

Submission from Screen Facilities Scotland

Further to the above committee meeting in January 2015, Screen Facilities Scotland makes the following submission to the follow-up EET Committee meeting:

- The first key recommendations from the EET Committee report, published 31st March 2015, focused upon the decisions required for “the development of a film and TV studio as soon as possible”. SFS supports these recommendations, indeed a new studio in Scotland could become a nucleus for Scottish facilities and service companies. Our member companies are concerned, however, that another year has passed with no clear decisions reached. We are particularly interested in the status of the Pentland Studio proposal and the reasons for the on-going delays this project has encountered. We would like to understand more clearly what studio plans/projects are being considered concurrently.
- SFS was encouraged by the Production Growth Fund (PGF) established in October 2015, and would like to know if practical support from this fund has yet been applied. If so, when might it be established how effective this has been in encouraging producers to use local crew and facilities. We appreciate entirely that this support is very new as an offering.
- SFS represents diverse screen businesses and has found when approaching development agencies for advice and support that there can be an issue with the hybrid-nature of our industry and our categorisation between cultural and commercial. SFS continues to liaise with affiliate member Creative Scotland and also Scottish Enterprise, and Scottish Development International to achieve its aims and ambitions and is hopeful that support from these public bodies for SFS in 2016 will be “joined up”.
- SFS is represented within the Screen Sector Leadership Group.

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