



Background

Supported by funding from the North East Screen Industries Partnership, the North East Production Fund is a discretionary public funding scheme, managed and delivered by North East Screen (“NES”).

Open to both local and national companies, the fund aims to catalyse the sustainable growth of the North East’s film and TV production sector by investing in a portfolio of distinctive, high-quality projects that will collectively contribute to a number of regional economic and cultural outcomes.

Full guidelines for the fund are available to download [here](#)

Deal flow over the next 24 months is expected to be 10 – 15 investments of between £50 – 500,000 per project.

We are currently looking to appoint specialist media legal counsel to support the operation of the fund as follows:

Outline Legal Services Tender

Providing legal services and commercial advice in respect of the Fund’s scripted and unscripted film/TV production investments including but not limited to:

- Drafting the Fund’s template Offer Letter and Production Finance Agreement (“PFA”);
- Drafting and negotiating the Fund’s PFA for each investment (working to the approved template);
- Reviewing, advising and negotiating (where appropriate) on
 - chain of title,
 - other financier’s funding agreements
 - sales, distribution & collection arrangements
 - security and completion guarantee documentation (where relevant)
 - key cast and contributor agreements
 - production insurances
 - associated documents for each investment.
- Providing other advice to NES in relation to copyright, clearances, privacy, defamation, Subsidy Control etc as may be required from time to time.



The successful firm will be expected to work closely with NES' Fund Advisor, Operations Director and Finance Director, providing regular updates throughout the closing process and seeking instructions on particular points as required.

Terms:

- Initial fee for preparation of template Offer Letter and PFA documents.
- Capped fees for each production/transaction to be pre-agreed and included in the relevant production budget. To be invoiced to NES but paid as first day payments by the production.
- All fees to be less VAT and disbursements.

We are looking to receive expressions of interest for this work from media practices who can demonstrate considerable expertise across film and TV, both scripted and unscripted, of various sizes and budgets.

Submissions should include a fee structure as well as an indication, where appropriate, of how the work will typically be divided between partner, associate and paralegal to effectively manage costs.

We are also keen to understand how the successful supplier would manage any perceived/actual conflicts of interest given the relatively small size of the UK's film and TV sector.

Please send information to nepf@northeastscreen.org and closing date for tender submissions is Tuesday 19th December.