Question 1: Do you agree that public service provision and funding beyond the BBC is an important part of any future system?:

**Question 2: Which of the three refined models do you think is most appropriate?:** 

Question 3: Do you agree that in any future model Channel 4 should have an extended remit to innovate and provide distinctive UK content across platforms? If so, should it receive additional funding directly, or should it have to compete for funding?:

Question 4: Do you think ITV1, Five and Teletext should continue to have public service obligations after 2014? Where ITV1 has an ongoing role, do you agree that the Channel 3 licensing structure should be simplified, if so what form of licensing would be most appropriate?:

Question 5: What role should competition for funding play in future? In which areas of content? What comments do you have on our description of how this might work in practice?:

Question 6: Do you agree with our findings that nations and regions news continues to have an important role and that additional funding should be provided to sustain it?:

Question 7: Which of the three refined models do you think is most appropriate in the devolved nations?:

**Question 8: Do you agree with our analysis of the future potential for local content services?:** 

Question 9: Do you agree with our assessment of each possible funding source, in terms of its scale, advantages and disadvantages?:

Question 10: What source or sources of funding do you think are most appropriate for the future provision of public service content beyond the BBC?:

**Question 11: Which of the potential approaches to funding for Channel 4 do you favour?:** 

Question 12: Do you agree that our proposals for 'tier 2' quotas affecting ITV plc, stv, UTV, Channel TV, Channel 4, Five and Teletext are appropriate, in the light of our analysis of the growing pressure on funding and audiences? priorities? If not, how should we amend them, and what evidence can you provide to support your alternative?:

## **Additional comments:**

Spectrum access for Gaelic Broadcasting

Although we are delighted that BBC ALBA has been launched and is already making an impact on those that can receive it, we strongly believe that, for reasons of social justice and equity; and to secure the future of Gaelic broadcasting and its potential contribution to the economy of the country; it is imperative that the channel be accessible across all digital platforms.

To reach its target of 250,000 viewers, required by the BBC Trust to approve BBC ALBA?s coverage on Freeview, the channel will need to attract large numbers of non-Gaelic speakers as well as Gaelic speakers. This would be challenging enough, within a short time scale, if it were available on all digital platforms but will be extremely difficult as the channel is not available on Freeview.

Broadband is not a viable alternative for delivery of the channel. Access to Broadband is still patchy, particularly in areas such as the northwest Highlands, which host the highest concentration of Gaelic speakers. Cànan is based at the national Gaelic college on Skye but many of the staff and students are not able to receive broadband at home, at all, as the limited number of slots for broadband within the exchanges are fully used up ? and have been for some time. This position is not likely to change for a number of years.

We hope that, as a result of this review, Ofcom will support the need for BBC ALBA to be available through Freeview and across all digital platforms.