

# Connect and Flourish

**Money to support people and organisations to work together on new arts projects**



This document was written by the **Arts Council of Wales**. It is an easy read version of '**Connect and Flourish: A National Lottery Arts Funding Programme**'.

**February 2021**

# How to use this document



This is an easy read version. The words and their meaning are easy to read and understand.



You may need support to read and understand this document. Ask someone you know to help you.



Where the document says **we**, this means the **Arts Council of Wales**. For more information contact:

**E-mail:** [grants@arts.wales](mailto:grants@arts.wales)

**Phone:** 03301 242733

**Website:** [www.arts.wales](http://www.arts.wales)



If you need support with this document or help applying, please contact:

**E-mail:** [grants@arts.wales](mailto:grants@arts.wales)



This document was made into easy read by **Easy Read Wales** using **Photosymbols**.

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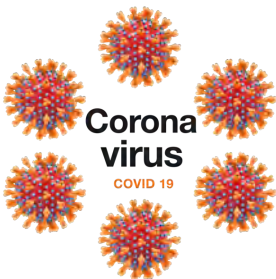
# Introduction



**Connect and Flourish** is the name of a new National Lottery Arts Funding Programme.



This fund will support people to work with organisations on new and exciting arts projects.



Coronavirus has had a big impact on us all. And it has had a serious impact on the arts sector.



Many galleries and arts venues have had to close. And lots of **freelancers** are without work.



**Freelancers** are people who work for themselves. **Freelancers** in the arts are people like makers, performers, composers, directors and designers.



We need to work together to strengthen the arts sector again. And we need to use this opportunity to find new ways of working.

# About Connect and Flourish

We want **Connect and Flourish** to:

- help artists and creative professionals work with partner arts organisations
- to find new ways of working to help the arts keep going after coronavirus.



There is £2.5 million available for this round of funding. This money has come from the National Lottery. A lot of people will probably apply.



There was 1 round of funding in 2020, and a second opening on 17 February 2021. There will be more rounds in 2021 and 2022.

We want you to think differently about how you make and deliver your work. And we know this takes time and energy.



We know Covid has affected the Arts sector a lot. Projects need to think about working in new ways.



You can apply for money to help you do this properly. When you are ready you can apply again for money to deliver your project.



It is important to us to fund projects that help make sure Wales is a fair and equal place to live.



We want projects that will reach people who do not usually get involved in the arts. Especially:

- deaf people
- disabled people
- black people and non-black people of colour
- Welsh speakers.
- Your project should show how they are relevant to these groups of people. And how they can get involved.



# The cultural contract



If you get support from this fund you will need to sign up to the Welsh Governments' **Cultural Contract**.



The **cultural contract** means you will think about how to improve people's lives through your work.

We want to see you include things in your plans like:



- fair pay



- having lots of different types of people on your staff team



- looking after our environment.

# Who can apply?



This fund is for organisations and individuals who are working together.



An organisation needs to do the application. And they will manage the money your project gets.



Individuals can lead the work of the project, but you must have an organisation as the host.



You can apply if you already have another National Lottery grant.



You can apply if you are a member of the Arts Portfolio Wales.



Your partnership could include non-arts organisations. But artists and creative professionals should be fully involved too.



# Your organisation

Your organisation must:



- be based in Wales or another UK country.
- It is possible for the organisation to be based outside the UK if it is clear Wales will benefit from the project.



- be set up and run properly



- have a bank account in your organisation's name with at least 2 people named as **signatories**. This means at least 2 people can make payments out of the account.



- Have an **Equal Opportunities Policy** that is up to date and follows the law.



- Not owe money to the Arts Council, or have any other tasks to complete from not completed projects.



If your project works with:

- children or young people



- or adults at risk from harm



you must also have a **Safeguarding** or **Child Protection Policy**. This must be up to date and follow the law.



We need to make sure that your organisation is set up and run properly.



We will need to see certain **governing documents** **if we have not seen them already** to make sure of this. These can be added to your online application account.



