

Links and resources

Check whether your group can meet in our guidance tool:

<https://www.makingmusic.org.uk/resource/can-group-get-back-in-person>

Virtual concerts: <https://www.makingmusic.org.uk/news/come-our-making-music-virtual-concert>

Use this tool to check your word count: <https://www.charactercountonline.com/>

Use this free web tool to convert anything to a pdf file: <https://cloudconvert.com/>

Different structures for leisure-time music groups:

<https://www.makingmusic.org.uk/resource/choosing-structure-your-group>

Growing your income: <https://www.makingmusic.org.uk/resource/increasing-your-income-overview>

Applying for grant funding: <https://www.makingmusic.org.uk/resource/applying-grant-funding>

Ty Cerydd funding: <https://www.tycerdd.org/lottery-funding>

Arts Council England funding: <https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/projectgrants>

Questions which were answered in the chat during the event

NB all other questions were answered live by the speakers

- is there not an accessibility issue with PDFs? for screen readers etc.
- (I work at a uni), and my congenitally blind student says that pdfs are better with the software she uses if people use standard across platform fonts (e.g. Times New Roman 12pt).
- Re PDF accessibility... there may be some issues, but fewer than with word processor or spreadsheet applications!
- PDF's are deliberately a neutral form of file which is READABLE on just about any platform You'd be unlucky if you can't read or the recipient of your work can't read it
- Adobe now charge for editing docs (if you have multiple people working on them. Its a new thing.
- (I also work at uni) the PDFs need to be formatted in a specific way (OCR) which is not a standard feature, I don't think.

From Sharon Moloney (Making Music) to Everyone : Here's a link with info about making PDFs accessible: <https://commonlook.com/can-screen-readers-read-pdfs/#:~:text=Yes%2C%20screen%20readers%20can%20read,everyone%2C%20including%20people%20with%20disabilities>.

- Does Making Music have its own list/database of funders for music projects? And their criteria? This would be a really useful resource! At present we're working on our own limited knowledge and the rather too large Directory of Social Change.

From Sharon Moloney (Making Music) to Everyone : Yes we do have a funding directory:
<https://www.makingmusic.org.uk/resources/find-a-funding-opportunity>

- What's 'Protected characteristics?'

From Sharon Moloney (Making Music) to Everyone : Protected characteristics:
<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/equality-act/protected-characteristics>

- Does a band need to have a constitution to apply for funding?

It varies from funder to funder, but a majority would want to see an 'established' organisation applying, and a constitution is a good way of showing that you are established.

- We were lucky enough to get a grant from ACE before the pandemic and have had to use our grant in a different way (online activity with ACE permission) but we are so gutted we weren't able to do the actual project - do you think we could apply for the same thing again?

From Kim Macari (Arts Council England) to Everyone : yes, you can apply again!

- Abby, would cross-border projects be considered? we are in Oswestry less than 2 miles from Wales, so of course many of the people we would like to work with actually live in Wales....

From Abby Charles - Tŷ Cerdd to Everyone : We can't fund activity which takes place predominantly outside Wales but in previous funding streams we have awarded funds to collaborative projects between groups in Wales and England where the activity took place mostly in Wales

- how did you become a charity with no income?
- did it help your cause getting charitable status?

From Foss Foster ASO to Everyone : We were able to become a Scottish Charity on the basis of our provision of free membership to juniors and students. Adult members pay a fee. We get all our members to sign Gift Aid forms when they join so that we get an extra 25%

- Please could the lady from ACE repeat her final remarks about the five balancing criteria?
Thank you!

From Kim Macari (Arts Council England) to Everyone : our balancing criteria includes geographical spread, artform spread, applicant type, under-represented groups and priorities relating our 10 year strategy - Let's Create

- What level of our own reserve funding for emergencies would prohibit application consideration?

From Kim Macari (Arts Council England) to Everyone : we only consider reserves with regards to applications to our Cultural Recovery Fund, so if you were applying to project funding, reserves aren't considered

- would you mind repeating the four points that the application need to cover; Quality, Public engagement... and the other two please? I just missed it, thank you

From Kim Macari (Arts Council England) to Everyone : Quality, Public Engagement, Management and Finance

- If we received some funds from ACE pre covid for a project and used the majority of that fund and because of covid project can no longer happen because we would have to restart the project would ACE consider the same application again?

From Kim Macari (Arts Council England) to Everyone : yes, you can reapply for that project!

- can we contact ACE by email or phone before applying, and if so who do we contact?

From Sharon Moloney (Making Music) to Everyone : How to contact Arts Council England:

<https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/our-organisation/contact-us>

- Please can you advise on good websites which have lists detailing funders and grants available to us?

From Sharon Moloney (Making Music) to Everyone : <https://www.grantsonline.org.uk/> is a good online directory

Other comments and suggestions from participants

My local authority funding group produced a portfolio of funders that would be appropriate for our choir.

Remember small local funds. Can be worthwhile for eg buying equipment. Eg in Scotland the Mary Salmond Fund. Ella Baxter Fund.

Integrity in reporting is essential for us all to learn but ...rare maybe?

We have found having charitable status to be very useful, particularly for commercial and private funding where donors may be able to offset the funding against tax.

Great presentation, Anne! Arts Council for NI are very good and we have had various pieces of funding from them in the past. Sadly underfunded of course, like many such bodies. A complication is that a lot of their money comes from the National Lottery and hence both ACNI and lottery branding needs to be put on publicity material for things they have funded.

In Scotland you would be unlikely to get funding repeated in the way Fermanagh Choir describes. You would need to be developing your organisation or targeting etc.

Project funding should be for projects which change - not "business as usual"

From Barbara Eifler (Making Music) to Everyone : exactly!