Live - England v Ireland	RTÉ2	27-02-2016
20	Mrs Brown's Boys Live	RTÉ One	23-07-2016
21	RBS 6 Nations - Live - Ireland v Scotland	RTÉ2	19-03-2016
22	RTÉ News: Six One	RTÉ One	01-01-2016
23	Prime Time Leaders Debate	RTÉ One	23-02-2016
24	The Rose Of Tralee 2016	RTÉ One	23-08-2016
25	The Voice Of Ireland	RTÉ One	24-01-2016
26	UEFA Euro 2016 Live - Live Play - France v Romania	RTÉ2	10-06-2016
27	RBS 6 Nations - Live - Ireland v Wales	RTÉ2	07-02-2016
28	Claire Byrne Live Leaders' Debate	RTÉ One	15-02-2016
29	Fair City	RTÉ One	09-02-2016
30	CORONATION STREET	UTV Ireland	18-01-2016
31	UEFA EURO 2016 Live - Live Play - England v Iceland	RTÉ2	27-06-2016
32	Sugar Crash	RTÉ One	11-01-2016
33	Mrs Brown's Boys: Mammy's Christmas Punch	RTÉ One	24-12-2016
34	Prison In Peru: Michaellas First Interview	RTÉ One	03-04-2016
35	World Cup Qualifier 2018 - Live Play - Moldova v Rep of Ireland	RTÉ2	09-10-2016
36	UEFA EURO 2016 Live - Live Play - Germany v Italy	RTÉ2	02-07-2016
37	Operation Transformation	RTÉ One	20-01-2016
38	At Your Service	RTÉ One	21-02-2016
39	UEFA EURO 2016 Live - Live Play - France v Iceland	RTÉ2	03-07-2016
40	UEFA EURO 2016 Live - Live Play - Germany v France	RTÉ2	07-07-2016
41	World Cup Qualifier 2018 - Live Play - Austria v Rep of Ireland	RTÉ2	12-11-2016
42	CORONATION STREET	TV3	19-12-2016
43	Centenary	RTÉ One	28-03-2016
44	RBS 6 Nations - Live - Ireland v Italy	RTÉ2	12-03-2016
45	Election 2016	RTÉ One	27-02-2016
46	Mrs Brown's Boys	RTÉ One	20-12-2016
47	UEFA EURO 2016 Live - Live Play - Belgium v Italy	RTÉ2	13-06-2016
48	RTÉ Irish Country Music Awards	RTÉ One	24-06-2016
49	I'M A CELEBRITY GET ME OUT OF HERE!	UTV Ireland	13-11-2016
50	EURO16 LIVE England v Russia	TV3	11-06-2016
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Source: TAM Ireland Ltd/Nielsen TAM.

Ranking is based on best episode of shows/series of 15+ minutes duration broadcast between 1 January 2016 and 31 December 2016, on any television channel, available in Ireland at any time. All figures are Consolidated National Individuals 4+. The Consolidated audience is the sum of the live viewing plus viewing recorded and played back within 7 days.







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