

Document 1 – Email chain with attachments (22 July)

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Sent: Monday, September 9, 2024 8:37 AM

To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Subject: FW: Axis Productions Ltd (trading as Axis Studios) - FR

From: PACE SG Communications <PACESGQ@sds.co.uk>

Sent: Monday, July 22, 2024 1:06 PM

To: PACE SG Communications <PACESGQ@sds.co.uk>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Axis Productions Ltd (trading as Axis Studios) - FR

Hi all,

Further to last week's correspondence regarding Axis Studios, here is a further update for your reference:

- **PACE Introduction to Redundancy Support Webinar, 19/07/24:** delivery was led by SDS, with DWP and Money & Pensions Service co-presenters; 29 former Axis Studios staff joined the webinar; benefits were the main topic for questions in the Q&A session; attendees have been issued with a resource pack including PACE, DWP and Money & Pensions Service guides.
- **Employment Opportunities:** support has been requested from Scottish Enterprise and SDS colleagues in sourcing vacancies suitable for former Axis Studios staff in Scotland; this has led to responses from [redacted S.38(1)(b)] and [redacted S.38(1)(b)] in the Scottish Government's Economic Development Directorate.
- **Skilled Worker Visas:** several webinar attendees stated that they held such visas; Interpath Advisory are still gathering information from the employer and are currently unable to confirm the number of Axis Studios staff with such visas.

Kind regards

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] – PACE

Tel: [redacted S.38(1)(b)] Mobile: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]



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From: PACE SG Communications <PACESGQ@sds.co.uk>
Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 2:57 PM
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot; PACE SG Communications <PACESGQ@sds.co.uk>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: Axis Productions Ltd (trading as Axis Studios) - FR

Hi all,

Two further updates regarding Axis Studios:

- Interpath Advisory have provided data on the job roles and home postcode areas for all staff: a breakdown for Scotland is attached for your reference; DWP partners have been provided with UK-wide data.
- SDS FIPS Reporting confirm that no MAs or GAs were employed at Axis Studios at the point of administration: one trainee had been employed until March 2024 when she completed her MA. The Funding Information and Processing System (FIPS) is the CRM system used to manage training records and claims for programmes including Modern, Foundation and Graduate Apprenticeships.

Kind regards

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] – PACE
Tel: [redacted S.38(1)(b)] Mobile: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]



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Attachment – Job roles and home postcode areas for all staff

**Axis Productions Limited - in
Administration
Employee information**

| Job title | Scotland based | Retained short term | Local Authority |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Facilities Administrator | Yes | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Accountant | Yes | Yes | Glasgow City |
| People & Culture Partner | Yes | Yes | South Lanarkshire |
| Senior Systems Administrator | Yes | Yes | Perth & Kinross |
| Head of Production - Film & Television | Yes | | East Renfrewshire |
| Rigging TD | Yes | | Dundee City |
| Character Artist | Yes | | Dundee City |
| Production Assistant | Yes | | Edinburgh City |
| Production Manager | Yes | | East Lothian |
| Lead Technical Animator | Yes | | West Lothian |
| Animator | Yes | | Edinburgh City |
| Junior Production Manager | Yes | | Edinburgh City |
| CG Supervisor | Yes | | Falkirk |
| Render Support Manager | Yes | | Stirling |
| Rigging TD | Yes | | Stirling |
| Senior Layout Artist | Yes | | Glasgow City |
| Rigging TD | Yes | | Glasgow City |
| Supervising Production Manager | Yes | | Glasgow City |
| Executive Producer | Yes | | Glasgow City |
| Commercial Analyst | Yes | | Glasgow City |
| Generalist | Yes | | Glasgow City |
| Crew Manager | Yes | | Glasgow City |
| Senior Environment Artist | Yes | | Glasgow City |
| Production Supervisor | Yes | | Glasgow City |
| CFX Artist | Yes | | Glasgow City |
| Lead Animator | Yes | | Glasgow City |
| Lead CFX Artist | Yes | | Glasgow City |
| Senior Lighting Artist | Yes | | Glasgow City |
| VFX Supervisor | Yes | | Glasgow City |
| Director | Yes | | Glasgow City |
| CFX Artist | Yes | | Glasgow City |
| People, Culture & Immigration Coordinator | Yes | | Glasgow City |
| Head of Previs & Layout | Yes | | Glasgow City |
| Systems Engineer | Yes | | Glasgow City |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-------------------|
| Lead Animator | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Crew Coordinator | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Marketing Coordinator | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Senior Pipeline TD | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Pipeline TD | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Senior Production Coordinator | Yes | Glasgow City |
| CG Supervisor | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Producer | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Lead Lighting TD | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Lead Layout Artist | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Lead Lighting Artist | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Render Support | Yes | Glasgow City |
| CG Supervisor | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Real-time Lead FX Artist | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Head of Animation | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Lead Character Artist | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Lighting Artist | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Pipeline TD | Yes | Glasgow City |
| FX Artist | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Senior Production Coordinator | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Character Artist | Yes | Glasgow City |
| FX Artist | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Senior Character Artist | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Desktop Support Assistant | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Crew Coordinator | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Senior Animator | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Layout Artist | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Senior Production Coordinator | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Departmental Head of CG | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Senior Production Coordinator | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Production Coordinator | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Production Assistant | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Senior Production Coordinator | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Senior Animator | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Head of Characters | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Groom Supervisor | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Accountant | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Head of Facilities | Yes | East Renfrewshire |
| Talent Partner | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Assistant Editor | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Senior Houdini TD | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Senior Character Artist | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Realtime CG Supervisor | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Rigging TD | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Lead Groom Artist | Yes | Glasgow City |
| FX Artist | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Head of Art | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Production Coordinator | Yes | Glasgow City |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|---------------------------|
| CG Supervisor | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Lead Real-time Lighting Artist | Yes | Glasgow City |
| Senior Generalist | Yes | Glasgow City East |
| Deputy Head of CG | Yes | Dunbartonshire East |
| Character Supervisor | Yes | Dunbartonshire East |
| Director | Yes | Dunbartonshire East |
| Senior Systems Administrator | Yes | Dunbartonshire East |
| Head of I.T. | Yes | Dunbartonshire |
| Desktop Support Assistant | Yes | South Lanarkshire |
| Senior Generalist | Yes | South Lanarkshire |
| Senior Lighting TD | Yes | South Lanarkshire |
| CEO | Yes | East Renfrewshire |
| IT Services Coordinator | Yes | East Renfrewshire |
| Senior Production Coordinator | Yes | East Renfrewshire West |
| Head of Marketing | Yes | Dunbartonshire |
| Senior Developer | Yes | Eilean Siar |
| Production Assistant | Yes | North Ayrshire |
| Marketing Assistant | Yes | North Ayrshire |
| Render Support | Yes | North Ayrshire |
| Real-time Generalist | Yes | East Ayrshire |
| Senior Environment Artist | Yes | Orkney Islands |
| Head of Editorial | Yes | Fife |
| Finance Administrator | Yes | Fife |
| Production Coordinator | Yes | North Lanarkshire |
| Desktop Support Assistant | Yes | Renfrewshire |
| Executive Producer | Yes | Inverclyde |
| Junior Pipeline TD | Yes | Inverclyde |
| Deputy Head of Production | Yes | Renfrewshire |
| People & Culture Partner | Yes | Renfrewshire |
| Producer | Yes | Renfrewshire |
| People & Culture Administrator | Yes | Renfrewshire |
| Facilities Manager | Yes | Renfrewshire |
| Art Director | Yes | Perth & Kinross |
| Talent Partner | Yes | Perth & Kinross |

