



TV Drama Agreement negotiations
Frequently Asked Questions
July 2022

1. How are the negotiations between Pact and Bectu carried out?

Negotiations take place face-to-face between Pact Heads of Production and Bectu branch representatives. Correspondence is exchanged between officials from Pact and Bectu between meetings.

2. What is Pact?

Pact is the UK Screen sector trade body representing and supporting independent production and distribution companies. Most UK independent production companies are members of Pact.

3. How do I find out if the production company I am being offered work with is a Pact member?

You can check on the Pact website: [Find a member | PACT](#)

4. What are Bectu's issues with the proposal from Pact?

You can download a document which [explains our position here](#).

5. What happens on September 1st if agreement is not reached?

If agreement is not reached before September the TV Drama agreement between Pact and Bectu will cease and you will need to negotiate your terms on a job by job basis. Bectu branches are issuing recommended terms for after 1st September if no agreement is reached.

6. My job started before September 1st should I hand in my notice and renegotiate after September 1st?

No, you should continue on the terms you agreed to prior to 1st September.

7. What are Bectu's aims and priorities for negotiations?

Bectu's primary aims are to reduce working hours and improve work life balance for our members. Financial penalties are an effective way to reduce excessive hours and ensure productions schedule responsibly.

8. Are we going on strike?

No, we are not suggesting members go on strike. The union would need to complete a number of steps under trade union legislation to move toward strike action. We are suggesting that you check your contracts thoroughly before taking a job and raise any concerns with production, your branch committees and the union. Branches are in the process of sending out guidance in the event the agreement ceases on 1st September.

9. I am being offered terms I do not agree with. What should I do?

Contact your branch committee or full time officer for advice before you start work and/or sign your contract. If you do not have contact their details email tvdrama@bectu.org.uk

10. Will negotiations continue if the offer from Pact is rejected?

Bectu are in dialogue with Pact and this will continue after the ballot result is announced. Bectu values having an agreement and is committed to finding a resolution.

11. What happens if the offer from Pact is accepted by the ballot?

The new terms will be written into the agreement and come in on the 1st September.

12. Are the budget bands in the offer letter agreed with Bectu?

No, we have not agreed to the proposal on bands, but we do welcome a discussion on a new band 4.

13. Are the streamers involved in negotiations?

Most streamers are not members of Pact and technically do not come under the agreement, although they do use the agreements. Many work with companies who are members of Pact. Both Bectu and Pact are discussing the negotiations with the streaming companies.

14. How do I know what budget band the job I have been offered is?

Bectu believe budget information should transparent and readily available to the union and crew. We will be raising this with Pact during ongoing discussion.

15. I have received a letter from a production company about the offer and I want to respond. What should I write?

You can [find a template letter here](#)

16. I want to get more involved, who do I speak to?

Please email tvdrama@bectu.org.uk and you will be put in touch with your branch committee or full time officer.

The stronger the union the louder your voice, ask your colleagues to [Join | Bectu](#)

Add promo code 'TVDrama22' to the job role field and the new member will pay £7.50 per month for the 1st year. This will be applied once your application has been manually processed by the membership team