

## 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 July 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](mailto:post@literaturewales.org)