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Dear Craig,

## **US Film Tariff**

Thank you for your letter to the First Minister and deputy First Minister dated 24 June in respect of the US Administration's 4 May announcement of 100% tariffs on "foreign" films. The Ministers have noted the issues you have raised and asked me to respond.

Ministers recognise that Northern Ireland has become a major hub for US film and TV productions and is globally recognised as a highly desirable filming location, attracting major film and television series due to our skilled people and diverse landscapes. Ministers share your concerns about the potential impact on our local economy of any tariffs that might be introduced by the US administration on all films produced outside of the US.

Following the initial announcement by the US Administration in May, Ministers met with the UK Secretary of State for Business and Trade to explain their concerns on the impact on our local film industry, and economy in general, and ask that their concerns are fully considered in their negotiations with the US.

At present there is no clarity or detail on the criteria and parameters of how this tariff, if implemented, will be determined, or timeframe for its introduction.

At an official level we continue to engage on this matter with UK Government officials, and the Economy Minster has established the Tariff Working Group to develop intelligence on the potential impacts of the tariffs for our economy.

Ministers will be revisiting their position once more clarity emerges.

Yours sincerely

LYNSEY MOORE DIRECTOR, EUROPE STRATEGY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS