

National Portfolio 2023 onwards:

Briefing session for NPOs

WE'RE STARTING SOON...

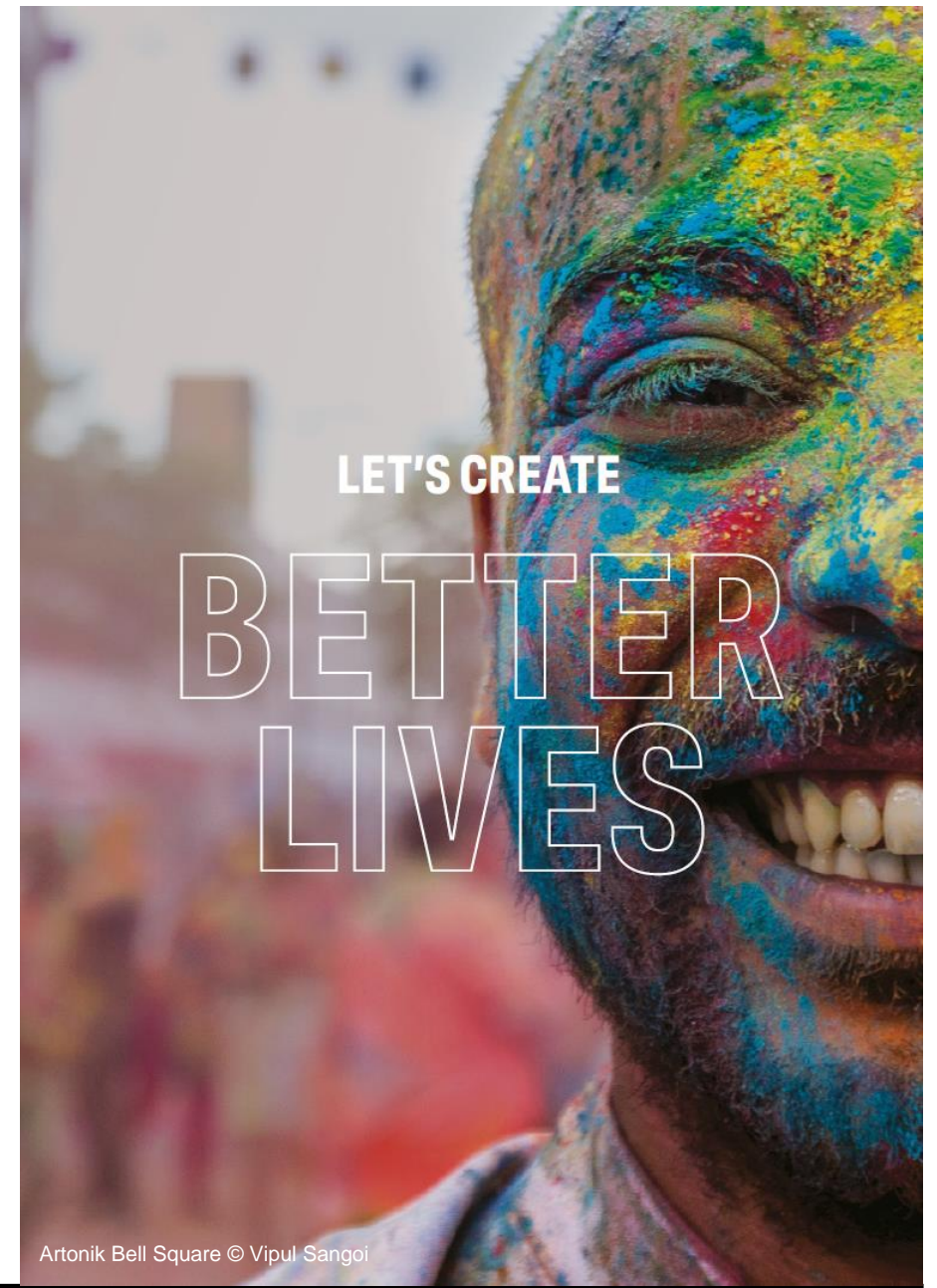
We recommend using the Desktop version of Zoom.

This session will be supported by live captions and BSL interpretation.

This session will be recorded and available to watch online afterwards. We won't ask you to turn on your camera or microphone at any time.