**Axis VFX Limited - in Administration
Employee information**

| Postcode | Job title | Scotland based |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| [redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Creative Supervisor | No |
| [redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Managing Director | No |

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|----|
| [redacted S.38(1)(b)] | VFX Director | No |
| [redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Executive Producer | No |
| [redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Systems Administrator | No |
| [redacted S.38(1)(b)] | VFX/Compositing Supervisor | No |
| [redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Render Support | No |
| [redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Line Producer | No |
| [redacted S.38(1)(b)] | CG Supervisor | No |
| [redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Head of Editorial | No |
| [redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Pipeline Supervisor | No |
| [redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Producer | No |
| [redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Systems Administrator | No |
| | Compositing Supervisor/2D Workflow | |
| [redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Specialist | No |
| [redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Senior VFX Producer | No |

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 9:33 AM
To: PACE SG Communications <PACESGQ@sds.co.uk>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: Axis Productions Ltd (trading as Axis Studios) - FR

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Many thanks [redacted S.38(1)(b)] for these continued updates.

Regards,
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Scottish Government | Business Briefing Unit (BBU) | Directorate for Economic Development
Teams: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

From: PACE SG Communications <PACESGQ@sds.co.uk>
Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 9:31 AM
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; PACE SG Communications <PACESGQ@sds.co.uk>
Subject: FW: Axis Productions Ltd (trading as Axis Studios) - FR

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

For your reference, here is a further update on Axis:

- Interpath have provided a copy of the attached press release regarding their appointment, on 15/07/24, as joint administrators to Axis Productions Limited and Axis VFX Limited, both trading as Axis Studios.
- 162 of the 166 employees were made redundant with immediate effect yesterday and the remainder have been temporarily retained to support the administration.
- Interpath advise that 116 employees were Scotland based and the following is a breakdown of their home areas:

| | |
|----------------|------------|
| Ayrshire | 4 |
| Glasgow area | 97 |
| Edinburgh area | 5 |
| Fife | 5 |
| Perth area | 5 |
| Total | <u>116</u> |

- 151 staff attended a call yesterday when the administration was announced: SDS PACE provided an overview of PACE services and participated in the following Q&A session.
- Interpath will post a pack including information on the Redundancy Payments Service process and the PACE national guide to the impacted employees (a Q&A document will also be emailed).
- The RPS reference number for claims is still awaited and P45s will be issued ASAP.
- Interpath have set up a dedicated email inbox to support the employees.
- A PACE Introduction to Redundancy Support Webinar has been scheduled for Friday 19th July, 10.00-11.00 to support the staff: a registration link was shared during the 15/07/24 call and Interpath have agreed to distribute the attached flyer.

Kind regards

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] – PACE

Tel: [redacted S.38(1)(b)] Mobile: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]



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Attachment – Press release

Administrators appointed to Axis Studios

Monday 15 July 2024

Alistair McAlinden and Geoff Jacobs of Interpath Advisory were appointed joint administrators to Axis Productions Limited and Axis VFX Limited, both trading as Axis Studios, on 15 July 2024.

Based in Glasgow and with a presence in Bristol, Axis is an animation and visual effects studio having worked on large, well-known projects in the TV, film and videogame industries.

Following their appointment, the joint administrators have unfortunately had to cease production of all projects immediately and 162 employees have been made redundant. The joint administrators are seeking operators to continue with the live projects.

Alistair McAlinden, head of Interpath Advisory in Scotland and joint administrator, said: “It is a great shame to see a creative business in Scotland close its doors. Axis has been a studio of choice for key production companies and has produced content for household names such as the BBC, Netflix and Blizzard Entertainment. The Company experienced a high demand for its services during COVID as animation and visual effects for TV, film and videogames skyrocketed.

“Unfortunately, however, Axis has more recently been impacted by a decline in customer projects, as well as increases in labour costs which have resulted in severe cash flow problems. The directors worked tirelessly to explore alternative solutions, but ultimately had to take the difficult decision to seek the appointment of administrators.”

Axis had been developing animations in Scotland since 2000 and by 2008, had grown to become Scotland’s largest animation studio. Being a creative force in Scotland, it also employed diverse and imaginative artists globally to develop content that married art and technology. The Company was a recipient of numerous awards for its work including a Royal Television Society award and an Emmy.

Axis employed 166 members of staff. A small number of employees will be retained by the joint administrators to assist with the orderly wind down and transfer of knowledge following the appointment.

Geoff Jacobs, Joint Administrator, added: “Our priority is to give employees support in the first instance. We would encourage any party with an interest in Axis’ live projects to contact us immediately.”

Creditors of Axis are advised to contact the joint administrators via
axisadministration@interpath.com.

-ends-

Notes to Editors:

For media enquiries only, please contact:

[redacted S.38(1)(b)], Interpath Advisory

Email: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@interpathadvisory.com

Tel: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

About Interpath Advisory:

Interpath Advisory supports clients with the provision of financial advisory and restructuring services. Its fast-growing Advisory capability spans both transaction advisory and forensics, and boasts a broad spectrum of services including disputes, regulatory and compliance advisory, value creation, financial due diligence, corporate finance and debt advisory. The firm's established restructuring capability has a heritage dating back over 50 years, and spans financial restructuring, contingency planning and formal restructuring and insolvency. The firm also offers a number of cross capability service lines including valuations, pensions, tax and data and technology. Interpath employs over 750 people, and has 16 offices across the UK, France, Ireland, BVI and Cayman Islands.

Attachment – Flyer



PACE Axis Webinar
Flyer 15.07.24.pdf

From: PACE SG Communications <PACESGQ@sds.co.uk>

Sent: Monday, July 15, 2024 12:41 PM

To: PACE SG Communications <PACESGQ@sds.co.uk>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot

Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot

Subject: RE: Axis Productions Ltd (trading as Axis Studios) - FR

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Interpath have confirmed that they have now been appointed to Axis Productions Limited and Axis VFX Limited.

