

Investment Review Part 1

Guidance for organisations



This document was written by the **Arts Council of Wales**. It is an easy read version of ‘**Investment Review 2023 Guidance for Organisations – Part 1.**’

December 2022

How to use this document



This is an easy read document. But you may still need support to read it. Ask someone you know to help you.



Words in **bold blue writing** may be hard to understand. You can check what the words in blue mean on **page 23**.



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

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This document was made into easy read by **Easy Read Wales** using **Photosymbols**. To tell us what you think about this easy read version, [click here](#).

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How we will fund organisations



We want to make the way we fund the arts fairer.



We are responsible for giving funding to arts organisations.



This money comes from:

- the Welsh Government
- and the National Lottery.



We fund organisations **and** individuals. But this document is just about organisations.



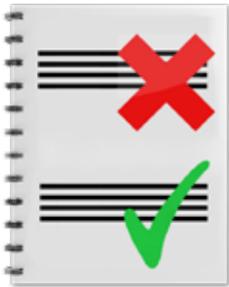
We fund the mains costs of organisations through a process called an **Investment Review**.



We will be doing the next investment review in **January 2023**.



And the funding will be given out in **April 2024**.



But we will be changing how we carry out the next **Investment Review**.



We will be looking to give funding to organisations for a number of years.



We will be giving funding to organisations whose goals match ours.



This document is about how we are changing the **Investment Review** to make it fairer.



There is another booklet to go with this called **Investment Review - part 2: Making your application**. Please read it after this booklet.

The main changes are:



- Funding will be for 3 years to start with. We will check in at year 2 and may continue the funding for longer.
- There will be a chance for new organisations to get funding for a number of years.
- We will look at what the organisation could achieve. And look at what they have achieved recently.
- Organisations will need to publish their goals and what they have achieved twice a year.
- Organisations will be able to apply for support for the costs of their organisation. Or for some part of their work like project costs.



We want to work **with** organisations as equal partners.



This Investment Review has thought about the [Well-being of Future Generations Act](#). We want to make decisions that are good for the future.



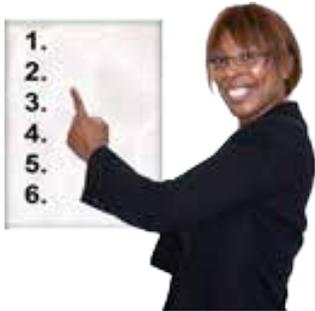
We want to work closely with Welsh Government to make sure that this money helps people in Wales.



We want everyone to be part of arts.

Our 6 principles

Our Investment Review will be based on **6 principles**.



These are like **values**. And we want organisations to show us how they meet these principles.

1. Creativity



We would like to see lots of different types of creativity in the work organisations do.



And for them to show that they have thought about their audiences.

We would like to see that organisations take risks.
But are also:



Inclusive. This means lots of people can get involved. No matter what their background is. Or what their needs are.



Ethical. This means the work they do is fair and kind. For example, to other people and the environment.



Relevant. This means it is important and appropriate to what is going on in the world and in people's lives.

2. Widening engagement



This means making sure organisations work with people who often get left out of the arts.



For example, people from **diverse** backgrounds.

Diverse means people are not all the same. For example, people come from different backgrounds. Have different needs. And make different choices about how to live their lives.



And it also means organisations make sure people and communities have a say about the arts. And can get fully involved.

3. The Welsh Language



People should be able to experience the arts in the Welsh language.



We want organisations to make sure there are chances to learn and use the Welsh language. And Welsh **culture**.



Culture means the ideas, beliefs, traditions, and behaviours shared by a group of people. It includes things like art, language events like the Eisteddfod and history.

4. Climate Justice

We are going to be using the word **climate justice** when we talk about climate and nature emergencies the planet faces. And issues about the environment.



Climate justice means finding ways to deal with the climate emergency that:

- Helps to reduce the damage we do and look after our planet.
- And also makes the world a fairer place for everyone.



This is because **climate** issues affect some people and countries much more unfairly than others.



For example, often, people from **poorer** countries are affected by **climate** change more than **richer** countries.



We would like to see arts organisations talk about **climate justice** and show how important it is.



And we want organisations to look at the effects **they** have on the planet and on **climate justice**.

