

Interim Chair's Statement

Dawn Airey

Channel 4 was established with a clear mission: **to be a catalyst for change.**

Today, as social cohesion feels increasingly under strain, our founding purpose has never mattered more. For viewers to know and trust the provenance of information is critical – **now more than ever.**

“I have absolute confidence in Channel 4’s ability to adapt, innovate and thrive – embracing new digital opportunities without losing sight of our founding public purpose.”

In the rapidly shifting media landscape, Channel 4 is continually adapting – embracing new platforms and technologies while staying true to its core mission: to deliver independent, high-quality, and distinctive content.

The Fast Forward strategy launched by Alex and her team last year, to transform Channel 4 into a public service streamer, will ensure that Channel 4 continues to be a trusted leader of national debate, connecting communities and inspiring conversations across the country.

We take our special duty to our audiences – particularly to younger generations – very seriously, ensuring that viewers have access to credible, trustworthy news and information on all the platforms they use.

Championing UK creative industries

Channel 4 was founded explicitly to fund and fuel the UK’s creative industries, and that founding purpose matters more now than ever. Ensuring that Channel 4 continues to take creative risks, nurture new talent, and champion diverse voices is critical – not just to our success, but to our society as a whole.

In 2024, Channel 4 delivered programmes that authentically reflected and challenged contemporary Britain. This report’s Statement of Media Content Policy and metrics highlight how Channel 4 successfully delivered its remit across the year.

Our deep commitment to nurturing new talent and championing diverse voices remains essential – not just to Channel 4, but to the vibrancy of the UK’s creative ecosystem.

Thank you to the team

The Board warmly thanks Channel 4’s dedicated and talented employees. Their creativity, passion and hard work have driven the organisation’s success through yet another challenging year.

We also thank Alex Mahon for her exceptional leadership and immense contribution over the past eight years. As Channel 4’s first female CEO, Alex steered the organisation through transformative times with unwavering vision, resilience, and creativity.



Under her guidance, Channel 4 has secured its public ownership, kickstarted its transformation into a digital-first public service streamer, and significantly expanded its cultural and creative impact across the UK. She leaves Channel 4 in robust health, and carries with her our profound gratitude and best wishes.

I could not be more pleased that Jonathan Allan, Channel 4’s Chief Operating Officer, will serve as interim CEO while the Board undertakes a comprehensive recruitment process over the coming months to ensure continued outstanding leadership into the future.

Finally, I want to pay tribute to Sir Ian Cheshire for his stewardship as Chair over the last three years, guiding Channel 4 through a period of significant change and ensuring the organisation is well positioned for future success.

Looking forward with confidence

I have absolute confidence in Channel 4’s ability to adapt, innovate and thrive – embracing new digital opportunities without losing sight of our founding public purpose.

The Fast Forward strategy will ensure Channel 4 continues to contribute meaningfully to UK culture, society and the creative industries. This year’s performance confirms that the organisation remains financially robust and sustainable for the long term, positioning it well to confidently deliver its public service remit. The Board is fully committed to protecting this vital public service mission.

Thank you to our creative partners, viewers, advertisers and stakeholders for your ongoing support of Channel 4’s unique mission and contribution to the UK’s vibrant media landscape.