SDS PACE will join the staff call, scheduled to start at 15.00 today.

We are also looking into organising a PACE Introduction to Redundancy Support webinar for the impacted staff.

Kind regards

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] – PACE

Tel: [redacted S.38(1)(b)] Mobile: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]



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From: PACE SG Communications <PACESGQ@sds.co.uk>

Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 2:27 PM

To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot; PACE SG Communications <PACESGQ@sds.co.uk>

Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot

Subject: RE: Axis Productions Ltd (trading as Axis Studios) - FR / Confidential

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)],

Interpath Advisory have provided the following update:

“I don’t have any further information at this point – it may be the employee call will take place on Monday.”

We will update you on any further developments.

Kind regards

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] – PACE

Tel: [redacted S.38(1)(b)] Mobile: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]



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From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 12:46 PM
To: PACE SG Communications <PACESGQ@sds.co.uk>
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: Axis Productions Ltd (trading as Axis Studios) - FR / Confidential

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Thanks again [redacted S.38(1)(b)]. This is a really helpful update.

Kind regards,

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Business Briefing Unit | Strategic Commercial Assets Division | Directorate for
Economic Development | Scottish Government | Atlantic Quay

Tel: [redacted S.38(1)(b)] / **E-mail:** [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot



From: PACE SG Communications <PACESGQ@sds.co.uk>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 11:31 AM
To: PACE SG Communications <PACESGQ@sds.co.uk>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Axis Productions Ltd (trading as Axis Studios) - FR / Confidential

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)],

Interpath Advisory have now called PACE this morning to confidentially discuss a likely new appointment, but they are unable to divulge the company name at present.

Based on our discussion it may well be Axis, but we are unable to confirm this, at present.

For your reference, here are the key points arising from our call:

- Interpath Advisory expect to be appointed as Administrators to a company this afternoon, but they are unable to divulge the name until their appointment has been confirmed.
- The company concerned has around 160 staff over two sites in Scotland and England.
- The site in Scotland has around 115 staff, with an estimated 96 residing in the Glasgow area.
- The company directors are provisionally scheduling a Google Meet call with the staff for 15.00 this afternoon to inform them of the situation.
- Interpath have invited PACE to join the call and a Glasgow PACE Chair will provide a brief outline of the partnership's services.
- Following the call, Interpath will issue a Q&A document to the staff, and this will include a copy of the PACE national guide.

Kind regards

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] – PACE

Tel: [redacted S.38(1)(b)] Mobile: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]



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From: PACE SG Communications <PACESGQ@sds.co.uk>

Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 10:26 AM

To: PACE SG Communications <PACESGQ@sds.co.uk>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot

Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot

Subject: RE: Axis Productions Ltd (trading as Axis Studios) - FR

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)],

I have discussed the situation with SE this morning and here is an outline of our call, for your reference:

- Late on the afternoon of Thursday 11th July, SE were informed that an application to the Courts for the appointment of an administrator was to be made later today.

- [redacted S.33(1)(b)]
- The company's last accounts state that they have 150 staff over their two sites in Glasgow (Sky Park) and Bristol.
- Freelance staff may also be impacted.
- SE lack contacts within the company, but they are engaged with the potential administrator.

Kind regards

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] – PACE

Tel: [redacted S.38(1)(b)] Mobile: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]



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From: PACE SG Communications <PACESGQ@sds.co.uk>

Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 9:18 AM

To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot; PACE SG Communications <PACESGQ@sds.co.uk>

Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot

Subject: RE: Axis Productions Ltd (trading as Axis Studios) - FR

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

On Monday, 08/07/24, [redacted S.38(1)(b)] received a call from Scottish Enterprise's Business Resilience Team regarding Axis Productions Ltd (trading as Axis Studios).

They advised that they anticipate the company entering insolvency later in the week and sought to inform PACE of the situation.

However, they stated that the case was highly confidential and requested that PACE not approach the company until notified by SE.

We currently await further guidance from SE but will now approach them to request an update.

No additional intelligence or HR1 has been received.

Kind regards

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] – PACE

Tel: [redacted S.38(1)(b)] Mobile: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]



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From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 8:51 AM

To: PACE SG Communications <PACESGQ@sds.co.uk>

Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot

Subject: Axis Productions Ltd (trading as Axis Studios)

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Good morning

I hope you are all well. Could you tell me please if there has been any information come through to PACE relating to a business called Axis Productions Ltd (trading as Axis Studios). Any confirmation of any activity (or not) would be greatly appreciated.

Many thanks,

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Business Briefing Unit | Strategic Commercial Assets Division | Directorate for
Economic Development | Scottish Government | Atlantic Quay

Tel: [redacted S.38(1)(b)] / **E-mail:** [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot



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Registered Number: SC202659

Registered office:

Floor 1

Monteith House

11 George Square

Glasgow

G2 1DY

Tel: 0141 285 6000

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Document 2 – Email (17 July 2024)

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@creativescotland.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2024 4:50 PM

To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@creativescotland.com>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@creativescotland.com>

Subject: Axis Studios Enquiries

Hi All,

Flagging for awareness, that we have received a few press enquiries about the Axis Studios administration announcement. Here is our response below. We will only be issuing this when approached.

A Screen Scotland spokesperson said: “There has been significant growth in Scotland’s animation sector across the last decade. Animation is a thriving part of Scotland’s film, TV, games and commercials offer, with many projects currently in development and production. We are working with Animation Scotland and other partners to best support the Scotland-based talent affected, to ensure their expertise is retained in Scotland.”

Very best

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] *pronouns: she/her | riochdairean pearsanta: i/ise*

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]- Screen
Oifigear Dhàimhean Mheadhanan Is PR- SGRION

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Creative Scotland, Waverley Gate, 2-4 Waterloo Place, Edinburgh, EH1 3EG
Alba Chruthachail, Geata Waverley, 2-4 Rathad Bhatarlù, Dùn Èideann, EH1 3EG

www.creativescotland.com

Document 3 – Email chain (19 July 2024)

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Employment and Investment

Sent: Friday, July 19, 2024 3:00 PM

To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>; Minister for Employment and Investment <MinisterEI@gov.scot>

Cc: DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Shona Riach <Shona.Riach@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; David Hutchison

<David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>;

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Constitution, External Affairs and Culture

<CommunicationsConstitutionExternalAffairsandCulture@gov.scot>; Lisa Baird

<Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; DL for Business Briefing Unit Submissions

Group <DLforBusinessBriefingUnitSubmissionsGroup@gov.scot>; [redacted

S.38(1)(b)]@scotent.co.uk; SEBBUministerialsubs@scotent.co.uk; pressoffice@scotent.co.uk;

Minister for Equalities <MinisterforEqualities@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: ADVANCE NOTICE – AXIS PRODUCTIONS LTD (T/A AXIS STUDIOS), GLASGOW – POTENTIAL ADMINISTRATION – AROUND 115 JOBS AT RISK

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)],

Mr Arthur has noted the below update. Thanks for sending the further update on the 16th.