You can submit questions using the Q&A box.

For further information, go to www.artscouncil.org.uk/NPO23



What we'll cover today

Introduction:

About us, Let's Create and the National Portfolio
What to expect from the process
Access support

Key information:

Who can apply?
What we're looking for
Working with your Board/governance structure
The timeline
Planning figures and working with your RM

Technical information:

The application form and templates
National Portfolio or National Lottery Project Grants?
Your checklist

10 minute comfort break, followed by Q&A



Emergency Exit Arts - Thamesmead 50th Birthday © Emergency Exit Arts

Introduction: About us

We're the national development agency for creativity and culture in England

Our strategy, Let's Create, guides the work we do:

By 2030 we want England to be a country in which the creativity of each of us is valued and given the chance to flourish and where everyone of us has access to a remarkable range of high-quality cultural experiences

We invest from Government and the National Lottery

Over 500 members of staff, across nine offices

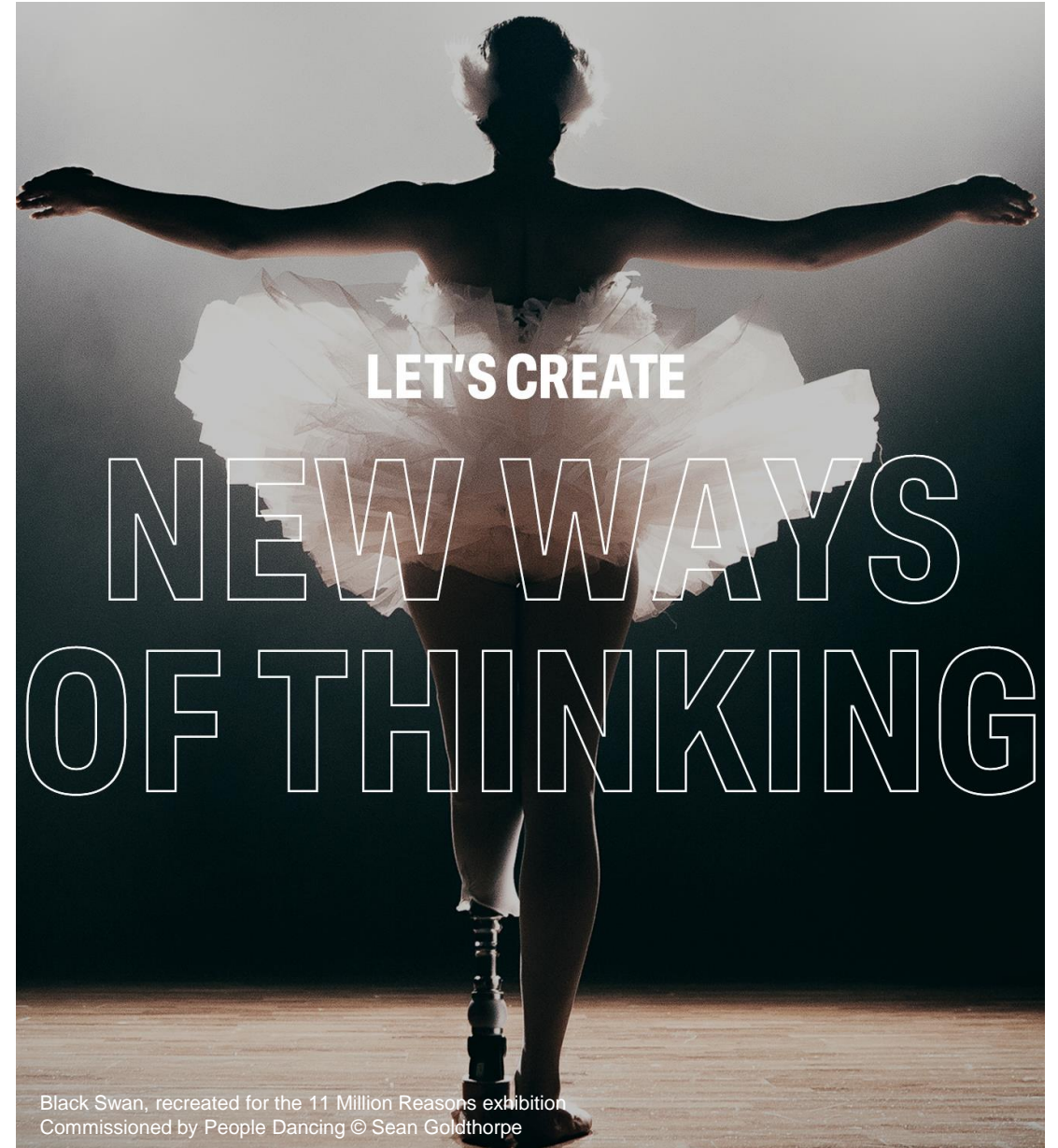
Our Relationship Managers play a crucial role in our work with the National Portfolio