5. Nurturing Talent



This means we want organisations to support **diverse** talent.



We want to see how organisations are supporting people to develop their talent and skills.

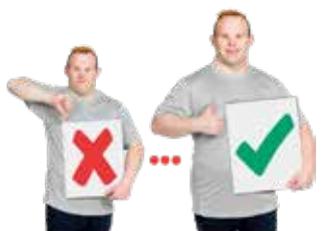


We would like to see the work they are doing to support and develop young people. And communities.



This means all working together. And treating people fairly.

6. Transformation



This means we want to work with organisations who are prepared to work differently to do things better.



They need to be strong and willing to change.



They need to be **relevant**. This means their work is important and reflects what is happening for people and in the world right now.



They should be willing to take risks.



The organisation must also be run well.

Balancing factors



When we make decisions about who to fund, we will also be looking at the needs of Wales.



We call this the **balancing factors**. We have **5 balancing factors** to think about:

1. Communities



This means our funding should be used to reach communities.



For example, some poor communities and some rural communities do not get many chances to be involved with the arts.

2. A wide range of arts and opportunities



We want to see lots of different types of art being created and enjoyed.



We want organisations to work in a different way. For example, using the arts and thinking about health. Or using the arts to work with young people.

3. Make sure voices are heard



Some groups of people have had less **access** to arts funding in the past.

Access means everyone is able to find and use something.



We want all groups of people to have fair **access** to arts funding.



We will support organisations led by and working with groups who have had less chances in the past.



For example, disabled groups. And groups who are from poorer communities.

4. Value for money



We have a responsibility to the people of Wales to make sure we fund the organisations that they want.



And to make sure they are affordable and good value.

5. The size of organisations



We will be funding organisations of all different sizes.

Making things easier for you

We want to:



- Make the **assessment** process simpler.

Assessment is a way of finding out if someone needs help and support.



- Take applications for funding in English, Welsh or British Sign Language.



- Support people to read and understand the application. There is more information about this here: **access support** - arts.wales/access-support



- Let people apply in other ways if they want to. For example, in writing or through video and audio.



- Be open and clear.



Work in the best ways. For this we have a **Code of practice**: arts.wales/about-us/accountability/code-best-practice



A **Code of Practice** gives rules and advice about the law. It helps local authorities and partners do what the law tells them to do.



We will find out what difference funding has made to organisations.

Questions about the Investment Review

Here are some common questions:

1. What funding can organisations apply for through the Investment Review?



They can apply for core funding. This means the main running costs of the organisation.

Or they can apply to fund a certain activity.

2. How long will the funding be for?



To start with, it will be for 3 years.

You may be able to get further funding. We will check how things are going in year 2 of the funding, and make a decision then.

3. Are there other chances to get funding from Arts Council?



Yes. We will still have project funding available for individuals and organisations. This might be a better option for some. You can find out more [here](#).

4. How much funding can we apply for?



We have not set out how much.

But please be aware there is a lot of demand for funding. We can't afford to fund everything.

You need to think about the main things you want to achieve.



5. Can you apply for Lottery money for my project?

Yes.



6. If you don't apply now, will you have another chance?

Yes. Every year.



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

7. Where does the funding come from?

Welsh Government and National Lottery.

ARIENNIR GAN
Y LOTERI
LOTTERY FUNDED



What will happen next

January
2023



March
2023

You can apply between midday **9 January 2023** and midday **31 March 2023**.



Talk to an officer before **3 March 2023**.

September
2023

We'll let you know if you've got funding before the end of **September 2023**.

December
2023

We'll know for certain how much funding you will have by end of **December 2023**.

April
2024

Funding will start from **1 April 2024**.

Hard words

Access

Access means everyone is able to find and use something.

Assessment

Assessment is a way of finding out if someone needs help and support.

Climate justice

Climate justice means finding ways to deal with the climate emergency that:

- Helps to reduce the damage we do and look after our planet
- And also makes the world a fairer place for everyone.

Culture

Culture means the ideas, beliefs, traditions, and behaviours shared by a group of people. It includes things like art, language events like the Eisteddfod and history.

Diverse

This means people are not all the same. For example, people come from different backgrounds. Have different needs. And make different choices about how to live their lives.