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] Minister for Employment and Investment – Tom Arthur MSP - The Scottish Government

St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

Mob: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Email: MinisterEI@gov.scot

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Document 4 – Email (16 July 2024)

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 9:08 AM

To: Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>; Minister for Employment and Investment <MinisterEI@gov.scot>

Cc: DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Shona Riach <Shona.Riach@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Constitution, External Affairs and Culture <CommunicationsConstitutionExternalAffairsandCulture@gov.scot>; Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; DL for Business Briefing Unit Submissions Group <DLforBusinessBriefingUnitSubmissionsGroup@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@scotent.co.uk; SEBBUministerialsubs@scotent.co.uk; pressoffice@scotent.co.uk; Minister for Equalities <MinisterforEqualities@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform & Islands 2024 <CabSecforRALRI@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: ADVANCE NOTICE – AXIS PRODUCTIONS LTD (T/A AXIS STUDIOS), GLASGOW – POTENTIAL ADMINISTRATION – AROUND 115 JOBS AT RISK

Minister for Employment and Investment
Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture

Following last Friday's update, you will wish to note that **Axis Productions Ltd officially entered administration yesterday (Monday 15th)**. Interpath Advisory were appointed as administrators and staff were made aware at a meeting on Monday afternoon.

The **majority of employees were expected to be made redundant with immediate effect**. As previously advised, PACE attended the staff call and is now making arrangements to hold its own webinar with Axis staff to highlight the range of support available to them.

[redacted S.33(1)(b)]

BBU will continue to keep Ministers updated.

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Scottish Government | Business Briefing Unit (BBU) | Directorate for Economic Development

Teams: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Document 5 – Email chain (16 July 2024)

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@scotent.co.uk>

Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 9:25 AM

To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@scotent.co.uk>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@scotent.co.uk>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@scotent.co.uk>

Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: AXIS PRODUCTIONS LTD (T/A AXIS STUDIOS), GLASGOW – POTENTIAL ADMINISTRATION – AROUND 115 JOBS AT RISK

Yes of course, [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

My colleague [redacted S.38(1)(b)] has agreed to speak to [redacted S.38(1)(b)], who we believe from [redacted S.38(1)(b)] at Screen Scotland, [redacted S.33(1)(b)]. As [redacted S.38(1)(b)] says, there is limited support we can provide but [redacted S.38(1)(b)] will be able to report back on any relevant action.

Kind regards

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@scotent.co.uk>

Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 9:10 AM

To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@scotent.co.uk>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@scotent.co.uk>

Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot

Subject: RE: AXIS PRODUCTIONS LTD (T/A AXIS STUDIOS), GLASGOW – POTENTIAL ADMINISTRATION – AROUND 115 JOBS AT RISK

Good morning folks

Thanks for sharing the note with us.

Cc'ing my colleague [redacted S.38(1)(b)] who is coordinating with SE's business support services team. [redacted S.33(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] can you please work with the business support team to feed any relevant actions that SE will take back to [redacted S.38(1)(b)] etc. at SG?

Thanks

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@scotent.co.uk>

Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 8:58 AM

To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot

Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@scotent.co.uk>

Subject: RE: AXIS PRODUCTIONS LTD (T/A AXIS STUDIOS), GLASGOW – POTENTIAL ADMINISTRATION – AROUND 115 JOBS AT RISK

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Thanks for the introduction. I know that **[redacted S.38(1)(b)]** is involved on our side, **[redacted S.33(1)(b)]**.

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Tel: **[redacted S.38(1)(b)]**

Mobile: **[redacted S.38(1)(b)]**

Document 6 – Email chain (16 July 2024)

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 8:13 AM
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@scotent.co.uk
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: AXIS PRODUCTIONS LTD (T/A AXIS STUDIOS), GLASGOW – POTENTIAL ADMINISTRATION – AROUND 115 JOBS AT RISK

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)], and hello [redacted S.38(1)(b)],

Thank you [redacted S.38(1)(b)] – that update to Ministers looks good to me.

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] – I believe Axis/Screen Scotland have been talking to [redacted S.38(1)(b)], just in case you were wondering who else is involved from your side.

I'm around all day, if anyone needs anything from me.

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Culture and Historic Environment Division | Directorate for Culture and External Affairs | Scottish Government | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ | [redacted S.38(1)(b)] |

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 7:59 AM
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@scotent.co.uk; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: AXIS PRODUCTIONS LTD (T/A AXIS STUDIOS), GLASGOW – POTENTIAL ADMINISTRATION – AROUND 115 JOBS AT RISK

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Thanks to you both for your updates yesterday. As a result I have prepared a very short update as below to issue to Ministers and would be grateful for your thoughts please on the draft.

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] – Just formally introducing you to [redacted S.38(1)(b)] in SG's Culture Division. [redacted S.38(1)(b)] is in touch with Screen Scotland and, as per the draft note below, [redacted S.33(1)(b)].

Many thanks,
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Minister for Employment and Investment
Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture

Following last Friday's update, you will wish to note that **Axis Productions Ltd** officially entered administration yesterday (**Monday 15th**). Interpath Advisory

were appointed as administrators and staff were made aware at a meeting on Monday afternoon.

The **majority of employees were expected to be made redundant with immediate effect**. As previously advised, PACE attended the staff call and is now making arrangements to hold its own webinar with Axis staff to highlight the range of support available to them.

SG Culture colleagues spoke with Screen Scotland yesterday and understand that **[redacted S.33(1)(b)]**.

BBU will continue to keep Ministers updated.

SE Grant

My previous note referred to the RSA grant awarded in April 2024. **[redacted S.33(1)(b)]**.

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Scottish Government | Business Briefing Unit (BBU) | Directorate for Economic Development
Teams: **[redacted S.38(1)(b)]**

Document 7 – Email (12 July 2024)

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2024 1:09 PM
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Draft Briefing - Axis Productions Ltd

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)],

Thanks again for all your work on this last week. I've spoken to Screen Scotland this morning, and they've said that their understanding is that administration's likely to be imminent, [redacted S.33(1)(b)]. Screen Scotland are already in contact with [redacted S.38(1)(b)] at Scottish Enterprise, [redacted S.33(1)(b)].

