



**Aberdeen &
Grampian
Chamber of
Commerce**

The Rt Hon John Swinney MSP
First Minister of Scotland
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Dear First Minister,

I am writing on behalf of Aberdeen & Grampian Chamber of Commerce to express our profound concern at STV's recent decision to cut its dedicated North news output in favour of a single pan-Scotland programme.

This decision represents a significant erosion of regional representation within Scotland's media.

The North-east of Scotland plays a vital role in the economic and social fabric of the country. From energy transition to food and drink exports, from innovation in technology to the resilience of our local communities, the issues that matter here are of national significance. They must not be marginalised by a shift towards centralised, homogenised news coverage.

The Chamber, representing over 1,300 businesses and 125,000 employees across Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire, believes this decision undermines the principle of fair and proportionate coverage for all parts of Scotland.

It risks leaving our region without the platform it needs to contribute to Scotland's democratic debate at a time when the stakes for our economy and communities could not be higher.

We urge the Scottish Government to engage urgently with STV and Ofcom to ensure that this decision is reconsidered. At a minimum, we ask for reassurances that the interests of North-east audiences will be protected, and that their voices will continue to be heard.

Thank you for your urgent attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely

Russell Borthwick
Chief Executive



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