Introduction: Let's Create & the National Portfolio

- This National Portfolio is a big step in delivering Let's Create
- Let's Create aims to bring about a different sort of publicly funded cultural sector than the one we have now
- To help us deliver this, all are welcome to apply to our National Portfolio
- You'll have to show your understanding and commitment to Let's Create in your application

Introduction: What to expect from the process

- The investment we make in the National Portfolio must give us the best return for the public
- The application process will be time consuming, including for your Board or governing body
- This will be a very competitive process. We will receive more good applications than we can fund
- Once in the portfolio, our monitoring relationship will also require significant work for you and your Board or governing body
- Other investment routes are available – e.g. National Lottery Project Grants



Introduction: Access

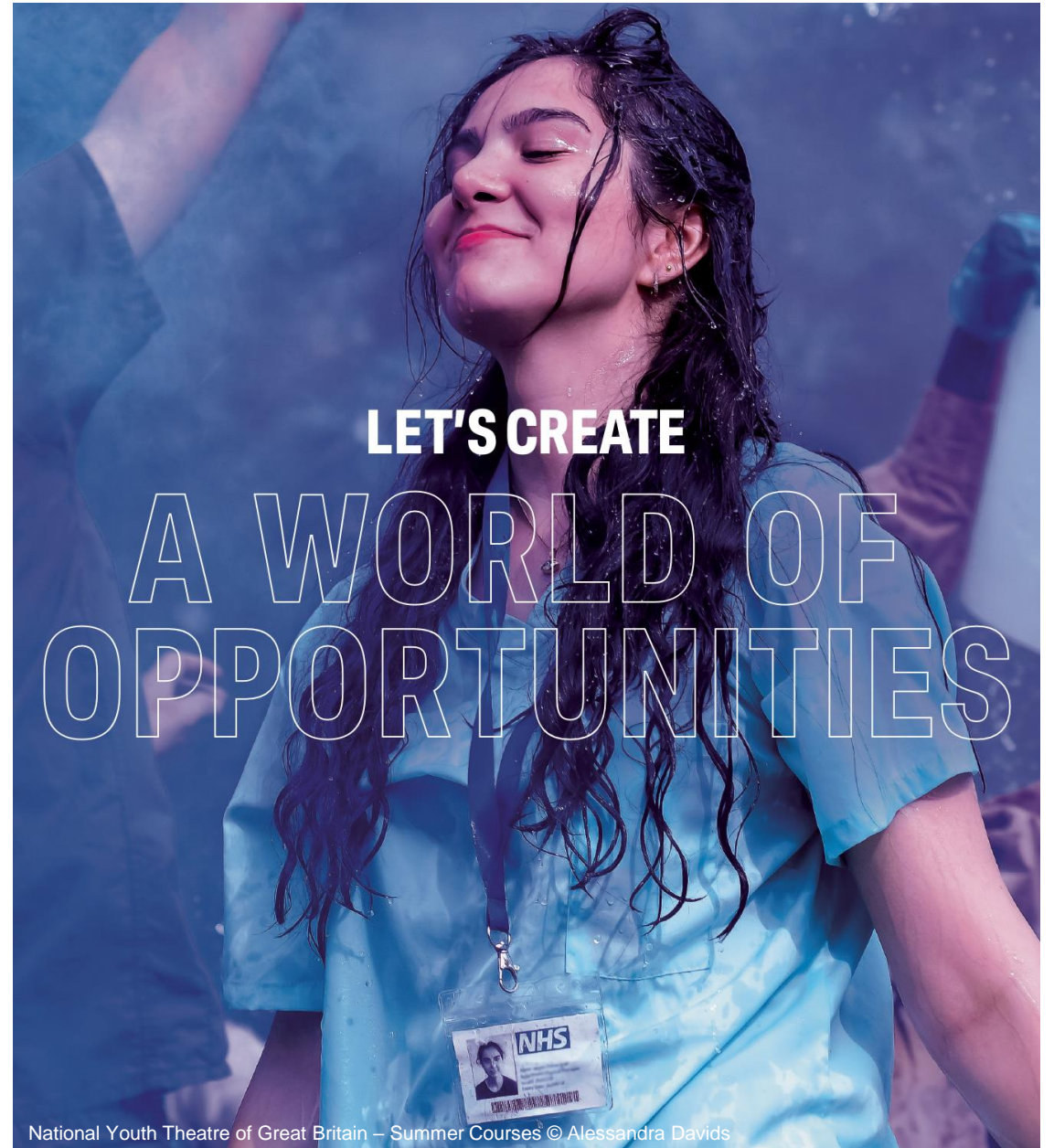
We're committed to an open, accessible process.