All the best,
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Culture and Historic Environment Division | Directorate for Culture and External Affairs | Scottish Government | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ | [redacted S.38(1)(b)] |

Document 8 – Email chain (12 July 2024)

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@creativescotland.com>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 10:01 AM
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@creativescotland.com>
Cc: Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL - Axis

I've not heard anything this week [redacted S.38(1)(b)]. After the flurry of contact last week it has gone quiet. I'll see what I can find out. Best wishes, [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 8:02 AM
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@creativescotland.com>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@creativescotland.com>
Cc: Lisa.Baird@gov.scot; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot
Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL - Axis

Good morning [redacted S.38(1)(b)],

Hope you're well. I'm just getting in touch to see if you have any further information around this? Colleagues in business (who have the link to SE and with relevant Ministers on the economy side) have said that they've heard there may be some movement today, so I said I'd speak to you and see if you know more. Happy to chat if easier.

Thanks,
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Culture and Historic Environment Division | Directorate for Culture and External Affairs | Scottish Government | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ | [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Document 9 – Email chain (12 July)

From: Shona Riach <Shona.Riach@gov.scot>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 4:07 PM
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL - company in distress

Thanks for the update. Sad news.

Shona
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 12:49 PM
To: Shona Riach <Shona.Riach@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: CONFIDENTIAL - company in distress

Good afternoon Shona,

In Lisa's absence today, I just wanted to flag the below to you: in short, a large Scottish-based animation studio may go into administration today. Anything from SG's perspective is being led by Business colleagues, who will brief their Ministers and ours, and Scottish Enterprise and Screen Scotland are looped in. We've provided the attached v. light briefing and general top lines, and will stay across it this afternoon, so I'm really just letting you know at this stage.

Please do let me know if any further information would be helpful,
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Culture and Historic Environment Division | Directorate for Culture and External Affairs | Scottish Government | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ | [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Document 10 – Email chain (12 July)

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024

Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 4:00 PM

To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>; Minister for Employment and Investment <MinisterEI@gov.scot>

Cc: DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Shona Riach <Shona.Riach@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; David Hutchison

<David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>;

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Constitution, External Affairs and Culture <CommunicationsConstitutionExternalAffairsandCulture@gov.scot>; Lisa Baird

<Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; DL for Business Briefing Unit Submissions Group <DLforBusinessBriefingUnitSubmissionsGroup@gov.scot>; [redacted

S.38(1)(b)]@scotent.co.uk; SEBBUministerialsubs@scotent.co.uk; pressoffice@scotent.co.uk;

Minister for Equalities <MinisterforEqualities@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform & Islands 2024 <CabSecforRALRI@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: ADVANCE NOTICE – AXIS PRODUCTIONS LTD (T/A AXIS STUDIOS), GLASGOW – POTENTIAL ADMINISTRATION – AROUND 115 JOBS AT RISK

[redacted S.29(1)(d)].

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 2:51 PM

To: Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>; Minister for Employment and Investment <MinisterEI@gov.scot>

Cc: DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Shona Riach <Shona.Riach@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; David Hutchison

<David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>;

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Constitution, External Affairs and Culture

<CommunicationsConstitutionExternalAffairsandCulture@gov.scot>; Lisa Baird

<Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; DL for Business Briefing Unit Submissions Group <DLforBusinessBriefingUnitSubmissionsGroup@gov.scot>; [redacted

S.38(1)(b)]@scotent.co.uk; SEBBUministerialsubs@scotent.co.uk; pressoffice@scotent.co.uk;

Minister for Equalities <MinisterforEqualities@gov.scot>

Subject: ADVANCE NOTICE – AXIS PRODUCTIONS LTD (T/A AXIS STUDIOS), GLASGOW – POTENTIAL ADMINISTRATION – AROUND 115 JOBS AT RISK

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE: COMMERCIAL

Minister for Employment and Investment

Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture

ADVANCE NOTICE – AXIS PRODUCTIONS LTD (T/A AXIS STUDIOS), GLASGOW – POTENTIAL ADMINISTRATION – AROUND 115 JOBS AT RISK

Purpose

1. To advise you that Axis Productions Ltd, the largest employer in Scotland's animation sector, is expected to enter administration later today putting around 115 Glasgow-based jobs at risk (not including freelancers).

Priority

2. **Immediate - staff are unaware, as this situation is not currently in the public domain and remains highly confidential and commercially sensitive.**

Background

3. On 5 July, the Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External and Culture was advised (email attached below) of the potential financial difficulties via intelligence that SG Culture colleagues had received from Screen Scotland. As well as engaging with Scottish Enterprise (SE), Screen Scotland has also been working with Animation Scotland to coordinate recruitment across its members to retain as many of Axis' contracted talent in Scotland as possible.
4. Founded in 2000, Axis operates animation and visual effects studios and is headquartered in Glasgow with a further site in Bristol. It has a well-established reputation with major studios such as Universal, Netflix and Amazon and is widely recognised as a keystone employer in the Scottish animation/VFX/post-production sector. It is a part of Animation Scotland, the industry-led body created to showcase, represent and develop the Scottish animation industry both at home and globally. The business is diverse and operates across a range of areas including film, television, games and theme parks. It is **not yet known if there is trade union representation** within the business.

Issue

5. SE has advised in confidence that **administrators are likely to be appointed later today** (Fri 12 July) and if so it is anticipated that staff will also be informed of the situation in a meeting either late this afternoon or on Monday.
6. [redacted S.33(1)(b)].

SE Support

7. In April 2024, RSA grant funding of £500,000 was approved by SE and a contract letter was issued to the business last month, however this had not yet been accepted by Axis and there has been **no drawdown of any monies to date**.

Next Steps

8. SE continues to liaise with the company and will work with the administrator, if/when appointed, to better understand the latest position and the prospects of retaining any impacted roles.
9. PACE is aware of today's anticipated developments and has been invited to join the planned staff call for either later this afternoon or early next week in order to provide an initial overview of the PACE services, which would be available to any impacted staff.
10. The Business Briefing Unit (BBU) will keep you updated as the situation progresses.

Recommendation

11. **That you note this confidential update on Axis Productions Ltd, based in Glasgow, which could enter administration later today.**

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Scottish Government | Business Briefing Unit (BBU) | Directorate for Economic Development

Teams: **[redacted S.38(1)(b)]**

Document 11 – Email chain (12 July)

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 3:40 PM

To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Constitution, External Affairs and Culture <CommunicationsConstitutionExternalAffairsAndCulture@gov.scot>

Cc: Communications Deputy First Minister, Economy and Gaelic <DFMEG@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: ADVANCE NOTICE – AXIS PRODUCTIONS LTD (T/A AXIS STUDIOS), GLASGOW – POTENTIAL ADMINISTRATION – AROUND 115 JOBS AT RISK

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)] & Comms CEC team

In [redacted S.38(1)(b)] absence, sending you on some general draft reactive lines around the issue below in case needed over the weekend or Glasgow holiday Monday. These are based on previous lines used in similar circumstances where a company is about to go into administration.

Please note that it isn't yet known if administrators will be appointed this afternoon or early next week. Staff are not yet aware.

