

Guidance and FAQs

Before starting on your application, we recommend reading Literature Wales' Strategic Plan 2019-2022, available [here](#).

Guidance

Aims and Objectives of the Commissions:

- To provide **innovative and new** creative writing activity for people on **low incomes** supporting good mental health and well-being
- To provide opportunities for early career writers and creative audiences to **develop or learn new skills**
- To create pilot projects which can be used as good practice for future projects in other areas of Wales
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- To work in **partnership** with a local (voluntary/third sector) organisation experienced in supporting people on low incomes, such as housing associations, homeless charities etc.
- To provide **freelance writers paid work** in a time where they face economic uncertainty because of the COVID-19 Pandemic
- To **entertain** clients and audiences with exciting, entertaining, and engaging literary content
- To use digital platforms and potentially physically distanced face-to-face activity to bring creative audiences and communities together through literature

Recommended audiences to target:

- Individuals who identify with Literature Wales' Target Client Characteristics (individuals on low income, individuals from a Black, Asian or minority ethnic background, individuals with disabilities or long-term illnesses (mental and physical))

Clients of organisations that support low-income communities and individuals e.g.:

- Housing Associations
- Food Banks
- Men's Shed
- Homeless Shelters
- Women's Aid
- Gypsy Roma Travellers

Creative Content:

- We suggest that projects include delivering 4-6 creative sessions to the target group and produce a finished project at the end which can be showcased and used as a template for future development. E.g. a book, performance piece, a film
- Projects must provide creative participation activities for a low-income group
- Projects must include a literature/creative writing element, but can also include other artforms – i.e. creative writing and illustration
- Projects must be documented and evaluated. Literature Wales can help with this element.

Writers and artists based anywhere in Wales are welcome to apply. We will **keep your application on file for 24 months** and may invite writers and creative practitioners to **register an interest or provide a quote** for the delivery of specific projects during that period.

We welcome applications to run projects in both English and Welsh, and/or bilingually.

FAQs

What is the purpose of these projects?

The purpose of these projects is three-fold. Firstly, to provide paid work to freelance writers who are facing significant loss of income because of cancelled or postponed activity during this uncertain time. Secondly to address **health and well-being** challenges for people on **low income** through literature and creative writing; and entertain, inspire and educate creative audiences, early career writers and participants across Wales. Thirdly to work in partnership with an organisation and create a project template which could be upscaled and offered across Wales.

How much can I apply for?

There are 4 separate commissions available for a maximum of £2,000 each, inclusive of VAT and any expenses.

Who can apply for these commissions?

Any freelance writers based in Wales, excluding those included in the **Who isn't eligible** section below. Writers can apply for **one** commission only; however, you are welcome to submit expressions of interest individually, in pairs or as a collective.

Those who are not registered Self Employed, are not in full time education and currently have no regular income are also free to apply.

Who isn't eligible?

Writers who have received a fee from Literature Wales for work contracted to take place between March 2020 and December 2020. These fees include (but aren't limited to) the following:

- Literature Wales Writer's Bursary
- Fee for previous rounds of Writer Commissions or other Literature Wales funded projects
- Tŷ Newydd Tutor Fee (including online workshops or cancellation fee)
- Those in receipt of regular funding from Literature Wales, for instance the National Poet of Wales, Children's Laureate Wales, and Bardd Plant Cymru.

What kind of project / content is eligible?

We are looking for projects / content which will inspire and entertain individuals and communities on **low incomes** through active participation in literature. For further information about Literature Wales' Participation activity pillar, please see our [Strategic Plan 2019-2022](#).

Applications which show clear consideration for the **Aims & Objectives** and **Recommended audiences** to target in the **Guidance section** above will have the best chance of success.

What kind of project/ content isn't eligible?

- Personal projects or content, such as writing a novel/short story/essay.
- Projects or content which do not have a participatory element or are not created for an audience.
- Projects that don't have literature and/or creative writing at their core.

How are the applications assessed?

The selection panel consists of representatives from the organisations funding these commissions. The panel includes individuals from a variety of backgrounds and represent expertise in different areas of our work including communications, participation, writer development, monitoring and evaluation, representation and equality, health and well-being.

Each application is presented to the panel anonymously, who then assess each proposed project/content based on its own potential or merit. Shortlisted applicants will attend a short interview via zoom to finalise selection.

If I am not eligible for this opportunity, or my proposed content/ project doesn't fit the criteria, what other support can Literature Wales provide, or who else can I approach for funding?

Please keep an eye on Literature Wales' website for further opportunities, or get in touch: post@literaturewales.org