
TV DRAMA AGREEMENT - CONSULTATION PLAN



Full details of this proposed BECTU/Pact TV Drama Agreement can be seen here: www.bectu.org.uk/tv-drama-agreement

CONSULTING BECTU MEMBERS ON THIS AGREEMENT

In April and May 2017, BECTU will host a number of events that are open to all members. These will be organised at the request of any branches that want to organise a meeting and they can be held in regional cities, central London or at any workplace locations that the union is invited to.

Details of meetings that have already been scheduled can be seen on the BECTU website - here: <https://www.bectu.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/tv-drama-agreement/diary>

WHO SHOULD VOTE ON THIS AGREEMENT

BECTU is balloting its freelance membership in its two "production divisions" (see below) on this proposed agreement. The union has selected the branches that are very likely to have members who are affected by it, and - on the ballot paper - **members will be asked to vote only if they believe that they are likely to be directly affected by it.**

The **productions** that are directly affected by the agreement are **scripted single TV dramas, scripted series and serial drama** (excluding continuing drama / soaps) **produced in the UK for all TV platforms**. This includes children's drama, narrative comedy, shorts and pilots. A full list of inclusions and exclusions can be found in the Agreement.

The agreement will apply to people who work in "**shooting crew**" and their support workers (including grips, lighting etc, the "**prep and wrap departments**" (including hair, costume, locations etc), "**construction crew**", people who work in **production, post-production and other off-set workers** such as the **Art Department**.

For the avoidance of doubt, this agreement **does NOT apply to Line Producers or Production Managers, and it does NOT apply to writers, producers or directors**. BECTU will only consult its Writers Producers and Directors Branch because some of the members of that branch occasionally also work in other production roles that are directly affected by the Agreement.

LONDON PRODUCTION DIVISION CONSULTATION

BECTU will use a secret ballot to formally consult each of the following London Production Division (LPD) Branches.

- Art department
- Assistant directors holding
- Camera department
- Certified grips & crane techs
- Costume & wardrobe
- Grips and crane technicians holding
- Lighting technicians
- Locations department branch
- Media hair and makeup
- Plasterers
- Post production and facilities
- Production supervision
- Props
- Riggers
- Runners holding branch
- Sculptors branch
- Set crafts
- Sound
- Special effects
- Stagehands
- Uncertified grips & crane techs
- Writers producers and directors

LPD members who are in branches that are not included in this list, but who work in these craft areas, and who believe that they should be able to vote on this agreement will have the option to request a move into one of the branches that is being consulted before ballot forms are sent out. This can be done by emailing membership@bectu.org.uk with your membership number and an explanation of why you should be moved into a different branch. Members are urged to check which branch they are in **before noon on Tuesday 2nd May 2017**, and to act accordingly.

REGIONAL PRODUCTION DIVISION CONSULTATION

BECTU will use a secret ballot to formally consult each of the following Regional Production Division (RPD) *Freelance* Branches.

- East Anglia
- East Midlands
- North Wales
- North West
- Northern
- Northern Ireland
- Scottish Freelance
- South Wales
- South Western
- Southern Ireland
- West Midlands
- Western
- Yorks & Humberside

FORMAL BALLOT

Everyone who is a member of these branches **at noon on Tuesday 2nd May 2017** will be eligible to participate in a ballot. The ballots will go out on week commencing 8th May 2017 and the closing date will be three weeks later (**FRIDAY 26TH MAY 2017, AT NOON**). All members who have given BECTU their email address will be asked to vote online. A small minority of members have not given the union an email address and they will be balloted by post.

All members are advised strongly to check if they are receiving regular emails from BECTU, and that they are receiving a copy of Stage Screen & Radio (the union magazine). Anyone not getting these mailings may well need to correct their email / postal address with BECTU's systems. They are strongly advised to do so **before noon on Tuesday 2nd May 2017**.

The ballot will be independently managed by the Electoral Reform Society (ERS).

There will be a statement at the top of the ballot that says:

"You are only advised to vote on this ballot if you believe that the terms of a TV Drama Agreement is likely to affect you and your working life in some way."

Please vote for only one of these options:

- BECTU should sign the proposed 2017 TV Drama agreement with Pact
- The industry should continue without any agreement in place between the union and employers

If the outcome of the ballot is that a majority of votes cast are for BECTU signing the agreement, the union will do so at the earliest opportunity.

(NB this is guidance to ERS who will apply their standard questioning format on the ballot paper.)

Paul Evans - Assistant National Secretary, 13th April 2017