



NORTHERN FILM + MEDIA



TEES VALLEY SCREEN: FILM & TV DEVELOPMENT GRANT AWARDS

WHAT IS TEES VALLEY SCREEN?

Tees Valley Screen is a Northern Film + Media development programme aimed at supporting talent, ambition and growth across the Tees Valley screen industries.

Tees Valley Screen works to support employment opportunities, skills training and cross-artform commissions for SMEs and individuals in film, television, artist's moving image and the broader screen industries. It also works to raise the profile of the Tees Valley as a 'filming friendly' location, encouraging production companies to the region, increasing production spend and regional employment.

Tees Valley Screen is funded by the ERDF through Creative Industries Business Support and Development Programme 2014-20, which is bringing over £300m into the North East to support innovation, enterprise and business support across the region. Additional funding support for this project comes from Tees Valley Combined Authority and Arts Council England.

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 Tees Valley.

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 a 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 Teesside, but the proposal should support the creative and professional development of SMEs including writers, directors, producers, craft and technical talent based in the Tees Valley.

- Tees Valley 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 LGBTQIA+ community; and those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

AM I ELIGIBLE?

Eligible applicants must have a Tees Valley 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 Tees Valley Local Enterprise Partnership area (Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees). You can find out if your postcode is eligible [here](#).

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 Tees Valley 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

HOW DOES THE FUNDING WORK?

Tees Valley Screen's REACH scheme is funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Creative Industries Business Support and Development Programme 2014-20.

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 out as a reimbursement of eligible costs within your project upon proof of 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. 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, however awards of between £1,000 - £2,500 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.

Procurement Process

As a condition of the ERDF funding, applicants will need to carry out a 'procurement' process for each element of the cost in the form of a minimum of 3x written quotations, along with the rationale for your choice of provider in order to demonstrate value for money.

Quotes can be requested by email or in writing and can be submitted by email or in hard copy format.

Further guidance on all the above is available through Tees Valley Screen.

HOW CAN I MAKE AN APPLICATION?

REACH will run as a pilot programme. Applications for the 2020 Open Call are open until **June 1, 2020**.

Before making an application, you must schedule a **1-2-1 meeting** with Tees Valley Screen. This is a condition of application and you may not be approved to apply. Please email tvsn@northernmedia.org to schedule an appointment.

Application forms can be downloaded here:

Tees Valley Screen will assess your application with an external panel and decide whether to approve or decline funding. You will receive a decision within 4 weeks of the submission deadline providing 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.

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 below 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 ERDF 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 Tees Valley creative industry businesses and practitioners.
9. Develop a creative, connected and competitive environment.

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 upon request.

Complaints procedure - may be viewed on our website – www.northernmedia.org or we will post a copy to you on request.