We'll produce guidance in accessible formats, including Easy Read, Large print, BSL and Audio versions of our Guidance for Applicants.

We can also offer additional, tailored access support to you or the key people working on your application.

We held a dedicated access briefing yesterday but you can watch the recording online shortly.

www.artscouncil.org.uk/NPO23



National Youth Theatre of Great Britain – Summer Courses © Alessandra Davids

Key information: Who can apply

Your application is focused on creative and cultural activity.

Creativity and culture is defined in our strategy.

The work our investment supports must benefit artists, practitioners, participants, visitors or audiences in England.

You must have a registered address in England, and be constituted as an organisation appropriately. Examples include:

- limited companies registered at Companies House
- community interest companies (CICs) registered with the CIC regulator
- charitable incorporated organisations (CIOs) registered with the Charity Commission

Key information: Who can apply

Museums and libraries –

- Accredited museums (or those working towards Accreditation) based in England can apply to the National Portfolio for museums activity.
- Public Libraries operating as part of the statutory service as defined in the Public Libraries and Museums Act of 1964 are eligible to apply for this programme but only for programmes designed to deliver creative and cultural activity.



Fuel Productions - TWF © David Lindsay

What we're looking for – the Outcomes

Organisations that can deliver at least one of our Outcomes:

- Creative People
- Cultural Communities
- A Creative & Cultural Country

What we're looking for – the elements

Creative People	Cultural Communities	Creative & Cultural Country
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supporting people at all stages of their lives to design, develop and increase their participation in high-quality creative activities• Promoting creative opportunities in the local community to people at all stages of their lives• Providing high-quality early years activities that reach families from a wider range of backgrounds• Widening and improving opportunities for children and young people to take part in creative activities inside schools• Widening and improving opportunities for children and young people to take part in creative activities outside schools• Improving teaching for creativity in schools• Supporting children and young people to develop their creative skills and potential• Developing and improving pathways towards careers in the creative industries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improving access to a full range of cultural opportunities wherever people live• Working with communities to better understand and respond to their needs and interests, resulting in increased cultural engagement and the wide range of social benefits it brings• Working collaboratively through place-based partnerships to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- support and involve communities in high-quality culture- improve creative and cultural education for children and young people- improve health and wellbeing through creative and cultural activity- build skills and capacity in the cultural sector and grow its economic impact• Connecting people and places, including diaspora communities, nationally and internationally	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supporting new types of creative practice, new forms of cultural content and new ways of reaching new and existing audiences and participants• Collaborating with other cultural organisations and/or with the commercial creative industries and/or with further and higher education, especially with a view to supporting innovation, research and development, new skills and the use of new technologies• Strengthening the international connections of cultural organisations and creative and cultural practitioners, including co-production and touring• Bringing world-class culture to audiences in England• Giving more opportunities to people to start a professional career in the creative industries, especially those who are currently under-represented• Ensuring people have opportunities to sustain their careers and fulfil their potential in the creative industries, especially those who are currently under-represented

What we're looking for – the Investment Principles

Organisations that are committed to progress against all our Investment Principles:

- Inclusivity and Relevance
- Environmental Responsibility
- Dynamism
- Ambition and Quality

Plans embedded in your funding agreement and progress monitored and reported on.