You can apply if your organisation is based in Wales and is set up as 1 of the following types of organisation:

- a **Company Limited by Guarantee**
- a **Registered Charity** (including charitable trusts)
- a **Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)**
- a **Community Interest Company (CIC)**
- a **Company Limited by Shares**
- an **Unincorporated Association**
- a **Partnership**, including a **Limited Liability Partnership**
- a local authority, university or other public organisation.

# Your project

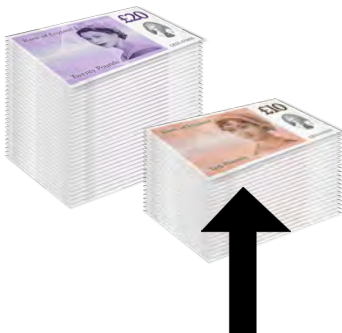
Your project must:



- Take place mainly in Wales.
- Be something extra to your usual work.



- Have a clear start and end date.



- Have other funding. We cannot cover the costs for the whole project.



We want to see projects that will make a difference.  
How you do it is up to you.

We are most keen to see projects that:



- Work together with audiences to find new ideas and help new voices to be heard.



- Have lots of creative partners working together to find new ways of working.



- Encourage learning and sharing skills.



- Create new opportunities for people in the arts.



- Have really clear ideas about what they want to achieve.

# How much can you apply for?



You can apply for between **£500** and **£150 thousand**. But please think about how much you need.



Your project can be delivered over 2 years. Or longer if you need it.



You can apply for a project that is ready to start. Or you can apply for money to help you start a partnership and make a plan, until you are ready to apply for money to run your project.



We cannot fund the total cost of your project. We can fund most of it – 90%. The rest of the money must come from somewhere different to the Arts Council and the National Lottery.



The rest of the money could be 'in-kind' funding. In-kind funding is resources or support that is worth money. But you do not have to pay cash for it. For example, volunteer time.



# Access support costs



We want everyone to be able to take part in this work. We can support people with additional needs in 3 ways:

## 1. Applying for funding



If you have additional needs we can support you to make an application. Contact our **grants team** to talk about this:



**E-mail:** [grants@arts.wales](mailto:grants@arts.wales)

**Phone:** 03301 242733 (choose option 1, and then option 1 again.)

## 2. Running your project



We can support you with things like support workers, specialist equipment and interpreters.



The costs of these things are not included in your project costs. We will give you extra money to cover these.

### 3. Your audience and participants



We can support you to make your activity more accessible for deaf and disabled people.



We have a guide with ideas for how to involve everyone in your work. You can read it here:

<https://arts.wales/sites/default/files/2019-10/Making%20your%20work%20accessible.pdf>



You may also be able to get help from the Government's **Access to Work** scheme.



**Access to Work** can support you if you have a condition that makes it hard for you to do your job.



To find out more go to:

[www.gov.uk/access-to-work](http://www.gov.uk/access-to-work)



### We cannot pay for:

- Non-arts activities
- Accounting, audits and legal or bank fees
- Ongoing running costs like rent, and gas and electric
- Someone to help you with your application
- Fundraising activities
- Things like prizes, gifts and fireworks for events
- Any activity that has already started. Or costs that you have paid or agreed to pay before we make our decision
- Projects where tickets are already on sale
- Further education courses, or any kind of lessons or training
- School projects during term time.

We usually do **not** pay for food and drink. But if this is an important part of your activity, we may be able to support the cost of food and drink.

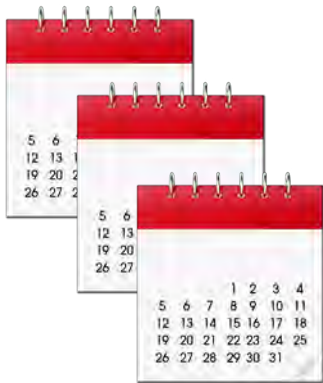


# How to apply

## Important dates



You must send us your application for the next round of funding by **5pm on 17th March. There will be more rounds this year and next year.**



We cannot fund projects that have already started. Please allow 12 weeks after the deadline date to start your project. This is the time we need to sort out all the applications and get back to everyone.

