

Creative Scotland

Open Project Funding Information Sheets

Festivals

Introduction

This information sheet is to help prospective applicants to Creative Scotland's Open Project Funding programme with guidance if their application relates to a festival – outlining what you can apply for and signposting you to other places for further advice and information.

You must read the [Guide to Open Project Funding](#) and relevant [Help With Your Application](#) documents - this information sheet compliments the guidance in those documents but does not replace it.

Alternative Formats, Languages and Access Support

Creative Scotland is committed to offering clear and accessible application processes and programmes that are open to everyone. On request this information is available in alternative formats including translations. We offer access support to disabled applicants, tailored to individual requests. Support includes Sign Language Interpreters for meetings and scribing support for dyslexic applicants. Officers can offer advice to new applicants and support them to make an application. The Equalities Team can offer additional one-to-one support to applicants with access requirements. Please note we will accept applications and supporting materials which are written in English, Gaelic or Scots.

If you have any general enquiries about the application process, Guidance or Application Form, please contact our Enquiries Service:

Email: enquiries@creativescotland.com

Telephone: **0845 603 6000 (10am-12pm & 2-4pm, Mon – Fri)**

If you are a deaf BSL user, you can access our services with the Contact Scotland-BSL programme. Go to www.contactscotland-bsl.org/public for more information.

Funding for Festivals - what can you apply for?

Through the Open Project Fund you can apply for support towards the artistic and creative content of your Festival programme and associated costs such as temporary staffing, marketing, accessibility costs and management fees. Artists' fees should be budgeted at the appropriate industry rates.

In line with the wider exclusions outlined in the **Guide to Open Project Funding**, we **cannot** cover core or ongoing running costs of your organisation. The application you make must be time-limited – meaning that it relates to the delivery of your festival over a set period of time (up to 2 years) and you should outline in your application when the start and end dates of the project are.

If applying for funding for a Festival we would expect you to be able to show evidence of:

- Strong artistic quality and an imaginative approach to programming. You will need to provide an indicative programme for the festival you are applying for including named professional artists. Whilst this does not need to be confirmed at the point of application, it should give an indication of the curatorial theme of your festival.
- If the festival is nationally or internationally significant, then you should provide evidence of this. This could include visitor data, information on the economic impact of the event and details of interest from international programmers.
- Where a festival is more local, specific to a particular place or community we would expect a well-articulated case for your festival location and its value to the immediate community.
- Evidence of strong partnerships in the delivery and funding of your festival (e.g. local authority support, sponsorship, partnerships with local arts organisations etc.)
- A clearly demonstrated commitment to reaching new audiences. This can be shown in your approach to programming or by how you are marketing the festival. You should explain how you plan to reach new audiences and any access costs related to this should be clearly identified (such as audio description or BSL interpretation)

- Details of past programming and learning from the evaluation of previous festivals. If you're proposing a new festival then can you provide evidence of demand, gaps in current provision or research which demonstrates that your festival is fulfilling a need.

Further information and resources

The following links may be useful in developing your festival proposal – both in terms of practical advice on developing and running a festival, but also in providing statistical information to help you showcase the value and significance of your festival (*please note the following list is not definitive*):

ISAN Advice and Resources

www.isanuk.org/advice-resources/

ISAN aims to be an informative, well-researched and useful information point for everyone working in the Outdoor Arts sector, whether you're a seasoned outdoor pro or a newcomer to the sector. Their advice and resources section includes professional guidance on a variety of important subjects related to working outdoors.

Culture Republic Resources

www.culturerepublic.co.uk/resources/

Culture Republic provides tools, intelligence and resources to support cultural organisations to identify and understand their audiences. Whether you're looking at attendance, participation, footfall or digital engagement, they can help you see who you're reaching now; who you're missing, and where to find those elusive hard-to-reach groups.

EventScotland Resources

www.eventscotland.org/resources/

EventScotland offers funding and development support to a portfolio of sporting and cultural events across Scotland, helping to raise Scotland's international profile and boost the economy by attracting more visitors. Their resources section provides information to help you plan your event.

Tourism Intelligence Scotland (TIS)

www.tourism-intelligence.co.uk/

Tourism Intelligence Scotland provides Scottish tourism businesses with the latest insights, news, events and practical hints on how to use this intelligence to stay competitive and prosper. Their website contains [intelligence resources](#) specifically offering guidance on festivals and cultural tourism, as well as broader support on [destination development](#).

Scottish Government Tourism and Culture Statistics

www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Tourism-Culture-Sports

A selection of statistics, trends and data sources which provide more information on culture and tourism in Scotland. In addition, links to other sources of research (out with the Scottish Government) can be found [here](#).

The International Journal of Event and Festival Management

www.emeraldgrouppublishing.com/products/journals/journals.htm?id=ijefm

This academic journal advances knowledge in the field of events management and covers events management issues ranging in scope from small festivals, business and special events to mega events such as the Olympics. Articles are sourced from a wide range of perspectives and cover a broad spectrum of issues including marketing, planning and design, logistics, evaluation, strategic management and creative leadership.

Euans Guide

www.euansguide.com

Euan's Guide is a listings and review website that helps disabled people and their families know which venues are truly accessible. Euan's Guide aims to be a friendly, honest & empowering alternative to hours of web searching and phone calls and most importantly remove the 'fear of the unknown' when visiting a venue for the first time.

Attitude is Everything

www.attitudeiseverything.org.uk

Attitude is Everything improves Deaf and disabled people's access to live music by working in partnership with audiences, artists and the music industry.