



Quick read

This plan builds on our previous strategy, Film Forever, and is shaped by all that we have heard during our UK-wide consultation. It focuses on the future, rises to embrace and support the fast-evolving technological creative arena and the new post-referendum opportunities and challenges.

We focus on the future of this great art form and our plan is arranged in three sections: Future Talent, Future Learning and Skills and Future Audiences.

The strategy is underpinned by a wider interpretation of film to embrace new forms; a sustained commitment to diversity; and a series of new initiatives devolving more decision-making and funding to create more opportunity across the English regions and the Nations.

We are keenly aware that our contribution is a relatively modest part of the overall landscape. Our role is one of enabler, investing where we can most make a difference and where we can be a supportive catalyst for change. We will always choose to do this in partnership.

Here are our headline initiatives:

FUTURE TALENT

We will:

- **For the first time, support work across different platforms and lengths** to encourage creative filmmaking that expands the possibilities of storytelling and form
- **By 2022, devolve 25 per cent of all BFI production funding to decision-makers based outside London**
- **Launch a new model for fast funding to fully finance low-budget and debut films**, with greater support for distributors to build audiences for early careers and risky work

- Create a clearer progression path and gateways to accessing support for ambitious emerging filmmakers, including **regional BFI NETWORK talent executives based in key cultural venues within the BFI Film Audience Network in England.**

- **Pilot a new £10 million Enterprise Fund** providing repayable working capital for innovative projects in smaller companies working across the screen industries

FUTURE LEARNING AND SKILLS

We will:

- **Commit to a major new ten-year skills strategy with Creative Skillset** to deliver a clearly signposted, industry-backed and adequately funded professional skills framework. To future-proof continued growth in the UK's flourishing film sector, the strategy will focus on **creating new opportunities for thousands of individuals from all backgrounds from across the UK**

- **Commit to working with all producers active in the UK to create the right conditions so that every production in the UK can voluntarily adopt the BFI Diversity Standards**

- **Develop a well-evidenced manifesto for film in the classroom, in partnership with Into Film,** demonstrating the **educational and cultural importance of the art of film** and its role in inspiring the next generation of a creative workforce

- **Ensure that the BFI's board and senior decision-making teams are representative of the UK population**

FUTURE AUDIENCES

We will:

- **Grow the engagement of 16-30 year olds with British independent and specialised film across all BFI activities by 2022,** ensuring audience-facing activity prioritises and encourages this demographic, who are making the decisions that will inform their film tastes for a lifetime

- **Work with key partners to lead a major initiative to preserve and digitise an estimated 100,000 of our most at-risk, British TV programmes** (including early children's programming, little-seen dramas, regional programmes, the beginnings of breakfast television) currently held on obsolete video formats and in danger of being lost if not digitised within a five-to-six-year window

- **Present major cultural programmes including:**

A year-long focus on India in 2017

An ongoing exploration of British film, looking particularly at Britishness through the experience of dual heritage filmmakers and audiences, for example **Black British and British Asian**

Year-round programming celebrating the representation of women, including a season spotlighting the work of trail-blazing women writers and directors, including Kathryn Bigelow, and a focus on 'girlfriends', looking at the dynamics of female friendships on screen

- **Create new 35mm film prints of 100 of the great classics of British and international cinema,** bringing the films to cinema audiences on big screens as the filmmakers intended

- **Launch in 2017 the largest public searchable, interactive database dedicated to British feature films released in the UK.** This includes over 100 years of data on the nearly 10,000 film titles (growing weekly) released, complete with gender data. In the strategy period we will work towards a **dataset relating to ethnic diversity in UK film**

INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP FOR UK FILM

We will:

- **Increase the International Fund** to lead a refreshed and strengthened **International Strategy in partnership with the British Film Commission and the Department for International Trade,** informed by research and business intelligence, to navigate the challenges and seize the global opportunities for UK film post EU referendum