
EX: CHANGE PROJECTS 2023

OPEN CALL: COMMISSIONS FOR NEW WORK

Artists and creative practitioners are invited to apply for **ex:change** participatory arts projects to be delivered between July – October 2023 as part of Torbay's Cultural Development Fund (CDF2) Cultural Programme.

The **deadline for submissions is 11.59pm on Tuesday 20 June 2023**. Shortlisted applications will be notified by Friday 23 June 2023 and invited to online interviews to take place between Wednesday 28 and Friday 30 June 2023. Successful applicants will be notified by Tuesday 4 July 2023. Whilst we will do our best to provide feedback on applications submitted, due to expected interest in this opportunity, we are unable to commit to providing feedback to unsuccessful applicants.

CONTEXT: Torbay's Cultural Development Fund – Paignton Picture House (CDF2)

The Creative & Cultural Programme forms part of a substantial programme of work focused on capital improvements in Paignton. Torbay's Cultural Development - Paignton Picture House focuses on one of Europe's earliest purpose-built cinemas. It will see the successful reopening of a historic landmark site, with activity on the ground engaging local communities and visitors.

It is supported by CDF2 funding from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS), managed by Arts Council England. Match funding is in place from the Future High Streets Fund from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities, and other grant giving bodies including Historic England and Architectural Heritage Fund.

The **Summary Framework for the Creative & Cultural Programme** provides an overview of the project that you can find **here**. You may find this useful in understanding the wider context and priorities of the programme overall. **Paignton Picture House** and **Torbay Culture** websites also provide some outline information on the CDF2 project that you may find useful.

CONTEXT: About the Ex:Change Projects

These projects will provide opportunities for residents to participate in and experience new work, both with cultural venues and in spaces they access in everyday life - be they schools, social clubs, care homes, the library or local park. Projects will link together creative practitioners, cultural and community organisations to provide opportunities for specific groups - to make, explore, try something new, develop skills, forge new friendships, co-create. These activities will nurture new relationships and over time, grow new habits through positive experiences. They will help build confidence, a sense of belonging and shared purpose.

Commissioned projects will build on the strengths of participatory and co-production work in Paignton. To grow meaningful, sustainable relationships, delivery will be connected with organisations rooted in Paignton, giving projects the best chance to continue beyond the life of the programme.

Activities will provide opportunities for participants to feed into events as part of Open Season (Sept/Oct 2023) in ways that are right for them and the work they are developing: whether this is for public sharing or focusing on supporting people to engage in cultural events and activities in a new way.

COMMISSIONS: Number, Scope & Value

The value of commissions is expected to be between £2,000 and £7,000, to include VAT, fees to artists & other collaborators, recruitment, promotion, materials and travel, delivery including any support and access costs relating to community engagement, and evaluation. We are seeking to commission 4-6 projects in this round. We will take a portfolio approach to selection so that the programme encompasses projects that:

- activate empty spaces, or enhance community engagement activity of cultural venues
- support local people to participate in creative activity for the first time, or to form new 'norms' engaging in participatory arts activity for extended periods of time
- meet the needs of Paignton's under-served communities, enabling them to take part in creative activity.

Commissions can be used as partial funding where recipients are able to use it to leverage their own additional funding, provided that the project is entirely deliverable at the commissioned scale and not dependent on unconfirmed uplift funding.

ARTFORMS & APPROACH

We welcome proposals for participatory projects any artform, including and not limited to: film, sound, projection, dance, theatre, music, literature, digital media, installation, sculpture, visual arts. We invite you to shape the project based on your experience of working with communities and engaging people who may not have participated in creative projects before. Responding to the themes and priorities below, think about who you want to engage with, how and why. Please include your ideal delivery structure, for example: the length of the project, number of sessions and number of participants. Consider what kind of culmination will be appropriate for your project - whether this will be for participants only, for participants plus a small, invited audience, or for a public sharing. We intend that some projects will culminate in sharing work as part of Open Season in October 2023.

