



Meeting of the BBC Board – Scotland Committee

Minutes

25th March 2026

BBC Scotland, Pacific Quay, Glasgow

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

- 1 Introduction and minutes of previous Scotland Committee
- 2 Director, Scotland Report
- 3 Director, Nations Report
- 4 Market Report
- 5 Audiences
- 6 Finance
- 7 AOB and Close

ATTENDANCE

Members:

- Muriel Gray, Non-Executive Director (Chair)
- Rhuanedd Richards, Director, Nations
- Hayley Valentine, Director, Scotland
- Luke McCullough, Corporate Affairs Director, Nations

With:

- Samantha Sing, Divisional Finance Director, Nations
- Mark Grinnell, Executive Lead, Nations
- Non Tudur Williams, Executive Lead, Nations
- Lesley Farquharson, Audience Research Manager
- Gail Capaldi, Senior Finance Business Partner

Apologies:

- Samir Shar, Chair, BBC Board
- Lorna Clarke, Commissioning Director, Music

Introduction and minutes of previous Scotland Committee

- 1.1 The minutes of the previous Committee meeting (28th October 2025) were approved and no new conflicts were presented.
- 1.2 The Chair noted the appointment of a new BBC Director General had been announced to staff and public. The Chair thanked the BBC Board Chair for leading the selection process.
- 1.3 The Committee joined the Chair in noting thanks to the outgoing Director General for his contribution to organization and his significant support of BBC Scotland.
- 1.4 The Chair thanked the outgoing Executive Lead for their contribution and welcomed the new Executive Lead to observe the meeting.
- 1.5 Apologies were received from Samir Shah and Lorna Clarke.

2. Director, Scotland Report

- 2.1 The Committee viewed the latest 'Made of' Campaign material for BBC Scotland.
- 2.2 The Director highlighted recent coverage highlights, including news reporting from the recent fire in Union Street near Glasgow Central station.
- 2.3 The Committee noted plans for Election coverage.
- 2.4 The Committee noted highlights of Sport coverage, including Winter Olympics and Six Nations. Scotland's World Cup coverage was discussed.
- 2.5 The Director outlined plans for the budget in the coming financial year and associated savings.
- 2.6 The Committee noted significant changes to the BBC Radio Scotland output with a revised on-air schedule including the breakfast show relaunch.
- 2.7 The Committee noted social media improvement work, including the appointment of a Radio Scotland Editor to oversee the social output.
- 2.8 The Committee noted the revised leadership team structure at BBC Scotland.
- 2.9 BBC Scotland Sport channel on You Tube would launch in March 2026 and is part of the You Tube partnership across Nations division.
- 2.10 Season two of the Gaelic drama *The Island* is in production.
- 2.11 Since the previous Scotland Committee, political engagement has continued with

Scotland's MPs and MSPs, including 1-2-1 meetings in our BBC bases across Scotland, at both the Scottish and UK Parliaments and on-location site visits.

3. Director Nations, Report

- 3.1 The Director noted work on the Green Paper response which had been undertaken ahead of the BBC Charter.
- 3.2 The Director noted plans for Election coverage across Nations.
- 3.3 The Committee heard about work between Nations, News and Content divisions to make sure there is a range of authentic voices from across the UK in use on network output.
- 3.4 The Director noted the budget plans for the next financial year.
- 3.5 The Committee heard about plans for the next phase of Across the UK plans for the BBC.

4. Market Report

- 4.1 The Committee noted the written market report.
- 4.2 The Director noted feedback from stakeholder engagement sessions held with community members in Scotland ahead of the Green Paper response.
- 4.3 Ofcom published its Annual Report on the BBC in November 2025, which also included their second periodic review of the BBC's performance.
- 4.4 The Committee noted the consultation on STV's proposals to make changes to both of their broadcast licenses would be concluded by Ofcom after the Scottish elections.

5. Audiences

- 5.1 The Committee noted the latest audience figures relating to the performance of BBC Scotland.

6. Finance

- 6.1 The Committee noted the latest financial performance figures and forecasting for the BBC Scotland budget.

7. AOB

7.1 There were no other matters arising.

7.2 The next Scotland Committee meeting would be held on 25th June 2025.

ENDS