

## Culture Recovery Funding Synopsis

There are 4 main schemes under the £1.57bn Cultural Recovery Package that have been announced so far.

These are:

- Culture Recovery Fund for Heritage (£92m),
- Culture Recovery Grants Programme (£500m, including £2.25m for music venues)
- BFI's Culture Recovery Fund (£30m).
- Film and TV Production Restart Scheme (£500m)

DCMS has also said that £258 million will be reserved for a second round of funding later in the financial year to meet the developing needs of organisations.

### Culture Recovery Fund for Heritage:

- £92 million of grants for heritage organisations and businesses to manage the economic impacts of the pandemic are available.
- Grants of £10,000 to £3 million are aimed at heritage organisations which were financially sustainable before COVID-19 but have since then exhausted their funds and risk shutting down.
- Grants for over £1m are likely to take slightly longer to be evaluated. They will be reviewed by an independent board appointed by DCMS.
- Organisations that can apply include:
  - Not for profit organisations that manage heritage sites, venues or attractions
  - Local authorities, universities and other public sector bodies that manage heritage sites, venues or attractions
  - Private owners of heritage sites, venues or attractions which are normally open to the public 28 days a year or more
  - Heritage businesses that are part of the heritage ecosystem and generate the majority or a substantial portion of their turnover from heritage work - this includes conservators, contractors, specialists and suppliers
  - Organisations that manage culturally significant assets or collections
- The funding can be used for:
  - Reopening costs – help to re-open and follow social distancing guidelines
  - Operating costs – such as rent, insurance and security
  - Hibernation costs – to support temporary changes to the way organisations, businesses and sites work
  - Mothballing costs – this could mean closing a site to staff and the public, placing items into storage, or withdrawing from a touring exhibition

- Recovery costs – help to recover from the economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and become financially sustainable in the future
- The essential criteria for this fund are:
  - Your organisation must have been financially viable before COVID-19 (March 2020)
  - You are at risk of no longer trading viably by the end of this financial year
  - You can demonstrate that you have exhausted all other financing options. For example, applying for other emergency funds, reducing costs, diversifying income streams or taking advantage of government easements
  - You have a clear plan towards future financial viability
- Further criteria which will be prioritised in applications:
  - High heritage significance
  - High economic and cultural impact in your area
- Historic England is administering these grants with the National Lottery Heritage Fund.
- This fund is for organisations in England only, and funding must be spent by the end of this financial year, 31 March 2021.
- The deadline for applications is 17 August, details from Historic England can be read [here](#).
- Application guidance from the Heritage Fund is available [here](#).
- One-to-one application support will not be provided, but for any technical support the following email is available: [enquire@heritagefund.org.uk](mailto:enquire@heritagefund.org.uk).

### **Arts Council Culture Recovery Fund: Grants Programme**

- £500m package of grants from £50,000 to £3m for cultural organisations in England, both profit and not-for-profit.
- If organisations need more than £3m in funding this will be administered by ACE also. Full details of this aspect have not yet been announced but ACE has stated the following:
  - “Another element of support through the Culture Recovery Fund administered by the Arts Council is repayable finance. Details of this programme will be announced at a later date. An additional £270 million will be available through this programme, any organisation that requires £3 million or above should apply to this programme only (there is no upper limit on the amount that can be applied for). Loan terms are expected to include an up to 20-year repayment, an initial repayment holiday of up to four years, and a 2% interest rate per annum. You cannot apply to both grants and repayable finance, we

will publish guidance on repayable finance as soon as possible to enable potential applicants to make decisions on which scheme to choose.”