The work is intended to be delivered principally in Paignton town centre and in accessible sites. Filament will support commissioned artists - connecting them with cultural partners and venues that can act as hosts for their project, including but not limited to:

- Paignton Picture House
- Doorstep Arts
- Sound Communities
- Paignton Library
- Palace Theatre
- Vacant high street spaces & high street hosts (local businesses, coffee shops etc)
- Community halls (eg Parish Church Hall, Methodist Church Hall)
- Community organisations (eg Centrepeace, Torbay Community Development Trust, Torbay Climate Action Group)
- Social Enterprise partners (eg Local Spark Torbay)
- Schools (eg Oldway and Curledge Street Primary Schools, Paignton Academy)
- South Devon College
- Digital and virtual spaces online and in the public realm (eg bus stop signage, online exhibition)

Across a portfolio of commissions we want to:

- Enable connection & exchange, building new relationships and dialogue between individuals & groups;
- Connect past, present & future - drawing out histories and stories of people and place for wider sharing and as the stimulus for making new work;
- Build on established community interests in arts, culture and heritage in the local area, as the starting points for introducing new approaches and ideas;

- Strengthen social connections & wellbeing through opportunities to create, explore & socialise;
- Provide specific support for people who are under-served by current cultural offers, with projects designed to address barriers to engagement;
- Build a calendar of accessible, relaxed & sustainable events that bridge social and cultural participation.
- Feed into work that improves visibility of culture locally in ways that are clear, creative & welcoming.
- Amass a rich collection of locally relevant stories & dreams for the future: through oral history recording, public story-tellings, through visual, photographic, film, written, spoken word or performance.

THEMES

1. Our broad theme is **connection** and **exchange**. Your project could address this in various ways. How could it help create conversations between different cultural venues or social spaces? How might people be encouraged to share ideas and points of view? How might we all share skills and knowledge? A spirit of exchange will help build on our strengths, be curious and gather momentum for the future. This exchange reflects the natural cycles of our year, the ebb and flow of our waters, of Paignton's visitor season as people come and go.
2. Our second key theme is one of **story-telling**. At the heart of our CDF2 programme, Paignton Picture House itself is all about telling stories on film; partners all have common threads about telling stories and reflecting our heritage, our identities, and dreams for the future. Stories can emerge through literature, performance, images, movement, sounds and words. How does your project help build the story of Paignton as a place, of its communities, its past, present or future?

PROGRAMME VALUES

Commissions must align the programme values listed below. Your proposal may not address all of the values listed, but we will expect projects to show how they address at least some of the values directly and speak the tone of the programme overall. Think carefully about the values that really align with your project.

- **Grows a Sense of Belonging** (people feel welcome and invited; the work helps grow a connection between people and place)
- **Earns Trust & Confidence** (grown from genuine positive experiences, respect, quality & honesty)
- **Includes & Represents** (is open about how people engage & what inspires them; different people, identities & cultures can relate, seeing themselves in the work)
- **Aspires & Inspires** (widens horizons, grows hope and a sense of what's possible; ensures excellence and grows real, meaningful opportunities)
- **Builds Long-Lasting Change** (positive impacts through work that can be sustained long-term)
- **Is Courageous** (work that is bold and impactful for Paignton and its communities)

KEY REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMISSIONED WORK

All commissioned artists/work will:

1. Be available for delivery between July and October 2023 (and can extend beyond this).
2. Demonstrate how you will successfully engage participants in creative activity in meaningful ways. This could be a new project or one that builds on existing relationships.
3. Involve at least 1 community partner and 1 cultural partner locally. We encourage partnership working both within and beyond the cultural sector. Please provide detail of confirmed or expected partners, collaborating artists, producers, co-funders etc. One lead applicant is required which can be an individual, collective or organisation.

4. Be delivered on time and budget, with provision for all project delivery & wider sharing outputs.
5. Have public liability insurance in place with a minimum level of indemnity of £1,000,000. We can advise if you need to arrange this. And where relevant, DBS/safeguarding and First Aid certification.
6. Support promotion of work over the delivery period and in accordance with marketing dates in advance of project culmination/presentation.
7. Work with us to design evaluation approaches and capture public impact of the work against expected outcomes. Each project will be responsible for gathering quantitative & qualitative data for evaluation purposes. The team working on CDF includes specialists who can help advise on this.
8. The Artist will grant to the Client and Funding Partners a perpetual, irrevocable, non exclusive royalty free licence to copy, use and to reproduce all Intellectual Property Rights in connection with the work. Copyright and all intellectual property rights in the works remain vested in the Artist or the person responsible for the production.