Key information: 2018-22 NPO comparison

	National Portfolio 2018-22	National Portfolio 2023 onwards
Strategic purpose	Delivering five goals of 2010-20 Strategy, Great Art and Culture for Everyone	Delivering Outcomes and embedding Investment Principles of Let's Create, 2020-30
Configuration	Bands 1, 2, 3 and Sector Support Organisations	No Bands or SSOs
Duration	4 years	Likely to be 3 years from 1 April 2023
Funding agreement	Funding agreement contained the organisation's business plan with SMART objectives for delivering the Arts Council's goals	Funding agreement will contain agreed targets and success measures for how you'll contribute to our Outcomes and Investment Principles
Monitoring	Board papers, financial reporting, updated business plan, Audience Finder and Insight & Impact Toolkit reports etc submitted to ACE (dependent on band)	Expect board/equivalent to monitor delivery against funding agreement. Board papers submitted to ACE regularly. Annual targets and budget update.
Reporting	Data survey on organisation, activities and audiences	Data survey on organisation, activities and audiences

Key information: the role of Boards

Given the scale of our investment, as a public body it is important we invest in well-run organisations.

Having a board or oversight group, independent of the executive, who has responsibility for ensuring efficient and effective delivery of the NPO funding agreement is important way to demonstrate to us you are a well-run organisation.

This board or oversight group must have the following minimum responsibilities and authority:

- To be independent of the executive leadership of the National Portfolio Organisation
- To have - in either direct or delegated form - responsibility for oversight of the NPO funding agreement
- To meet regularly (at least four times a year) with the executive team in order to review progress on the NPO funding agreement
- To receive and review regular reports on progress against the funding agreement and ensure that these reports are forwarded to the Arts Council on a timely basis
- To be able to communicate directly with the Arts Council, independent of the executive if required

Supporting the executive team to embed our Investment Principles in the organisation will be an important responsibility of the group too.

Key information: Timeline

December 2021:

FAQs from briefing sessions released

January 2022:

Guidance for Applicants will be published

Additional support webinars will run until April 2022

Planning figures for current NPOs will be given

Introductory conversations can take place (until 7 April 2022)

February 2022:

Applications open – 12pm (noon) 14 February 2022

April 2022:

Applications close – 12pm (noon) 26 April 2022

October 2022:

