

Reaching every BSL user with more BSL programmes that they love to watch

NOVEMBER 2021

28-MINUTE FACTUAL TELEVISION PROGRAMMES – DEVELOPMENT FUNDING

We want programmes which reflect the richness and diversity of BSL and Deaf culture

What is BSLBT looking for?

We want a range of non-scripted programme ideas, both singles and series, which reflect the richness and diversity of BSL and Deaf culture.

We are particularly interested in:

- ideas for singles or pairs of programmes appropriate for post-watershed broadcast (after 9pm),
- ideas which have the potential for a series; these may be commissioned as a single pilot or as a series and must be appropriate for broadcast at 8am (suitable for all ages),
- programmes which explore stories about under-represented minorities,
- stories and non-scripted genres new to BSL Zone,
- children's programmes. These can be shorter durations, but will be packaged as a 28-minute programme.

The programme ideas must:

- have contributors who use BSL, and be fully accessible to Deaf BSL users,
- be for a single 28-minute programme, pilot or series,
- reflect diversity on screen.

Who can apply for development funding?

This is aimed at

- Deaf directors,
- Deaf producers, and
- Deaf producer/directors,

who have one of these credits on at least one programme which has been broadcast on television, **and** are working with a UK-registered production company.

The company must have made at least one television programme for BSLBT or a UK broadcaster.

We will also consider co-productions between a company without the necessary track record that is working with a company which has produced a television programme. [Once a company has produced a programme for BSLBT on a co-production basis, the company would then be considered eligible to submit ideas on its own.]

What is the deadline?

- The closing date for completed applications is January 31st 2022.

What is the application process?

- Email commissioning@bslbt.co.uk to arrange a meeting to discuss your ideas or ask questions.
- You can meet to discuss your ideas from now until January 21st 2022.
- Submit the application form by midday on January 31st 2022.
- Interviews will be held during February 2022.
- Development will take place in 2022 for production in 2022 or 2023.

Please [click here](#) to see BSLBT's Privacy Notice, to find out how your personal details will be used.

What is the budget?

- The development budget will be up to £10k.
- The budget will be paid to the production company.
- If commissioned, the programme budget will be between £50-£70k.

How will we assess your proposal?

- Your proposal will be assessed by BSLBT's Commissioning team, the Commissioning Advisory Panel and the BSLBT Board.

The following questions will be asked:

- Does it feel fresh and engaging?
- Does it reflect the richness and diversity of BSL and Deaf culture?
- Does it fit with our commissioning strategy?
- Do the team attached have the skills to develop this programme?
- Does the programme fit well into a 28-minute duration?
- Could the programme realistically be made for the BSLBT production budget?

Statement

By taking part in this process, you:

- Confirm that you are Deaf, over the age of 18, live in the UK and have the right to work in the UK.
- Confirm that you are the sole and exclusive owner of the proposal and you are formally submitting it to this BSLBT November 2021 Factual Development Round.
- Understand that BSLBT may already be exploring programme proposals and/or ideas which are similar to your proposal and that, in some cases, similar or identical ideas may be generated independently.
- Agree that BSLBT may discuss your proposals with staff, Board members and the BSLBT Commissioning Advisory Panel.
- Confirm that you have read and understood the [Privacy Notice for Programme Proposal Submissions](#).
- Understand that programme ideas will be assessed and considered by BSLBT's Commissioning team, the Commissioning Advisory Panel and the Board.
- Acknowledge that BSLBT reserves the right to change the Commissioning process/timetable at any time.

FACTUAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME PROPOSAL APPLICATION FORM

Expand the boxes below as necessary

1. NAME OF PERSON/PEOPLE COMPLETING THE FORM AND CONTACT DETAILS

2. WORKING TITLE OF THE PROGRAMME

3. WHAT GENRE IS THE PROGRAMME? E.G. FACTUAL ENTERTAINMENT, OBSERVATIONAL DOCUMENTARY, HISTORY, FORMAT FOR A SERIES ETC.

4. About the producer/director

Who is the Deaf producer, director, or producer/director behind this proposal and what is their programme-making experience? Write in the box below, and also provide evidence in the form of a CV and links to showreel or programme clips. (*Name, contact details*)

5. About the company

- a. Who will the Executive Producer be? What is their relevant experience? Write in the box below, and also provide evidence in the form of a CV and links to showreel or programme clips. (*Name, contact details*)

- b. Who will the production company be and what is their television experience? Write in the box below and also provide evidence in the form of links to a showreel or programme clips. (*Company name, contact details, website*)

- c. What is the relationship between the producer/director and the production company? Is it a new relationship or have you worked together before? Have you worked on the proposal together?

6. About the programme

- a. A two-line summary of the programme

- b. A paragraph summary of the programme

- c. A one page treatment

- d. Why will our audience like this programme?

e. An indicative running order should be placed at the end of the application form.

7. About the production

a. What would you spend the programme development money on?

b. How will you ensure diversity on your development team?

c. If commissioned, what timescale do you anticipate for this programme? *(For example, the programme could be produced over a 12-24 month period, commencing in September 2022)*

d. If commissioned, would this programme sit at the £50k or £70k end of our tariff? Expand on your answer.