## What you need to do



1. Fill out the online form here: <https://arts.wales/connect-and-flourish>. If you have any problems with this, please e-mail us at: [grants@arts.wales](mailto:grants@arts.wales).



2. When we get your application we will e-mail you to let you know we have it.



3. We will read the information you have given us. We might need to ask you for more information to make sure you are able to apply to this fund.



4. We will check how much money you need and what you need it for. We will make sure the money you ask for is fair for the work you want to do.



5. If any documents are missing we will contact you. You will have 5 working days to send us the missing documents.



6. If we decide to give you money we will send you an **Award Acceptance and Bank Details Form**. Please fill this in and send it back to us. If your application is not successful we will write to you to tell you why.



7. When we have your forms and we have checked your bank details, we will pay you some of the money. We will pay the rest of the money when you have finished your project and sent us a report.

# What information we need from you



The application form has **13 sections**. Please work through each question and answer as fully as you can.



You will need to tell us about:

- Your host organisation – including your registration number from **Companies House**, the **Charity Commission** or **Mutuals Public Register**.



- You and your partners. Including things like the people you will work with and what you want to achieve.



- How much money you need.



- We will want to know about your goals. What you want to do, why you want to do it and who it is for.





- Where your project will happen and who will be involved.



- The impact your work will have on the Welsh language.



- How you will manage your project and how long it will take.



- How your project will help us meet our aims for equality and diversity.



- How you will make sure people are paid fairly. Check with unions and support organisations for minimum rates of pay.

## Bank details

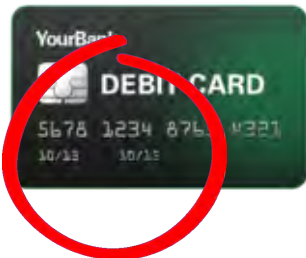


You need to give us information about your bank account. This is the account that we will pay the funding into if we decide to support you.



We need to see proof that:

- the bank account is in your organisation's name
- at least 2 people are named as **signatories**. This means at least 2 people can make payments out of the account.



- shows the sort code and account number.



The proof must be less than 2 years old. And it must be something official from the bank. For example a letter from the bank.



We cannot pay money into a building society account that has a passbook only.

# How we will make our decision

We will think about:



- What your project could achieve and how good your partnership is.



- The strength of your idea and the skills of the people involved.



- The paid opportunities your project would give to **freelancers**.



- How good your plan is for managing the project and the money.



- How your project could help us meet our aims for equality, diversity, and the Welsh language.

# What if I have a question?

You can contact us if:



- you want to check that you can apply to this fund



- you want to check your project would help us meet our aims



- you need technical help with the application



- you need more information about our funding.

You can contact us by:



**Email:** [grants@arts.wales](mailto:grants@arts.wales)

**Phone:** 03301 242733  
(choose option 1, and option 1 again).



**Website form:** [arts.wales/about-us/contact-us](http://arts.wales/about-us/contact-us)

**Twitter:** [@Arts\\_Wales](https://twitter.com/Arts_Wales)

We will get back to you as soon as we can.



If you are already sure that you can apply to this fund, but want to talk about your idea with us, contact our **Development Team**:



**E-mail:** [development@arts.wales](mailto:development@arts.wales)

**Phone:** 03301 242733  
(choose option 1, then option 4).

# How we use your information



We believe people have the right to see how we spend the money we have.



If you would like to find out more about this please go to our website:

<https://arts.wales/about-us/accountability/freedom-information>



Because we are a public organisation we have to let people see who we give money to by law.



This means some of your information may be seen by other people.



There is more information about this on the **Freedom of Information** website:

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-freedom-of-information/>





We follow a law called **GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations)**. This means personal information is not shared without your consent. Unless a law is broken.



We will share some information with outside organisations that help protect us against **fraud**. **Fraud** is when someone lies to get money.



If you want to know more about any of this, please read our **privacy policy** here: <https://arts.wales/privacy-policy>

# Complaints



If you are not happy with how we deal with your application you can make a complaint. Please go to our website:

<https://arts.wales/about-us/accountability/complaints>



You can only complain if you think we have not dealt with your application properly. You cannot complain to try and change our decision about giving you funding.