- This grant is separate from the heritage fund and covers a breadth of cultural organisations such as museums and theatres. The full list of sub-genres that can apply for funding is available [here](#).
- It also applies to Local Authorities and Universities which run cultural activities.
- However, it does not cover libraries. Arts Council explains that this is because “funding for Libraries is the responsibility of Local Authorities, as part of their statutory duty to provide a comprehensive library service.”
- The funding will also not apply for clubs, again Arts Council explains that these criteria were designed by DCMS. However, they do state that “the parameters for this fund are not necessarily reflective of eligibility for future Arts Council funding” meaning future support for clubs from Arts Council could be available.
- The key eligibility point is the necessity to be able to provide at least one year’s full independently certified or audited financial statements.
- This funding package includes the [recently announced £2.25m](#) of emergency funding for music venues. Yet an important detail is that music venues can apply for both funds.
  - The Emergency Grassroots Music Venues Fund is designed to support grassroots live music venues in imminent risk of insolvency, to remain solvent until 30 September 2020. Funding from this programme can only be used to cover operational costs incurred between 4 August and 30 September 2020. Recovery Grants covers a much longer period, from 1 October 2020 to 31 March 2021.
- There will be two rounds of applications, Round 1 will run from 10-21 August and Round 2 will run from 21 August to 4 September.
- However, a key detail is that 75% of the fund will be given out in Round 1, so organisations with applications ready in time before the 21 August should apply then.
- More details are outlined in a FAQ by Arts Council [here](#).
- Again, detailed application support cannot be provided by ACE, but any technical inquiries for support will be considered.

### **British Film Institute £30m Culture Recovery Fund**

- The BFI [recovery fund](#) is also a part of the wider £1.57bn package.
- The fund is intended for independent cinemas in England and will have two strands of grants available.
- £3m is available for grants of up to £10,000 per cinema for the implementation of safety measures needed for cinemas to operate.
- £27m of the package will provide grants of up to £200,000 per organisation to support business sustainability during the pandemic.

- Criteria designed with DCMS prioritises support for organisations that play an important part in levelling-up their region, in particular protecting cultural assets in places where they are the only publicly funded organisation and/or a key part of the cultural fabric in their community.
- Cinemas applying to the fund for business sustainability grants will be required to demonstrate various commitments:
  - A commitment to increasing their organisational diversity and the diversity of their audiences and improving the diversity of their boards and senior teams.
  - A commitment to developing programmes by curators/programmers from minority backgrounds; and the greater use of their culture venues as community spaces.
  - Cinemas will also be expected demonstrate commitments to reducing negative impacts on the environment and increasing educational outreach.
- Applications will run from Monday 10 August until Friday 30 October.
- Full eligibility can be found [here](#) and advice for applications can be found [here](#).

#### **£500 Million Film and TV Production Restart Scheme**

- Culture Secretary, Oliver Dowden announced in a [press release](#) the scheme to jumpstart British TV and film production.
- The scheme aims to provide more confidence for TV and film production filling in the gap due to a lack of available insurance for these projects.
- The funding will be available to all productions made by companies where at least half of the production budget is spent in the UK.
- This scheme is estimated to cover more than 70% of the film and TV production market to the end of the year.
- The following details have been announced so far:
  - The scheme is intended to compensate productions after they have restarted, and only where costs are then incurred due to delays or abandonment as a result of Coronavirus.
  - This is a temporary measure, supporting productions which commence filming before the end of the calendar year and for coronavirus-related losses through to the end of June 2021. It will be possible to back date any future claims for eligible losses to today's date. Further details on the eligibility process and claims system will be provided in the coming weeks.
  - Subject to state aid approval, the intention is that eligible productions will receive compensation for costs caused by coronavirus delays up to a value of 20% of the production budget, with abandonment of productions due to coronavirus to be covered up to 70% of the production budget, upon agreement with the Government that abandonment was necessary.
  - There will be a total cap on claims per production of £5m, and productions will need to pay an appropriate excess when seeking to claim under the scheme,

as well as an appropriate fee when joining the scheme. Productions will also need to purchase insurance to cover non-coronavirus risks to ensure their production is adequately insured.

- Productions will need to provide evidence that they cannot return to work because of a lack of insurance.
- This scheme, unlike the previous three, is likely to apply across the UK rather than just England.

### **Heritage Capital Funding**

Historic England will also work with the government as part of its £120m capital funding to restart heritage construction projects and help maintain heritage visitor attractions in England. Further details will be announced shortly.