

Freelance Check-In 2023

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Hello!

We'd like your help getting a better idea of how freelancers in Wales are doing. This will allow us to focus on how we can best help support each other going forward: as freelancers supporting freelancers.

Please be as honest as you feel comfortable with – your responses will be completely anonymous.

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Section 1: Your freelance career

In this section we're going to be asking you about what you do as a freelancer. What we do across the cultural sector varies so much, so we're trying to capture as much data about what you get up to and how you're doing as we can. This helps us get to know you a little better.

Some of these questions concern money and we recognise that this can be a sensitive topic. Only answer what you feel comfortable with, but the more you can tell us the better we can help and support freelancers in Wales going forward.

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1) What is your primary occupation as a freelancer?

We're after your chosen job title, something short and snappy (e.g. choreographer, visual artist, voice actor). Please don't use more than 1-2 words.

If you do more than one type of job as a freelancer, please tell us about the one you do most of the time.

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2) In which culture sector(s) would you say you do the majority of your freelance work? You can choose more than one.

- A. Advertising and marketing
- B. Architecture
- C. Crafts
- D. Design
- E. Film, TV, video, radio and photography
- F. IT, software, video games, and computer services
- G. Museums, galleries, heritage, and libraries

- H. Music or performing arts
- I. Publishing
- J. Visual arts
- K. Other

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3) What is your employment status?

- A. Self-employed
- B. Employee (PAYE)
- C. Both of the above
- D. Other

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4) How long have you worked in the cultural sector as a freelancer?

- A. 2 years or less
- B. 2-5 years
- C. 5-10 years
- D. 10+ years

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5) Where does your freelance work take place?

This can be where it's commissioned if it's online, or where it takes place physically if it's something that takes place in a venue.

The nearest estimate is fine, don't worry about giving us an exact percentage.

Wales	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%
Rest of UK	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%
Internationally	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%

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6) How much did you earn (before tax and National Insurance contributions) in the 2021-2022 tax year?

- A. Less than £1,000
- B. £1,001 - £5,000
- C. £5,001 - £10,000
- D. £10,001 - £15,000
- E. £15,001 - £20,000
- F. £20,001 - £25,000
- G. £25,001 - £30,000

- H. £30,001 - £35,000
- I. £35,001 - £40,000
- J. More than £40,000
- K. Prefer not to say

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7) Has the amount of freelance work you do gone up or down compared to pre-pandemic (2020) levels?

- A. Gone up a lot
- B. Gone up a little
- C. Stayed the same
- D. Gone down a little
- E. Gone down a lot
- F. Not applicable

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8) Have you raised your freelance rates in line with inflation?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Prefer not to say

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9) Thinking about your savings: would you be able to pay your rent/mortgage and bills for the next 3 months on what you have saved?

As a reminder all answers are anonymous, but please skip if you'd prefer not to share.

- A. Yes, I would
- B. No, I would not
- C. Prefer not to say

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10) How has Brexit affected your work as a cultural freelancer since January 2021?

- A. Lost or otherwise had work cancelled in the EU
- B. Had to apply for special permits (e.g. Musical Instruments Certificate)
- C. Difficulty bringing work vehicles between the UK and Europe
- D. Import or export issues with supplies
- E. Import or export issues with merchandise
- F. Collaborations with EU nationals more difficult
- G. I have not noticed any effect on my work from Brexit
- H. Other

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11) Considering your personal background (including any barriers you may experience in the sector), do you feel adequately supported as a freelancer in the culture sector?

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12) Thinking about best practice around freelancers: if you could highlight one organisation's work in culture in Wales, which one would you like us to know about? Big or small, doesn't matter!

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13) Thinking about the future, which of the following statements apply to you?

- A. I will definitely stay in the industry
- B. I am likely to stay in the industry
- C. I don't know whether I will stay or leave the industry
- D. I am likely to leave the industry
- E. I will definitely leave / have already left the industry
- F. I've completely left the sector

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14) If you are considering leaving or have left the sector, please feel free to tell us a bit about the decision below.

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15) Is there anything else you would like to tell us or share? Feel free to write as much or as little as you like.

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Section 2: Getting to know you

We're nearly there!

This section is all about you as a person so we can get a better idea of who works in the sector across Wales. We know some of these questions can be sensitive and any data gathered is used to better lobby for support.

All your answers to these questions are recorded anonymously.

While our intention is to be as inclusive as possible, we recognise that the use of language differs from person to person. If you use different language from that used in the question, please feel free to select 'Other', and enter your preferred self description.

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16) What is your postcode in Wales? The first part of your postcode (e.g. SA31) is enough.

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17) How old are you?

- A. 18-24
- B. 25-34
- C. 35-44
- D. 45-54
- E. 55-64
- F. 65 and over

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18) How would you describe your gender?

- A. Female
- B. Male
- C. Non-binary
- D. Prefer not to say
- E. Other

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19) Do you consider yourself to be a Disabled, Deaf or Neurodivergent person according to the Social Model of Disability? (The Social Model of Disability holds that people are disabled by barriers in society, not by their impairment or difference.)

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Unsure
- D. Prefer not to say

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20) How would you describe your ethnic group or background?

These are broad terms but please select the one that you feel fits you best. This helps us understand the diversity of cultural freelancers working in Wales.

- A. Any Asian background
- B. Any Black, Caribbean or African background
- C. Any mixed or ethnic groups or heritage
- D. Any White background

- E. Any Romany, Gypsy, or Traveller background
- F. Any other ethnic group

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21) Do you speak Welsh?

- A. Yes, I'm a fluent speaker
- B. Yes, I'm a learner
- C. No, I don't speak Welsh

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22) Thinking about when you were 14, which of the following applies best to the highest or main income earner in your household?

- A. Modern or traditional professional occupation such as: teacher, nurse, police officer
- B. Manager or administrator (any level) such as: large business owner, bank manager, retail manager
- C. Clerical or intermediate occupation such as: secretary, personal assistant, sales assistant
- D. Technical or craft occupation such as: mechanic, plumber, electrician, train driver
- E. Routine, semi-routine manual or service occupations such as: labourer, farm worker, security guard
- F. Small business owner such as: corner shop owner, cafe owner, taxi owner
- G. Long-term unemployed/never undertaken paid work
- H. Retired
- I. Don't know
- J. Prefer not to say
- K. Not applicable

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23) Almost there!

Thank you for taking part in this survey!

Would you like to be mapped on the Creative Economy Atlas Cymru? Find out more about the mapping project by visiting our website at cfw.wales.

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Already on the map

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24) If you'd like to be part of the Creative Economy Atlas Cymru, please leave your email address below so you can be added to their database.

This will not be used to identify your answers and will only be shared with the Creative Economy Atlas Cymru team for the purpose of adding you to the map.

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Thank you for filling out this survey.