

**From the Office of the Minister
DR CAOIMHE ARCHIBALD MLA**

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Craig a chara

US Film Tariff

Thank you for your letter dated 24 June 2025 regarding the proposal by US President Trump to initiate a 100% tariff on all films produced outside of the United States. I appreciate the City Growth and Regeneration Committee's proactive engagement on this issue.

I have been very clear from the outset that the imposition of tariffs creates significant uncertainty for our economy. Ultimately, tariffs are bad for business and the volatility that has ensued from the US tariff policy has been unhelpful.

At present, you may be aware that the US administration has placed a 90 day pause on the imposition of further tariffs, subject to negotiations with other countries. On the 8 May, the British Government announced the Economic Prosperity Deal with the US, covering a variety of sectors including steel and automotives. The film sector was not covered in this deal, but negotiations continue on the potential for further tariff reductions.

Since the original tariff announcement, I have been proactive in this space, appointing a number of industry representatives as part of a Tariff Working Group which reports to me on emerging tariff issues and potential mitigations. In addition, I have had good engagement with both the Irish and British Governments on the matter of tariffs and I continue to highlight the specific needs of our unique trading position in the North here and our integrated all island supply chains.

Despite these challenges, it is important to highlight the continued strength and resilience of our screen sector.

- Creative industries contributed £1.6bn to the local economy in 2022

- The sector employs over 39,000 people, with a growing skills pipeline supported by NI Screen's training initiatives.
- Our reputation as a world-class filming destination has attracted blockbuster films such as How to Train your Dragon.
- The recent opening of the world leading Studio Ulster has the potential to take the industry to the next level by capitalising on the enormous potential of virtual production.

It is an exciting and thriving sector which is critical to delivery of my economic vision. I assure you we are continuing to monitor developments closely and are working with NI Screen, Invest NI, and other stakeholders to ensure that our interests are robustly represented.

Thank you again for raising this important issue.

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A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'C Archibald', written in a cursive style.

DR CAOIMHE ARCHIBALD MLA
Minister for the Economy