

HQ, 58 Nicholas Street
Chester
CH1 2NP

11th May 2018

Dear Channel 4

Crossing Borders a bid for Channel 4

Croeso - we welcome the opportunity to pitch to become Channel 4's new National HQ. We have developed a unique cross-border bid that pushes the boundaries and reflects the diversity of our area. We propose that the new National HQ would be located in Chester, ideally placed to draw on the significant benefits of being in close proximity to production companies in surrounding areas, including North Wales, Liverpool and Manchester.

We are the perfect location for Channel 4 with a thriving creative scene, and are recognised as one of the fastest growing creative clusters in the UK. We are the on-screen home of Hollyoaks and the hugely popular Secret Life of the Zoo, and we have extensive links with television production companies on our doorstep and throughout the region.

We have an unrivalled quality of life, an excellent and diverse cultural offer and excellent connectivity to London, which can be reached in just 2 hours. There is a wealth of future talent being trained and inspired in our schools, colleges and universities. We have developed outreach programmes to engage all our communities in the arts and cultural industries. These include Chester based Fallen Angels Dance Theatre, Vic Studio, and Action Transport Theatre where culture has played a significant role in inspiring change.

Our area is hugely diverse and covers two nations; investment from Channel 4 would provide a catalyst for growing the creative sector developing innovation and inspiring change for the benefit of the wider region. Our partnership would play a vital role in supporting the creative industries and enhancing the opportunities for local talent.

We have a range of state of the art offices ready for occupancy in 2019 and invite Channel 4 to continue to confound, surprise and innovate by not doing the obvious thing and by breaking the mould and moving to a dynamic, forward looking region.

Diolch yn fawr, Thank you



Cllr Samantha Dixon
Leader, Cheshire West & Chester Council



Chris Matheson
MP for City of Chester



Mark Pritchard
Leader of Wrexham County Borough Council



Ian Lucas
MP for Wrexham