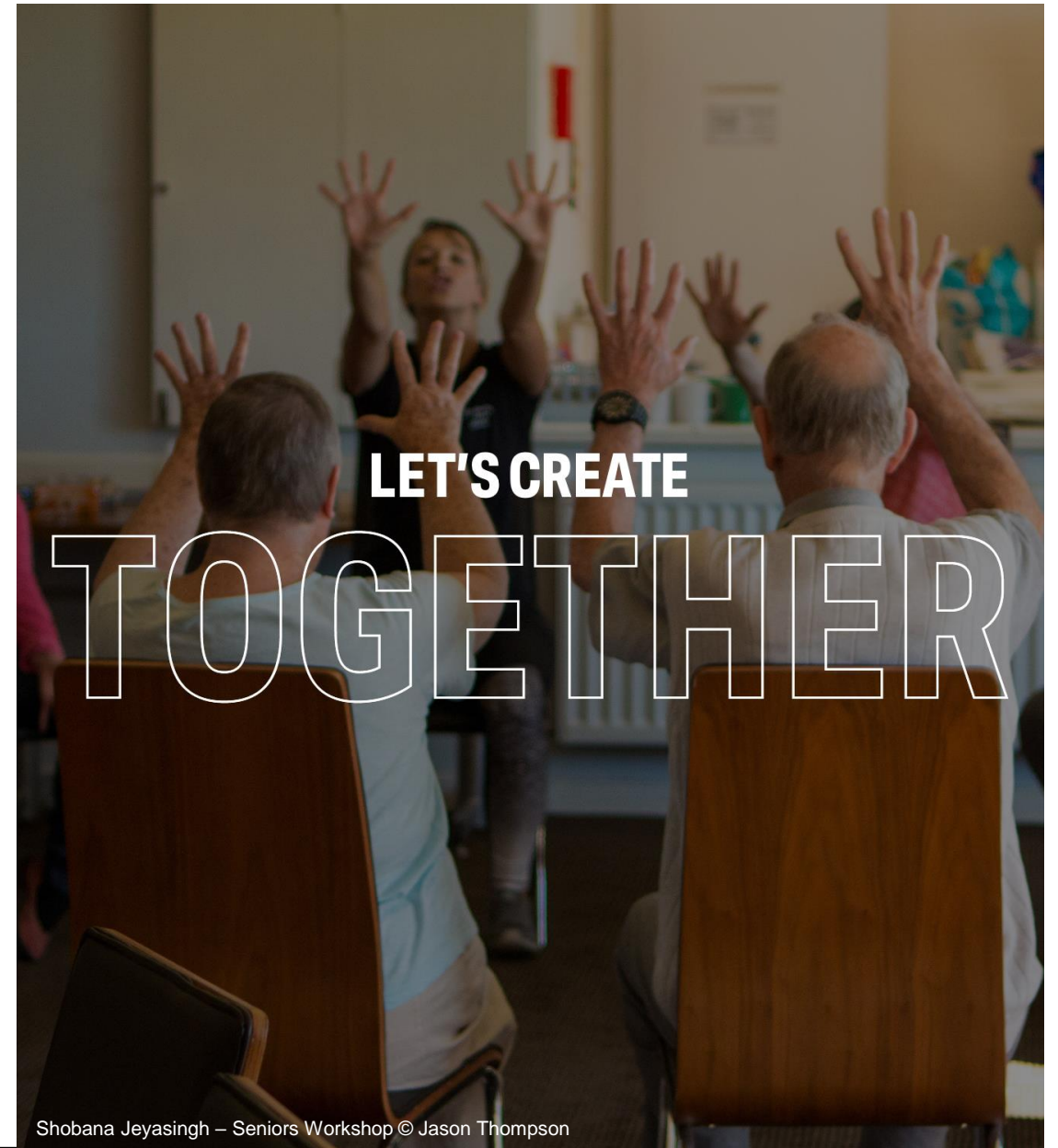
In October we'll share funding decisions with applicants

Support: Working with us and your RM

Creating a level playing field for all applicants is very important to us.

Please direct any initial queries you have to our Customer Services team – not your Relationship Manager.

Planning figures will be shared with you in January. After this you'll be able to book an Introductory conversation with your RM.



Shobana Jeyasingh – Seniors Workshop © Jason Thompson

Support: Planning figures

Most current NPOs, if successful, are likely to be offered no more than standstill funding

We recognise the pressures that that will put on your business going forward.

Make the core of your application about how you're going to do things differently: focus on quality over quantity. We are not expecting applications that are based on doing more.

Uplifts/additional funding will be unlikely, but you can put a case forward for this.

We expect to direct uplifts towards organisations that will help us continue to build a high-quality National Portfolio that is more representative of the country:

- in terms of the profile of its governance, leadership and workforce (both protected characteristics and socio-economic status)
- in terms of geographic location – through our Priority Places (NPOs in Priority Places; relocating to Priority Places; or co-designing new work with Priority Places).

