




**North
East
Screen**

In partnership with  **NESIP**

REACH

NORTH EAST SCREEN: FILM & TV DEVELOPMENT GRANT AWARDS

WHAT IS REACH?

REACH Film and TV Development Grant Awards are designed to fund the development phase of exceptional film & television projects and support the growth of eligible SME creative businesses based in the North East region.

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

- We are looking for distinctive and high-quality projects that may be creatively and / or commercially driven. We are looking to balance projects likely to make a cultural impact with those with strong economic potential.
- Projects should have a clearly defined audience and viable route to production. The intention of REACH is to fund the development phase of projects so that they can become “investment ready” and leverage further finance or partnerships from the wider marketplace.
- The project does not need to be set in the North East but the proposal should support the creative and professional development of SMEs including writers, directors, producers, craft and technical talent based in the North East region.
- North East Screen wishes to secure genuine equality of opportunity and we are particularly interested to receive projects which offer significant opportunities to people currently under-represented in the sector. These might include women; people with a disability; BAME; people from the LGBTQ community; and those from disadvantaged backgrounds.



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AM I ELIGIBLE?

Eligible applicants must have a North East base, be over 18 years old and be eligible to access SME support.

An SME is defined as a small or medium-sized enterprise OR an unincorporated business such as a sole trader or partnership with an annual turnover not exceeding €50m. Undergraduate students are not eligible to apply.

The lead applicant and beneficiary must be based in the NTCA or STCA area (Newcastle, North Tyneside, Northumberland, County Durham, Gateshead, South Tyneside, Sunderland).

If you're unsure about whether you're eligible for SME support you can have a chat with us to discuss.

WHAT CAN I APPLY FOR?


- Payments to option the rights to adapt pre-existing creative work or intellectual property
- Development of a treatment or outline
- Writer fees
- Director's services during project development
- Producer fees and overheads
- Appointment of an executive producer or consultant
- Legal costs
- Script editor fees
- Contribution towards casting and script workshops
- Budgeting and scheduling
- Location recces
- A pilot film or 'teaser' (subject to discussion with North East Screen)

The following elements are not eligible for REACH support:

- Capital purchase of equipment or building work
- Corporate commercial products (advertising and training videos)
- Fundraising or live events
- Party political projects or proposals that promote or denigrate specific religions or cultures



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HOW DOES THE FUNDING WORK?

North East Screen's REACH scheme is funded by the North East Screen Industries Partnership (NESIP).

Match Funding

REACH is match funding, therefore 50% of your total project budget must be pledged or in place at the time of application. This may come from yourself or from other organisations in the public or private sector.

Contributions in kind are not eligible as match funding, therefore grant recipients may not use their own time as match.

We are not able to support projects that have already taken place before the application date.

Disbursement

REACH funds will be paid at the end of your project as reimbursement of eligible costs upon proof of defrayal of the agreed expenditure.

This includes copies of all invoices and receipts and copies of all relevant credit card and bank statements showing the amount has been paid out. No cash transactions will be eligible, even if a receipt is received, this is to ensure that there is a clear defrayal process.

Consequently, all agreed expenditure must be paid through a bank account or credit card.

Expenditure by credit card can only be regarded as eligible if you are able to provide a copy of your bank statement showing full payment of the credit card statement balance.

Ineligible expenditure includes any costs prior to the specified project start date and subsequent to the end date.

How much can I apply for?

Applicants can apply for a minimum grant of £1,000. There is no maximum amount, higher awards will be considered for exceptional eligible projects, however awards of between £1,000 - £5,000 are likely to be granted.

Timeline

Eligible costs should be spent and claimed within 6 months of a successful application.

However, proposals will be assessed on a case-by-case basis if the nature of the project requires a longer development period.



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Procurement Process

As a condition of the funding, proof of procurement should include a minimum of 3 x written quotations for each element of project cost, along with the rationale for choice of provider to demonstrate value for money.

Further guidance on all the above is available through North East Screen.

HOW CAN I MAKE AN APPLICATION?

Before making an application, you must attend or watch the REACH webinar (scheduled for / available on website before June 30th). If you have any queries regarding your eligibility please email Reach@northeastscreen.org to confirm eligibility and suitability. Eligibility is a condition of the application and you may not be approved to apply.

Application forms can be downloaded from our website. Please make sure to include all requested documents.

North East Screen will assess your application with an external panel and make a decision to approve or decline funding. You will receive a decision within 4 weeks of the submission deadline as long as all the necessary supporting paperwork has been received. You will receive an acknowledgement email to confirm receipt of your application. If we need more information, we will contact you. If your application is ineligible, we will return it to you with the reason for its return.

Successful applicants - If you are successful, you will receive notification via email followed by a conditions letter with an acceptance form that must be signed and returned before you will receive any funding. The conditions attached to our agreement may be milestones, which you should reach in order to trigger the next payment stage. All awards are subject to terms and conditions.

Unsuccessful applicants - If your application is unsuccessful you will receive notification by email with feedback on the process. Occasionally we may have to defer our decision until a later date, if for example we feel that further information about a project is required before a decision is possible. We aim to offer tailored ongoing support to all applicants, whether this is referrals to other appropriate funds or recommendations for future funding rounds.



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WHAT ARE THE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA?

QUALITY - Is the project you are developing original, able to inspire, engage or entertain an audience? Does the project have suitable level of expertise and experience within the partners and collaborators to reach the next stage? Does the project stand out when compared to its competitors and is the project powerfully and professionally presented?

VIABILITY - Is the activity scheduled and well planned? Does the project have significant potential to access further funding and/or find a market or buyer? Does the project represent value for money, is the budget level appropriate and have you provided appropriate levels of match funding?

DEVELOPMENT - Does the project represent progress and will it result in you/your company being better equipped to develop or deliver projects? Will the project result in a wider set of collaborators or contacts for the company or individual? Is the proposal likely to result in a viable and professional production that will create or safeguard jobs for the region (a job can be counted as safeguarded if it would have been lost or at risk if the investment had not occurred)?

You may also like to consider the objectives of the REACH scheme:


REACH Objectives

REACH Film and TV Development Grant Awards support the development phase of exceptional film and television projects and aim to fulfil the following objectives:

1. Identify and offer tailored support for SMEs specific growth needs.
2. Develop, update or introduce new business models which drive SME business performance.
3. Secure targeted guidance and support for SMEs to become investment ready.
4. Increase employment in SMEs in the region's creative industries.
5. Increase the business capability of SMEs (small and medium enterprises) in the regions creative industries.
6. Increase entrepreneurship and grow levels of enterprise activity, particularly amongst under-represented groups.
7. Develop businesses with the aim of growing turnover.
8. Enhance the skills base and build the expertise of the North East creative industry businesses and practitioners.
9. Develop a creative, connected and competitive environment.



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Data Protection / Privacy Policy - We are committed to safeguarding your privacy and operate within General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which applies in the UK and EU. Our full Privacy Policy is available on our website [Privacy Policy - North East Screen](#)

Complaints procedure - may be viewed on our website [Complaints and Appeals Policy - North East Screen](#)