



Department for  
Digital, Culture,  
Media & Sport

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Dear Theresa,

Thank you for your correspondence of 23 December regarding live events insurance and the additional evidence that was provided by the film and TV industry in order to put in place the Restart Scheme. Please accept my apologies for the delay in replying to you.

The key elements to the successful lobbying of the Restart Scheme were:

- Clear evidence of market failure around insurance coverage
- Evidence that an indemnity scheme was the last barrier to the resumption of economic activity
- International precedence
- Effective lobbying from industry

Following the first lockdown, the film and TV industry worked to put in place rigorous and safe working protocols and industry guidance and secured quarantine exemptions to allow productions to operate. The lack of available insurance was the last remaining hurdle to productions restarting. The industry did rapid work to collate and provide evidence of projected spend and jobs that would be supported by the scheme.

Understandably, the bar for considering government intervention is set extremely high, especially in light of recent announcements including the considerable extension to the furlough scheme and local business support.

The evidence of market failure specific to the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport sectors must be clearly demonstrated and robust evidence must be provided that insurance is the only barrier to staging events.

The government would also want to be sure that any investment or intervention would lead to an increase in activity. At the moment, for example, clearly social distancing will remain a key barrier to activity for some time in certain sectors.

We are keeping the situation under review and working closely with Her Majesty's Treasury on this issue to determine the appropriate and most effective response for the sector within the public health context.

With best wishes,

Caroline Dinenage MP  
**Minister of State for Digital and Culture**

