

LOCAL NEWS PARTNERSHIPS



Criteria:

These criteria are designed to set a fair and non-discriminatory approach to the selection of partners and avoid conferring an unfair advantage on a particular partner or class of partners which could distort the market.

All potential partners must demonstrate quality and a previous track record of public service journalism, and meet the editorial criteria set out in Part 1.

To be eligible to bid for the Supplier Contracts to employ a Local Democracy Reporter or Local Democracy Reporters, approved Partners must additionally meet the additional criteria set out in Part 2.

1) Demonstrate quality and a previous track record of public service journalism

- A consistent level of contemporaneous coverage of all aspects of public institutions, organisations and civic life, including councils and public bodies.
- Meets and maintains high journalistic standards with reference to both the BBC's Editorial Guidelines and the Editors' Code of Practice. This can be evidenced by having journalists subject to oversight by a recognised regulator such as Ipso and/or by producing a demonstrable track record of quality material.
- Must be able to demonstrate a robust method for handling complaints.

2) Additional requirements for employing Local Democracy Reporters:

- The ability to deliver content in multi-media format, including text, images, video and audio.
- Must already employ one or more journalists and has, or can acquire:
 - Ability to handle payroll, overheads, holiday cover, sick leave, etc
 - Ability to ensure submitted material has been checked by another trained journalist
 - Capacity to manage performance
 - Provide support and exercise a duty of care
 - A commitment to diversity.