Technical information: Application form and Templates

Applications will be made on our online portal, Grantium

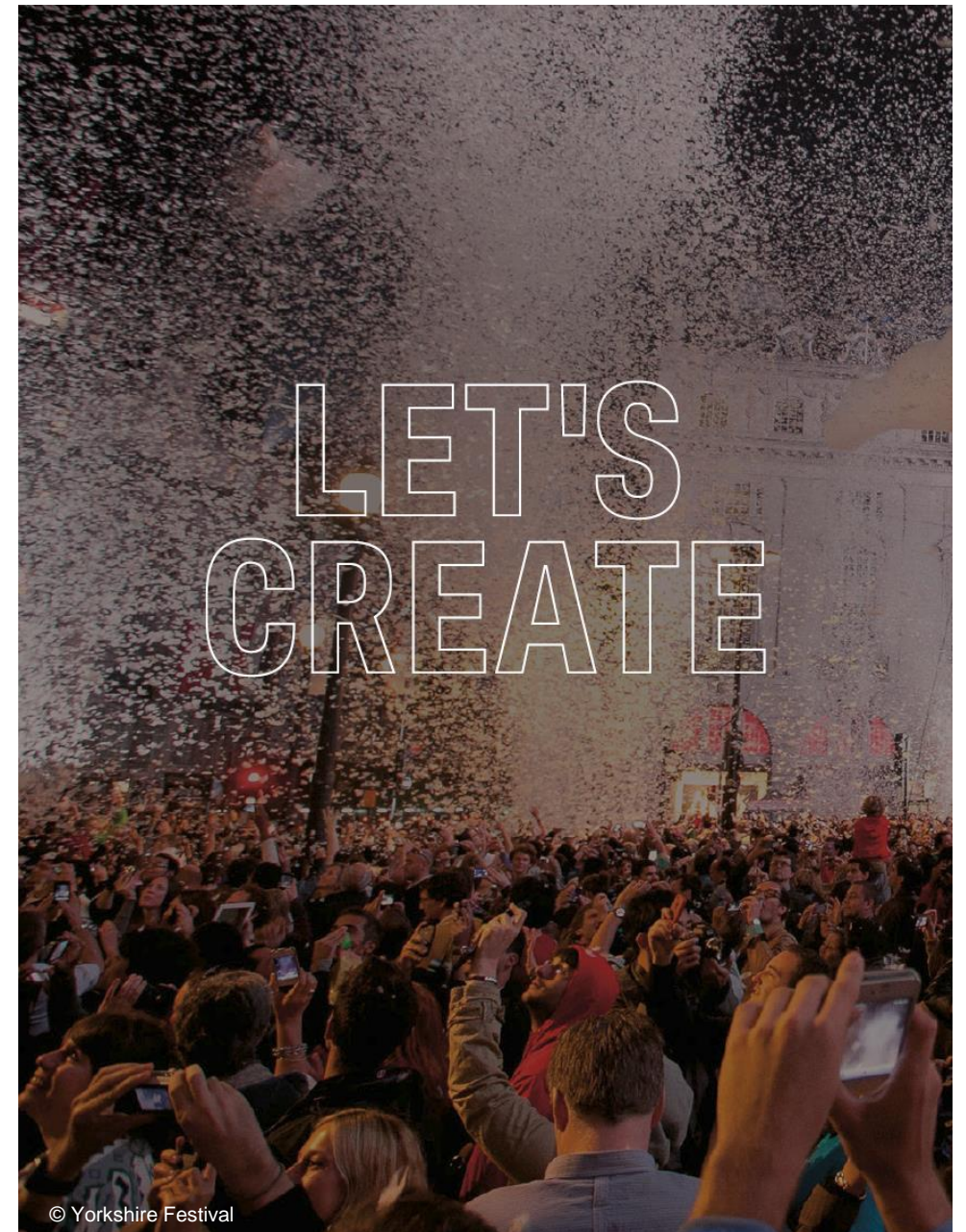
Key information will be submitted using templates

Financial templates (available now):

- Balance sheet
- Annual budget
- Cashflow forecast

Other templates (available January with Guidance):

- Delivering our Outcomes and elements within them
- Embedding our Investment Principles



