

Traveller Wellbeing through Creativity Initiative

Briefing Document

FUNDING CALL

1. Aim

The Traveller Wellbeing through Creativity initiative is a call to relevant groups and organisations to deliver an innovative project in 2023 focused on enhancing Traveller wellbeing through the medium of creativity. Grant funding between €30,000- €50,000 per project will be provided in 2023 under this initiative up to a total of €200,000 including a new Shared Island grant for one project of up to €50,000.

2. Background

Research¹ has demonstrated that Travellers have persistently poor health and wellbeing outcomes compared with the general population. Creative engagement has been demonstrated repeatedly to be associated positively with health and wellbeing. Interventions based on arts, culture and creativity in community settings have been shown to improve people's health and wellbeing, and to contribute to the prevention of ill health.

The National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy gave a commitment to "increased funding to be invested by the State to promote knowledge of, and pride in, Traveller culture and heritage".

Travellers have a long history of wonderful creative and cultural expression, but engagement with state cultural supports and infrastructure is under-developed. Successful engagement can be achieved using community development and co-production principles, and when existing community, voluntary and state structures work in partnership. Travellers must be involved in the design and delivery of projects that resonate with Travellers and demonstrate clear alignment to Traveller need.

The Department of Health (Healthy Ireland Programme), the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media (Creative Ireland Programme), the HSE and the Arts Council, are working in partnership to promote the use of creative programming to deliver national health and wellbeing policies and strategies. Grant funding of €50,000 each was provided to 5 projects in 2022 under this initiative and details of those projects can be found here:

<https://www.creativeireland.gov.ie/en/news/5-new-projects-traveller-wellbeing-through-creativity/>

We intend to build on and further expand this initiative in 2023 by supporting new projects and offering the possibility of further support and expansion for the 2022 projects through this funding call.

Consistent with the aims of the Government's Shared Island initiative to deepen beneficial cooperation and connections across the island of Ireland, projects involving partners and Travellers based in the Republic of Ireland will be welcomed and eligible through this funding call along with a Shared Island project involving partners and Travellers based in Northern Ireland or the UK working

¹ Our Geels: All Ireland Traveller Health Study, 2010

with a partner individual or organisation based in the Republic of Ireland. An additional grant of up to €50,000 is available for any such project. Details of Shared Island Initiative available here: <https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/c3417-shared-island/>

3. What does the fund offer?

Grant funding between €30,000- €50,000 per project will be provided for projects in the Republic of Ireland, in 2023, up to a maximum budget of €150,000 plus one grant of up to €50,000 for a Shared Island project.

4. Who can apply

Proposals are invited from Traveller organisations with experience of working with health/wellbeing and/or creative arts, and from other interested and experienced creative and cultural organisations and/or individuals². Traveller organisations applying for the Shared Island grant must be based in Northern Ireland or the UK or be working as a partnership between Traveller organisations based in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland or the UK.

Responses of creative or interpretive expression (whether traditional or contemporary) are invited from across the arts, cultural and creative sectors, including:

- Arts: Using the definition of arts under the Arts Act, (2003) this includes architecture, circus, dance of all kinds, film, literature, music of all genres, opera, street arts and spectacle, theatre, traditional arts and visual arts.
- Culture: Includes the National Cultural Institutions, festivals, cultural heritage, libraries, art centres and museums.
- Creative Industries: European Union (EU) classification of the creative industries includes advertising, design, software, animation and games, architecture, the audio-visual sector, publishing and press, music, fashion, comedy and the wider arts sector

All forms of creativity will also be welcomed from Heritage to Culture and Landscape, and projects with a language focus such as Gaeilge or Cant.

Eligibility criteria:

- Projects that demonstrate co-production with Travellers in the design and development of the initiative, in relation to both health and wellbeing and creativity³
- New projects that were not funded in 2022
- Projects which build on, or extend, initiatives funded in 2022
- National projects based in the Republic of Ireland

² Applications from individuals will only be deemed eligible if their project will be delivered in partnership with a Traveller group/organisation or the individual is themselves, a member of the Traveller community.

³ The Creative Ireland Programme has a broad and generous view of what constitutes creativity. It includes what's often referred to as 'the arts' but also includes creative engagement with heritage and landscape, language and the widest possible creative expression. Creative engagement has many forms and this initiative is not prescriptive in the activities that can be supported, other than that they should have resonance and reach within the Traveller community.

- Shared Island projects based in Northern Ireland or the UK or with a North/South or East – West partnership dimension
- Projects ready to commence in April 2023 and to be completed by December 2023

The successful applicants will:

- Demonstrate a track record of working effectively with Travellers to improve health and wellbeing;
- Demonstrate experience of using creativity of any form – either traditional or contemporary – as a gateway to improved health and wellbeing for individuals and/or the community;
- Promote working relationships between health, cultural bodies and the wider creative sector and Traveller organisations at local level that will enable sustainability;
- Provide evidence of organisational capacity to deliver the initiative;
- Outline a project delivery model, including project partners and proposed impacts and outcomes;
- Indicate intended reach of the project and proposed numbers of Traveller participants.

5. Evaluation

A final creative evaluation will be conducted by after the projects are completed which the projects will not be required to fund. The evaluation will look at process, participation and achievements of objectives/ key learning and key barriers etc. Projects will also be asked to record the experiences and feedback from participants at the beginning and end of the projects and short forms will be provided to facilitate collection of consistent information.

6. Selection Process

Applications for funding will be assessed by a panel formed from the partner organisations under the following criteria:

| Criterion | Score |
|--|------------|
| Proposal meets the tender brief as outlined | 20 |
| Feasibility of the proposal - including level of detail in proposal and level of understanding of assignment scope | 20 |
| Quality and ambition of the proposal | 20 |
| Evidence of experience of working effectively with Travellers to improve health and wellbeing | 20 |
| Creative and/or artistic expertise | 20 |
| Total | 100 |

7. How to apply?

Applications are accepted via the following

link <https://creativeireland.submit.com//show/18> from 21/02/2023 until 31/03/ 2023.

Please join us for our information webinar to find out more and answer any questions that you have DATE TIME Friday 10th March at 2:30pm

Please register for tickets on Eventbrite here:

https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/traveller-creative-health-wellbeing-project-webinar-tickets-549461162127?keep_tld=1