Thanks,
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

In the event of administration being formally confirmed in the public domain

“I was very disappointed to learn that Axis Productions Ltd has entered administration with the potential loss of 115 jobs in Glasgow. I know this will be a very uncertain time for the company's staff, their families and the local area.

“Scottish Enterprise has been engaged with Axis Productions in recent weeks to explore all possible options to support the business and its staff. Unfortunately, a solution could not be found to turn the company's situation around. Scottish Enterprise will work with the Administrators to understand the potential options for the business going forward and explore all possibilities that could save jobs.

“The individuals affected by this announcement are our immediate priority and our PACE team is actively offering its full range of skills development and employability support to staff. PACE aims to help those affected by redundancy to get back into work as quickly as possible.”

In the event of queries before the company has initiated administration proceedings

“I am concerned to hear about the situation at Axis Productions Ltd.

“My officials at Scottish Enterprise have been in contact with Axis Productions management and are offering support and advice to the company.

“Scottish Enterprise will continue to work closely with its partners to explore all possible options to try and find the best possible outcome.”

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Scottish Government | Business Briefing Unit (BBU) | Directorate for Economic Development
Teams: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Document 12 – Email chain (12 July)

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 2:22 PM
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Cc: Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Draft Briefing - Axis Productions Ltd

Thanks [redacted S.38(1)(b)] Was that the copy list on the email Lisa sent up? If so, then yes please that's fine, along with [redacted S.38(1)(b)] who I don't think was included (and Lisa herself).

Thanks again,
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Culture and Historic Environment Division | Directorate for Culture and External Affairs | Scottish Government | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ | [redacted S.38(1)(b)] |

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 2:09 PM
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Cc: Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Draft Briefing - Axis Productions Ltd

Thanks [redacted S.38(1)(b)], appreciate the swift reply.

I was planning to include the same people as you had included on your original copy list, is that okay?

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Scottish Government | Business Briefing Unit (BBU) | Directorate for Economic Development
Teams: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 1:36 PM
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Cc: Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Draft Briefing - Axis Productions Ltd

Hello,

Thanks very much for this. No further comments and, for clarity, no update on the points you've highlighted in red (or anything further from Screen Scotland).

I agree that considering whether/which meetings should take place is best left to next week. When this goes up, could you please CC our Director, Shona Riach (who uses her personal inbox) and our DG, at DGSEA@gov.scot?

Thanks again.

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Culture and Historic Environment Division | Directorate for Culture and External Affairs | Scottish Government | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ | [redacted S.38(1)(b)] |

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 1:26 PM
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Cc: Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Draft Briefing - Axis Productions Ltd

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)],

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] is just on lunch at the moment, but should be back in the next 30 minutes or so. Having a quick look over, I only have one small tweak, highlighted in blue. I don't think we have any further intel from Screen Scotland at the moment, so I don't think there is anything further to add. Under those circumstances, I would suggest that we are content to leave as is for now in terms of suggesting any meetings – as you said, this can be considered separately, as required.

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] may come back with some comments, if time allows.

Thanks,
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Culture and Historic Environment Division | Scottish Government
| [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 1:07 PM
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Cc: Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: Draft Briefing - Axis Productions Ltd
Importance: High

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Draft below for any comments you may have. I'm also working with SE for any immediate updates and tweaks.

Is there we should be asking of the Cab Sec in the next steps section e.g arranging to meet with e.g Animation Scotland to discuss the sectoral impact or will I leave that sort of thing for you to consider separately next week?

It is still not yet known 100% if the administration event will happen today but that remains the plan so we will brief Ministers this afternoon either way.

Thanks,
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.30]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Scottish Government | Business Briefing Unit (BBU) | Directorate for
Economic Development
Teams: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Document 13 – Email chain with attachment (5-12 July 2024)

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 11:05 AM
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL - company in distress

Thanks for this [redacted S.38(1)(b)]. Will be in touch later with a draft for your early sight and it will only issue when we have confirmation of what, if anything, is taking place today.

My understanding is that an application to the courts for the appointment of an administrator is expected to be made by the company today. As ever though, these timescales are never set in stone.

Many thanks,
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Scottish Government | Business Briefing Unit (BBU) | Directorate for Economic Development
Teams: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 11:00 AM
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL - company in distress

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)],

Just to say I've heard back from Screen Scotland, who haven't had any contact/new info re this so far this week, but will reach out to see if there's any update.

I've attached some general screen top lines and a touch of background re animation. This isn't an area we're closely involved with, so it is quite light, but if there's anything specific you think you might need, please do give me a shout and we'll do our best. My team is v. thin on the ground today though, so apologies in advance if we're slow coming back on anything.

Thanks again,
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Culture and Historic Environment Division | Directorate for Culture and External Affairs | Scottish Government | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ | [redacted S.38(1)(b)] |

Attachment – Screen Sector Top Lines

Screen Sector – Top Lines

- The Scottish Government is a strong supporter of our screen sector. We are committed to seizing the significant opportunities for growth, and working with our dedicated public body, Screen Scotland, to maximise the cultural and economic benefits that the sector brings.
- We are continually seeking new opportunities to support and grow the screen sector and we are committed to ensuring that the exceptional growth experienced in recent years continues to develop our sustainable creative economy, making Scotland an attractive production base and place for people in the creative industries to live and work.
- Inward investment in our screen sector is a key driver of our creative economy, and brings with it skills and talent development opportunities which contribute significantly to the sector's future sustainability.
- We see inward investment going hand-in-hand with strengthening and developing Scottish-based crews and creative talent.
- The Economic Value of Screen Report 2021, published in 2023, shows the exceptional growth that Scotland's film and TV industries continue to experience, generating millions for the economy, creating thousands of jobs, and providing opportunities for skills and talent development in roles across the sector.
- The report finds that the screen sector in Scotland contributed £627 million total GVA to Scotland's economy in 2021, and provided 10,940 full time equivalent jobs.
- While we recognise tax credit is a major consideration, productions also greatly value the quality of our crew and our talent, the remarkable range of locations and studios that Scotland offers, and the support available from our specialist screen partnership, Screen Scotland.
- Screen Scotland are the dedicated public agency for Scotland's screen sector, driving development of all aspects of our film and television industry through funding and strategic support.
- This is a matter for the Administrators and it would not be appropriate for the Scottish Government to comment on that ongoing process.

Background on Animation and Axis

Scotland is home to several production companies that focus on the creation of animation content, as well as studios engaged in VFX and post-production work. Axis Studios, Wild Child and TG Entertainment are among Scotland's leading animation companies. Axis is an independent production company and a part of that ecosystem. It was founded in Glasgow in 2000. Axis is a part of Animation Scotland, the industry-led body created to showcase, represent and develop the Scottish animation industry both at home and internationally.