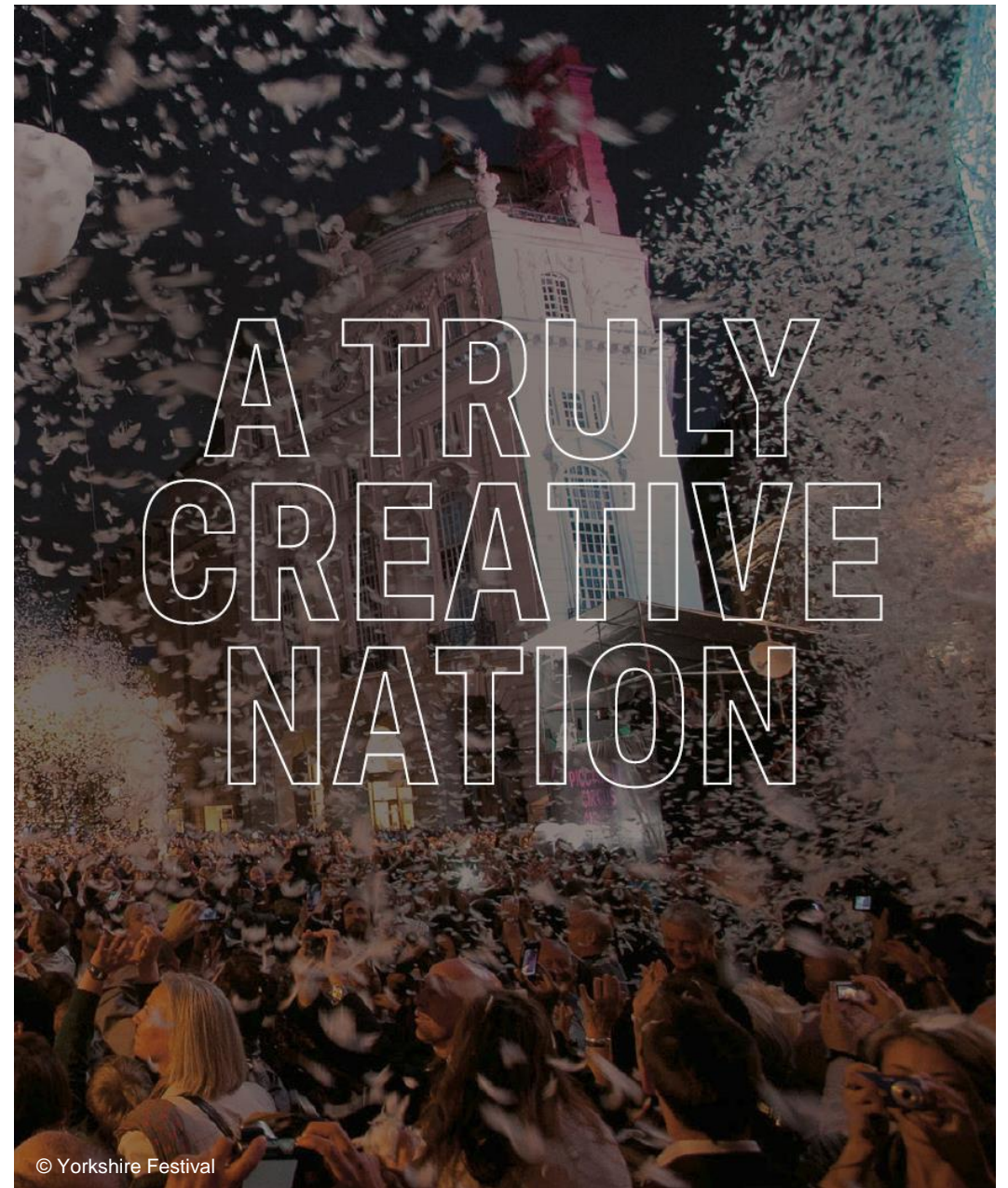
© Yorkshire Festival

Key information: NPO or National Lottery Project Grants?

	National Lottery Project Grants	National Portfolio 2023 onwards
Grant range	Usually £1,000-£100,000	£50,000 p/a with no upper limit
Purpose	Time-specific creative projects in communities that match our artforms/disciplines	Overall business investment supporting Outcomes and Investment Principles
Duration	Projects are time-specific - three years max.	From 1 April 2023 (Length will be confirmed in January 2022)
Funding agreement	Payments are conditional on our receipt and approval of any additional info (Payment conditions)	Funding agreement will contain agreed targets and success measures for how you'll contribute to our Outcomes and Investment Principles
Monitoring	10% of grant withheld until final report submitted	Expect board/equivalent to monitor delivery against funding agreement. Require board papers submitted to ACE regularly.
Reporting	Application data captured at application stage	All NPOs must submit annual data survey on your organisation, activities and audience

Your checklist...

- 1. Let us know if you have any access needs:**
Get in touch with us and we'll do what we can to help
- 2. Do some important background reading:**
Let's Create, Delivery Plan, Investment Principles resources – you can also check your Eligibility to apply and look at other options like Project Grants
- 3. Check in with those around you:**
Talk to your colleagues about making an application. Talk to your board or governance structure (or work to establish one if you don't have one set up)
- 4. Explore the application form and templates:**
The Financial template is live, as is an overview of the rest of the application form
- 5. Register on Grantium:**
If you're not already on our system, get signed up.



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**Ten minute
comfort break**

**We'll be
back soon...**