

News story: Essential upgrades to our incorporation services

Updated: Essential upgrades to our incorporation services on 8 September 2018.

All incorporation applications received after 12pm on Friday 7 September will not be processed until Monday 10 September.

This includes any same-day applications.

We're sorry for any inconvenience.

Speech: Jeremy Wright speech to Edinburgh International Culture Summit

Good afternoon everybody. It's great to be able to join in the welcome to you all here to this fourth Edinburgh International Culture Summit.

And there is of course no better backdrop for this event than this wonderful city during the height of the festival season.

As you will already appreciate and come to appreciate, these iconic festivals are a living, breathing example of the incredible power of culture in transforming our lives and our cities.

Visitors from across the world have been flocking to see some of our biggest names, side-by-side with smaller productions. And of course giving our economy a boost as they do so.

The Edinburgh International Festival and the Fringe encapsulates the creativity and ingenuity that can be found all across the United Kingdom.

As we leave the EU, we will use that creativity to show the world that we remain an open, welcoming and outward looking nation.

This summit provides a unique platform for ministers and cultural leaders from across the globe to discuss the big issues that impact us all.

One of the themes of this Summit particularly struck a chord with me, and that was culture in a networked world.

As our Culture is Digital report identified, technology offers unprecedented

opportunities for culture in the UK and beyond.

Every day we see the seismic power of technology and its ability to engage new audiences, drive new business models, and increase access to world-class archives and collections.

Some of our oldest and most prestigious sites are using technology to meet demand for new digital experiences and to reach those less engaged with culture.

Cultural organisations also have a powerful role to play in how we interpret information in the digital age.

In a world of social media echo chambers, cultural organisations are vital in challenging our views and introducing us to new perspectives.

I know that many of you are working on your own programmes to combine your great cultural institutions with the most cutting edge, impressive technology.

This will be the new cultural frontier over the coming years.

And we can only really make the most of it if we are open minded about and we work together, regardless of boundaries.

That's why events like today are so important.

Thank you to Sir Jonathan Mills and your team for your continued passion and dedication, and your hard work in organising this event.

Thank you to all the partners involved in making it happen, including the Scottish Government, the British Council, Edinburgh International Festival and the Scottish Parliament.

And speaking of the Scottish Parliament, thank you to the Presiding Officer for allowing us to host the Summit in this spectacular Chamber.

Let us all make the most of this opportunity. Because culture shows humanity at our best.

It is my privilege to open this important Summit.

The ideas and conversations that we will share over the coming days will show the world how the enduring power of culture can strengthen the bonds between our nations.

Thank you very much.

Open consultation: Proposed catch limits for September 2018

The Marine Management Organisation (MMO) sets monthly catch limits for quota species to ensure the UK stays within the overall limit set by the EU. These limits apply to all under 10 meter vessels and the over 10 meter vessels that are not in a co-operative (Producer Organisation).

Please contact the MMO if you have any comment to make about the suggested catch limits which will be put into force on 1 September 2018.

Comments to be received no later than 12pm Tuesday 28 August 2018.

The MMO will regularly consult industry on monthly or other catch limits and will, wherever possible, ensure that any representations are taken into account when setting such limits. However, the MMO must reserve the right to alter catch limits and/ or close fisheries without prior notice or consultation in the event that such actions are necessary and expedient for the regulation of sea fishing.

Speech: Jeremy Wright speech to Edinburgh TV Festival

It is an honour to be here at this very prestigious festival.

As you say, I'm fairly new to this job and I recognise that I have a lot to learn, but I hope you will indulge me if I offer some preliminary thoughts on some of the things I have noticed so far.

Today's discussion is an important one. It is quite clear that the world of broadcasting is changing, with new channels and content producers transforming the media landscape.

For me one fact brings this home loud and clear. Young people in Britain now recognise the name YouTube more than they recognise the name of the BBC.

In these changing times, we must look at what our British broadcasters can do to adapt and thrive.

One way to do this is to become more transparent, as the recent BBC Charter Review demonstrated with a huge step forward.

Another way is to become more national.

A media that is clustered in the capital can't possibly reflect and represent the rich and diverse tapestry that is the United Kingdom.

It is clear that the development of Media City Salford has been great for the BBC, great for ITV and great for an exciting cluster of tech and production companies in the region.

But it has also been great for the UK as a whole, ensuring greater diversity and representation both on and off screen.

I am delighted that Channel 4 has recently agreed to move 300 staff out of London, with more to come, and to increase spending on programmes outside London to 50 percent of what they do.

I am looking forward to hearing the location of the new national HQ and creative hubs in October and I hope all broadcasters and producers will follow their lead and encourage the spread of jobs, prosperity, and opportunity beyond London.

British broadcasting is having an increasing impact not just across the UK but across the world. UK TV programming sales are now at around a billion pounds a year.

And Planet Earth 2, Midsomer Murders, and Sherlock have been sold to over 200 territories, with Sherlock, for example, being seen by 17 million viewers in China alone.

From Baker Street to Beijing the reach of UK broadcasting is so wide. And it is getting wider.

And although British television is changing, there are some long established characteristics that make it so impressive and important. Television, for example, has always been able to bring us together.

It creates truly national moments through programmes like Planet Earth, Bake Off and even Love Island, helping to create common experiences and bind our communities.

And public service broadcasters remain a vital part of the broadcasting landscape, with 85 percent of people in this country still watching them every week.

Nine out of ten people in the UK think that programming and news coverage from Public Service Broadcasters is trustworthy, a vital asset in the era of fake news.

And strong public service broadcasters mean a strong broadcasting sector as a whole.

For example, they are vital in helping all broadcasters find talent, and one of the things I have heard loud and clear already is how important it is to find the right talent in this industry.

This festival has recognised that for a long time – with the proceeds of ticket sales going to help provide an entry level route into the industry and to give talented individuals in the early stages of their careers a step up.

I pay tribute to that work in helping so many people to have a brighter future in this industry.

And talking about the future, I wanted to finish by saying just a few words about Brexit, which I know is on the minds of many people here.

I know that there is concern about how talent will be able to move between the UK and the EU after our exit from the European Union.

Although you will understand that the final outcome is still subject to negotiation, I can say that the government fully understands how important mobility is for this sector.

As outlined in the recent White Paper on our future relationship with the EU, we are seeking to agree a framework for mobility with the EU.

This will include reciprocal arrangements to allow UK nationals to visit the EU without a visa for short term business reasons, with equivalent arrangements for EU citizens coming to the UK.

And we are working on a broader accord with the EU on culture and education that will, among other things, allow for the temporary movement of goods for major events, tours, exhibitions, and productions.

Beyond that, as you know we have already reached an agreement with the EU on citizens' rights, which will provide certainty to EU citizens currently living in the UK.

And we will be developing a future immigration policy to welcome the people that we need and that we want to come here.

We understand the importance of retaining European Works Status for the sector, and we were able to confirm this earlier in the year.

I recognise of course that there are still issues to be resolved in this process and you have my assurance that I will make the case for the interests of this sector as we seek to resolve them.

But regardless of our settlement with the EU, broadcasting will remain a vital part of what Britain offers the world.

Because we have a broadcasting sector that's really worth shouting about.

Thank you for what you do to contribute to that, and I hope that you enjoy the rest of the festival.

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