

## INDEPENDENT PANEL MEMBERS – AUDIO CONTENT FUND

### Background

The Audio Content Fund (ACF) is a pilot scheme supported by a grant-in-aid from the UK Government's Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport. It will provide funding for radio and audio programming that is traditionally more difficult to support on a commercial basis.

Applications for funding will come mainly from audio production companies seeking to make content for Ofcom-licensed commercial broadcasters. It is likely to cover a range of different genres but will be assessed against a set of agreed evaluation criteria including Quality, Innovation, Additionality, Nations & Regions, Diversity, New Voices, Audience Reach and Plurality.

### Role of Independent Panel Members

The Audio Content Fund is a not-for-profit company established by AudioUK and Radiocentre to distribute funding independently from Government. Awards will be made by an Independent Funding Panel of non-executive directors. It is anticipated there would be a roster of 4-5 members to allow for one or more being indisposed at any given time; it is expected there will be three funding rounds per year.

Panel members will be expected to participate in at least two of the three rounds each year, allowing time to read applications in advance, and then attend a one-day award meeting per round. Panel members will also be invited to participate in stakeholder outreach events, and an annual review/strategy meeting.

Award meetings and stakeholder events will be held in various locations across the UK, so candidates should be willing to travel. The posts are unpaid, but reasonable expenses may be claimed.

Candidates must not have connections – for example with an Ofcom-licensed broadcaster, or production company – that could give rise to potential conflicts of interest.

### Person specification

Candidates will need to demonstrate the following:

- Expertise in media or culture, with particular experience and knowledge of radio/audio production and programming, including public service content
- Understanding and appreciation of the ways in which audio consumption is changing
- Organisational skills, including the ability to handle a large volume of submissions in a timely and efficient manner, and to be able to work closely with the supporting Secretariat and with their fellow committee members
- Ability to act as a credible advocate of the ACF with key stakeholders in the sector and the ability to support the ACF's work in building effective partnerships with the audio production and broadcasting sector
- An understanding and adherence to the rules of impartiality and confidentiality regarding the nature and content of submitted bids

- Understanding of the diverse communities in the UK and a commitment to promoting diversity

Desirable:

- Experience of judging the relative merits of competing applications, the grant funding process, or of funding content production
- Knowledge of the audio production and/or broadcasting sectors in the UK nations and regions. We would welcome applications from those with indigenous minority language skills, and/or of indigenous minority language content production

### **How to apply**

Please send a CV and covering letter explaining why you are suitable for this role to [jobs@audiocontentfund.org](mailto:jobs@audiocontentfund.org)

**The closing date for applications is Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November.**