

'Exploring the culture, health and wellbeing landscape of the UK and the experience of freelance creative professionals and delivery organisations during COVID-19: Culture, Health & Wellbeing Alliance.'

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The Culture, Health and Wellbeing International Conference 2021



Culture, Health and Wellbeing Alliance - UK

Survey of member organisations and practitioners (April – May 2020) coordinated by:

- The Culture, Health & Wellbeing Alliance
- The Wales Arts, Health & Wellbeing Network
- Arts, Culture, Health & Wellbeing, Scotland
- Arts Care, Northern Ireland

220 responses from members across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland (~5% membership).





Aims of the survey

- 1. To capture the landscape of culture, health and wellbeing work across the UK.
- 2. To explore the situation early on in the pandemic for freelance creative professionals and organisations.





Sizes of organisations

One person	2-5 people 21%	6-29 people	30-99 people	100+ people
34%		19%	8%	17%
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Reported funding sources pre-pandemic



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Early pandemic – changes to work

Changes to work early pandemic	% respondents
All our work is on hold	30
Some of our work is on hold	43
Our work is continuing but we are changing how we deliver	45
We have furloughed staff	15
Work continues as normal with no changes	0





Early pandemic – reported loss of income

An average of **two** funding sources were lost for both freelance practitioners and those employed.

BUT

Freelance practitioners anticipated losing a *significantly higher percentage* of their income than those employed. Freelancers (62%)** vs Employed (40%)



(**p<0.01- significant difference)



Early pandemic – reported loss of income

"Small" and "medium-sized" organisations anticipated *significantly* greater losses of income compared with "large" organisations.

Small organisations	(one person)	60%*
Medium-sized	(2-29 people)	52%*
Large	(30+ people)	15%

(*p<0.05 – significant difference)





Early pandemic - anticipated income loss

Organisations in England and Wales anticipated *significantly higher losses* of income compared with those in Scotland.

England	(68 organisations)	54%**
Wales	(3 organisations)	83%**
Scotland	(7 organisations)	15%

(**p<0.01 – significant difference)





Summary of survey results

- The majority of funding comes from trusts and foundations with a small proportion from NHS budgets.
- More than half of the membership workforce comprises individual freelance practitioners or organisations of up to 5 people.
- > Freelance practitioners anticipated losing a greater % income than those employed.
- Small & medium-sized organisations anticipated losing a higher % of their income than larger organisations.
- Organisations in England and Wales anticipated losing more % income than those in Scotland.





Final thoughts...



- Small and medium-sized organisations anticipated being most financially at risk early on during the pandemic.
- > Has this situation threatened the current viability of the workforce and therefore potential access to CHW activity as we recover from the pandemic and beyond?
- > Suggested differences across the four UK nations how can equitable, sustainable models of funding and delivery be established?



Thank you!

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