

## Cultural Connections (SPF) Commissioning Key Information

For the applicant guidance document please visit [www.birmingham.gov.uk/artsfunding](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/artsfunding)

### Overview

This commissioning aims to create infrastructure that enables arts activity to take place in areas that have previously had little or no cultural activity, long into the future.

The programme is eligible across the whole of Birmingham with a focus on levelling up.

Funds can be used for any proposal that meets the above criteria and that delivers the SPF outcomes:

1. Support/create local facilities (where activities take place / access to places and spaces / sharing of resources etc.)
2. Create/enhance cultural assets (organisations / individuals / audiences / collaborative networks / training / sharing knowledge etc.)

### Expressions of Interest must be from groups/organisations:

- registered in Birmingham,
- constituted with arts and culture as their main object or purpose,
- set up to be not for profit,
- and have a bank account in the group/organisation's name.

For the purposes of this funding, “culture” means performing arts, visual art, craft, film, media (including digital media), combined arts, museums, heritage, public art, creative industries and tourism related activity - Birmingham Cultural Strategy definition of Culture.

### Partnerships

You can list likely partners in your expression of interest even if they have not agreed to a partnership yet. You can also partner with groups/organisations registered outside of Birmingham.

### Stage 1: Expression of Interest

At this stage you are expressing an interest in the Cultural Connections SPF funding (up to £30,000). We are looking for ambitious, innovative, visionary, and creative ideas that will invest in community and locally based infrastructure.



## Stage 2: Funded Feasibility

If your expression of interest is selected, you will receive £5,000 feasibility funding to develop your idea and set the foundations for the levelling-up project delivery.

Feasibility activity can include action research led by creative professionals e.g. freelance artists

## Stage 3: Delivery

Once the project is fully formed and costed and is green-lit as feasible you will receive further funding of up to £30k to deliver the proposed levelling-up activities (October 2023- February 2024). This can include capital and revenue activities.

There may be further funding available for additional delivery from April 2024 - February 2025.

## Further information and support

You can find more information about the Cultural Connections Commissioning by reading the applicant guidance document available at [www.birmingham.gov.uk/artsfunding](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/artsfunding) and through watching our information session recording at <https://youtu.be/JpK0kOd2Cns>

If you have any access needs or questions, please email [art.grants@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:art.grants@birmingham.gov.uk)

## Submitting your Expression of Interest

You must email your expression of interest to [art.grants@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:art.grants@birmingham.gov.uk) by 5pm on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023. We will send you an acknowledgement email within 2 working days. Please email [verity.kingman@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:verity.kingman@birmingham.gov.uk) if you do not receive this email.