We will take a portfolio approach to commissioning to create a programme that has wide appeal, incorporates a range of artforms and approaches, and speaks to different programme values. This means we will be looking to balance the work we commission so that overall, it delivers intended social, cultural and economic benefits for Paignton and meets the needs of our communities. For these Ex:Change participatory projects, we will be particularly looking at how a breadth of work can support our CDF2 programme intended outcomes, including:

- Increased social cohesion
- Improved sense of belonging
- Improved health & wellbeing
- Improved perceptions of the public realm and pride of place
- Enhanced skills development locally, building capacity and opportunities
- Enhanced engagement of Paignton's under-served communities including those in digital poverty.
- Bringing disused spaces back into use for community and culture

KEY DATES

Call out for submissions:	Friday 2 June 2023
Deadline for submissions:	11.59pm on Tuesday 20 June 2023
Shortlisted proposals notified:	Friday 23 June 2023
Shortlist interviews:	Wed 28 - Fri 30 June 2023 (online)
Decisions (interviewees notified):	Tues 4 July 2023
Production & partnership mtgs:	July 2023
Project Delivery:	Between July and October 2023
Culmination period/project sharing:	23 Sept– 22 Oct 2023 (to be discussed with individual projects)
Evaluation & feedback:	November 2023

WHAT SUPPORT CAN YOU EXPECT?

As well as funding support, we will provide support to make sure that partnerships, community engagement and long-term impact are maximised. Our local evaluators will also be keen to support creative approaches to evaluation appropriate for each project. If you, or collaborators or participants have additional support needs, we will discuss this with you at application stage so we can best support successful delivery of your project. All commissioned work will be promoted through marketing and PR, online and social media networks. Commissioned artists/collaborations will be expected to support this throughout.

HOW TO APPLY

You can apply by either:

- Sending a proposal that is no more than 4 sides of A4 *Or*
- Sending a video or audio version of your proposal that is no longer than 3 minutes long.

We are committed to making our application process accessible and if the above doesn't work for you, please contact us to arrange an application format that is accessible for you by 5pm on Monday 12 June 2023 (contact Clare Parker by calling / texting 07730 065150 or emailing clare@filament.org.uk).

If you have any questions before submission, please feel free to contact us. All proposals should be **submitted by 11.59pm on Tuesday 20 June 2023** emailing Clare Parker (clare@filament.org.uk). If you are sending in a video/audio-application, please send a weblink to the file/platform for us to access the video (with password if needed).

Please include the following information in your proposal. Try to use the order shown below. You can use whichever format is most suitable for you.

1. Full name, address, telephone number and email for lead applicant.
2. A brief biography or weblink for the lead artist/collaborators outlining your existing arts/participatory practice.
3. Outline your project idea and why /how it responds to the ex:change invitation. Who will take part? What will happen? What will the participant experience be? What is your project offering and what makes it interesting? Consider how your proposal is of high artistic quality, inclusive and accessible.
4. Which of our programme values does your proposal respond to?
5. How does it respond to our themes?
6. Provide details of cultural partners and communities of interest you would engage with, and how.
7. Provide details about the context/location that you have in mind for sharing/presenting your work, and why this is important to your idea.
8. Outline the practicalities of how you will deliver your proposal: How you will approach it, how often will sessions or other forms of engagement take place and over what period of time? Tell us about the practice requirements of the project and how you will approach these including details of participant recruitment, what resources and any additional support you may need.
9. Provide a budget breakdown including all costs (fees, planning, delivery, evaluation, travel, materials, equipment, transportation etc). Include any additional income (funding or in kind support) for your project and whether this is confirmed or expected.
10. Confirm that you have public liability insurance (or intend to arrange it) and where relevant, DBS/safeguarding and First Aid certification.
11. Provide details of 2 relevant past works to demonstrate your experience producing high quality participatory work that responds to people and place.
12. Provide 2 referees for lead artist (and collaborators if relevant)
13. Images or weblinks to support your proposal (optional)



Supported using public funding by



**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**