According to the Economic Value of the Screen Sector in Scotland in 2021 report, the total value of animation, VFX and post-production work in Scotland was an estimated £27.1m in 2021, of which £18.8m was within the animation subsector (down from £20.3m in 2019). The total number of FTEs (direct, indirect and induced) across animation, VFX, and post-production was noted in the same report as standing at 510 in 2021.

Screen Scotland's recently-published Strategy to 2030/31 notes that there is scope for Scotland's animation sub-sector to grow in the coming years. The Strategy sets out a number of goals and actions to help achieve that growth:

- Enable Scotland-based animators to win business in overseas markets, with a particular focus on the global animation studios, projects of scale and original IP;

- Work to ensure emergent animation filmmakers are supported through new talent development programmes, such as Short Circuit and Little Pictures, and skills development initiatives, such as TRC’s RESET programme;
- Encourage skills development and commercial growth;
- Review [Screen Scotland’s] support for related sectors such as VFX to support skills development and sector growth;
- Fund animation projects that meet our funding criteria through development and production for film and television;
- Support Animation Scotland’s collective efforts to win inward investment business from overseas studios and production partners;
- Work with the Move Summit, and other animation industry focused events in Scotland to ensure a strong showcase for the best work from Scotland and to draw animation professionals from around the world to Scotland to share knowledge and experience and built partnerships.

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 7:57 AM

To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL - company in distress

Thanks [redacted S.38(1)(b)]. Appreciate this and happy to stay in touch as and when there is some movement confirmed on this.

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] | [Scottish Government](#) | [Business Briefing Unit \(BBU\)](#) | [Directorate for Economic Development](#)

[Teams:](#) [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 7:54 AM

To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL - company in distress

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)],

Thanks for this update. We haven’t heard anything further from Screen Scotland, although I have reached out to them now. Of course I’ll let you know what comes back. Very grateful for you taking the lead, and very happy to feed in whatever we usefully can.

Thanks very much, and happy to chat,

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Culture and Historic Environment Division | Directorate for Culture and External Affairs | Scottish Government | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ | [redacted S.38(1)(b)] |

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Thursday, July 11, 2024 5:54 PM
To: Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL - company in distress
Importance: High

Hi Lisa and colleagues

We are hearing from our SE contacts that Axis may be moving towards administration in the course of tomorrow. That isn't official and you may have an ear closer to the ground than we do.

Happy to pick this up for discussion in the morning, but my team has been furnished with a good chunk of background information to all of this from SE and we would be looking to brief the Economy Ministers (as well as Cab Sec Culture) in the course of tomorrow should the rumours be confirmed alongside the adjoining issue of unpaid workers.

I'm keen not to step on any toes or duplicate work that is already ongoing in your own area but if the Business Briefing Unit do pick this up then we would of course seek input from the appropriate colleagues in your Division before anything were to issue.

Many thanks,
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] | Scottish Government | Business Briefing Unit (BBU) | Directorate for Economic Development
Teams: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

From: Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>
Sent: Tuesday, July 9, 2024 9:38 AM
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL - company in distress

Yes, of course. Thank you.

Lisa

Lisa Baird | Deputy Director, Culture and Historic Environment | Tel: [redacted S.38(1)(b)] –
currently working hybrid: email, teams or call

email: lisa.baird@gov.scot

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Tuesday, July 9, 2024 9:37 AM
To: Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL - company in distress

Thanks Lisa

To avoid parallel briefing to different Ministers we won't send up a note on the situation now, however would you mind copying the Deputy First Minister and Minister for Employment and Investment into all future briefings and updates please?

Please copy [redacted S.38(1)(b)] and I also.

Many thanks

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Regional Economic Development Division
Scottish Government
5 Atlantic Quay
150 Broomielaw
Glasgow
G2 8LU



From: Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>
Sent: Monday, July 8, 2024 9:40 AM
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL - company in distress

Thanks [redacted S.38(1)(b)],

My advice was brief - attached here and I have copied [redacted S.38(1)(b)] and [redacted S.38(1)(b)] as suggested.

Lisa

Lisa Baird | Deputy Director, Culture and Historic Environment | Tel: [redacted S.38(1)(b)] –
currently working hybrid: email, teams or call

email: lisa.baird@gov.scot

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Sent: Monday, July 8, 2024 9:20 AM
To: Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL - company in distress

Thanks Lisa

Have SG's Business Briefing Unit been updated / involved? They are often involved in supporting SG responses to companies in difficulty.

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot or [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot would be key contacts in [redacted S.38(1)(b)] absence.

We will review. Can you share the advice you sent to your Minister please?

Thanks

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Regional Economic Development Division
Scottish Government
5 Atlantic Quay
150 Broomielaw
Glasgow
G2 8LU



From: Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2024 5:14 PM
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: CONFIDENTIAL - company in distress
Importance: High

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)] and [redacted S.38(1)(b)],

To be aware of the chain below - an animation company is in trouble and Screen Scotland is engaging with Scottish Enterprise. I have updated the Cab Sec for culture – as attached - but will leave to you to consider whether you want to update Mr Lochhead/ Mr Arthur.

Happy to discuss,

Lisa

Lisa Baird | Deputy Director, Culture and Historic Environment | Tel: [redacted S.38(1)(b)] –
currently working hybrid: email, teams or call

email: lisa.baird@gov.scot

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@creativescotland.com>
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2024 3:59 PM
To: Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@creativescotland.com>
Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL - FW: Conversation

Thanks Lisa.

I've now spoken with [redacted S.38(1)(b)] at Scottish Enterprise, and he has offered [redacted S.38(1)(b)] at Axis a call today or Monday.

I've also called [redacted S.38(1)(b)] in Glasgow City, [redacted S.38(1)(b)]. He's asked that I alert [redacted S.38(1)(b)] in SE to the issue. Like me, [redacted S.38(1)(b)] feels Axis is a keystone employer in the animation/VFX/post production sector in Scotland and if it fails it will have repercussions across the Glasgow City Region/Scotland.

I've no contacts for [redacted S.38(1)(b)] but I have passed on the request to [redacted S.38(1)(b)] and [redacted S.38(1)(b)] at SE.

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] asked if Enterprise Ministers are aware?

Kind regards,

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

From: Lisa.Baird@gov.scot <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2024 12:09 PM
To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@creativescotland.com>
Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@creativescotland.com>
Subject: RE: CONFIDENTIAL - FW: Conversation

Many Thanks [redacted S.38(1)(b)] – keep us in the loop. I will let Ministers know.

Kind Regards,

Lisa

Lisa Baird | Deputy Director, Culture and Historic Environment | Tel: [redacted S.38(1)(b)] –
currently working hybrid: email, teams or call

email: lisa.baird@gov.scot

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@creativescotland.com>
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2024 11:34 AM
To: Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>

Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@creativescotland.com>

Subject: CONFIDENTIAL - FW: Conversation

Hi Lisa,

Good to speak with you last night. Below you will find the emails we have had overnight with [redacted S.38(1)(b)]. They have given consent to our sharing on a confidential basis.

Axis (<https://axisstudiosgroup.com/>) is the largest employer in the animation sector in Scotland. [redacted S.33(1)(b)].

[redacted S.33(1)(b)]. I'm in contact now with SE and will have a call with them shortly.

We are speaking with Animation Scotland, who were aware of the issue as soon as Axis' contractors started posting on Reddit that they were not paid on time. Animation Scotland is coordinating recruitment across its members to try to retain as much of the Axis contracted talent in Scotland as possible. There are large animation projects crewing up right now across two or three other animation companies – there is a mini-boom in Scotland's animation sector currently, which makes the news from Axis all the more surprising and concerning.

The ask from Axis is not clear. They are "in distress", but not yet in administration. I will see what SE recommend.

In terms of Comms we are preparing a reactive line.

Thanks, best wishes,

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)] <[redacted S.38(1)(b)]@axisstudiosgroup.com>

Sent: Friday, July 5, 2024 8:32 AM

To: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@creativescotland.com>

Cc: [redacted S.38(1)(b)] @axisstudiosgroup.com>

Subject: Re: Conversation

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

I've copied in our [redacted S.38(1)(b)] just for his visibility on the conversation. [redacted S.38(1)(b)] made the initial approaches to SE.

When we talked with SE last time we had 130 Scottish jobs, that included freelancers. Last headcount total including remote freelancers was in the region of 250

[redacted S.33(1)(b)].

cheers

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]



[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

axisstudiosgroup.com
Glasgow. London. Bristol.

Axis Studios (Axis Productions Ltd)
Registered in Scotland: SC306712
Registered Office: Suite 7-1, The Skypark,
8 Elliot Place, Glasgow G3 8EP.

On Thu, 4 Jul 2024 at 22:34, **[redacted S.38(1)(b)]@creativescotland.com**> wrote:
[redacted S.33(1)(b)].

Cheers, **[redacted S.38(1)(b)]**

Sent from my iPhone

On 4 Jul 2024, at 18:51, **[redacted S.38(1)(b)]** <**[redacted S.38(1)(b)]@axisstudiosgroup.com**> wrote:

Hi **[redacted S.38(1)(b)]**

Thanks for your email and support.

[redacted S.33(1)(b)].

Cheers
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

On Thu, 4 Jul 2024, 18:46 **[redacted S.38(1)(b)]@creativescotland.com**> wrote:

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)] has updated us this afternoon. I just wanted to reiterate that we are here to help as much as we can. I've contacted Scottish Enterprise and without giving details. They have very useful people in this type of situation and I will connect **[redacted S.38(1)(b)]** to them tomorrow.

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Best wishes,

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

pronouns: he/him | riochdairean pearsanta: e/esan

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

Screen Scotland, Waverley Gate, 2-4 Waterloo Place, Edinburgh, EH1 3EG
Sgrìn Alba, Geata Waverley, 2-4 Rathad Bhatarlù, Dùn Èideann, EH1 3EG

www.screen.scot



Screen Scotland drives development of all aspects of Scotland’s film and tv industry, through funding and strategic support. Screen Scotland is part of Creative Scotland and delivers funding from the Scottish Government and the National Lottery.

Document 14 – Email Chain (4-5 July 2024)

From: Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2024 12:19 PM
To: Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>
Cc: DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Shona Riach <Shona.Riach@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Constitution, External Affairs and Culture <CommunicationsConstitutionExternalAffairsAndCulture@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: In Confidence - animation company in trouble

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)],

Screen Scotland has now confirmed that it is Axis who are in distress.

Axis is the largest employer in the animation sector in Scotland employing around 250 freelancers. [redacted S.33(1)(b)].

Screen Scotland is engaging with Scottish Enterprise to see if any support can be provided. In addition, they are in discussion with Animation Scotland, who are coordinating recruitment across its members to try to retain as much of the Axis contracted talent in Scotland as possible. There are large animation projects about to start development across two or three other animation companies. There is a mini-boom in Scotland's animation sector currently, which makes the news from Axis all the more surprising and concerning.

I will continue to update when more information becomes available.

Thanks

Lisa

Lisa Baird | Deputy Director, Culture and Historic Environment | Tel: [redacted S.38(1)(b)] –
currently working hybrid: email, teams or call

email: lisa.baird@gov.scot

From: Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>
Sent: Thursday, July 4, 2024 5:46 PM
To: Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>
Cc: DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Shona Riach <Shona.Riach@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Constitution, External Affairs and Culture <CommunicationsConstitutionExternalAffairsandCulture@gov.scot>
Subject: Re: In Confidence - animation company in trouble

[redacted S.33(1)(b)].

From: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot> on behalf of Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>
Sent: Thursday, July 4, 2024 5:38:52 PM
To: Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>
Cc: DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Shona Riach <Shona.Riach@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Constitution, External Affairs and Culture <CommunicationsConstitutionExternalAffairsandCulture@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: In Confidence - animation company in trouble

Thanks Lisa, we'll flag that to him. Do you have any more specific idea when the company is likely to go under / the news will break? Are we talking tomorrow, next week, 3 weeks time...?

Thanks,
[redacted S.38(1)(b)]

[redacted S.38(1)(b)]
Office of Angus Robertson MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture CabSecCEAC@gov.scot

From: Lisa Baird <Lisa.Baird@gov.scot>
Sent: Thursday, July 4, 2024 5:27 PM
To: Cabinet Secretary for Constitution, External Affairs and Culture 2024 <CabSecCEAC@gov.scot>
Cc: DG Strategy and External Affairs <DGSEA@gov.scot>; Joe Griffin <Joe.Griffin@gov.scot>; Shona Riach <Shona.Riach@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; [redacted S.38(1)(b)]@gov.scot>; Communications Constitution, External Affairs and Culture <CommunicationsConstitutionExternalAffairsandCulture@gov.scot>
Subject: In Confidence - animation company in trouble

Hi [redacted S.38(1)(b)],

If not too late for Cab Sec's box, he may wish to know that screen Scotland have made me aware that an animation company in Scotland is about to go under with the loss of a number of jobs. [redacted S.33(1)(b)].

Screen Scotland didn't name the company but from a web search I think it may be Axis Studios in Glasgow [Axis Studios | Home \(axisstudiosgroup.com\)](https://www.axisstudiosgroup.com) I will confirm/ update as more info becomes available.

Screen Scotland are preparing reactive lines and we will work with comms on SG lines when the story breaks.

Thanks,

Lisa

Lisa Baird

Deputy Director Culture and Historic Environment
Scottish Government

Phone: [redacted S.38(1)(b)]

I am currently working hybrid: email, teams or call