

2023-2026 Investment Programme: Running creative and cultural organisations well



Easy read booklet

Who we are and what we do



We are **Arts Council England**. We support arts and culture in the UK.

We need the creative and cultural organisations we support to spend the money we give them well.



National Portfolio Organisations or **NPOs** for short and **Investment Principles Support Organisations** or **ISPOs** get public funding money to spend on creativity and culture.

We need to make sure they

- ✓ Are managed well
- ✓ Spend public money in the right way
- ✓ Run their business in the right way



This is called **good governance**.



We think a good way to do this is to have a separate group to check the NPO or ISPO is working well.

This might be a Board or another group of people.

2023-2026 Investment Programme



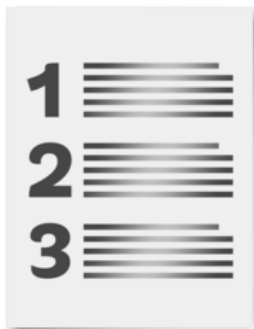
The separate group will not be part of the NPO.

This group will check the NPO is run well and make sure everyone is meeting their **targets** for the year.



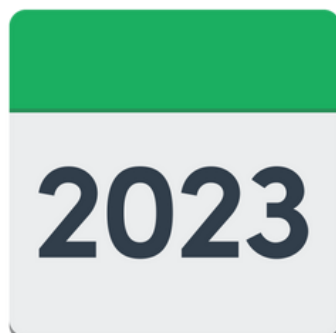
Targets are things the NPO want to do well. Targets are agreed as part of the money that goes to the NPO.

We are calling this the 2023-2026 Investment Programme.



If you are not sure, you can [see a list of NPOs and if your organisation could be one.](#)

All NPOs and ISPOs will have to follow our NPO 2023+ plan and work on their targets to get funding money from us.



We want these organisations to have a Board or separate group to guide them.

What separate groups will we agree to



We will trust this Board or separate group to make sure the organisation is

- ✓ Run well
- ✓ Spending public funding in a good way.



We know that some creative and cultural organisations do not have this kind of group set up.

For example

- A Museum
- A library
- An Arts centre that is part of University



We will ask you to tell us how you can set up a separate group so that you can get the funding you need.



More about a Board or separate group



The group will need to

- **Be independent** – so not part of the organisation already
- **Be responsible** for looking after the funding agreement made with us at the Arts Council
- **Meet at least 4 times a year** to check on how money is being spent
- **Send updates and reports** to us at the Arts Council on how things are going
- **Meet with the Arts Council** as a separate group and not with the organisation

We want these groups to have clear rules about how they work and what they do.

This is called **Terms of Reference**.

The Board or separate group should not be part of the organisation or leadership team if possible.

What the Board or separate group has to do



The Board or separate group must

- ✓ Record what happens at their meetings in a clear way
- ✓ Add new people after some time so the group stays fresh
- ✓ Make decisions in a strong and fair way
- ✓ Make sure any complaints are dealt with in a good and fair way
- ✓ Follow the law and update any policies regularly
- ✓ Look at any risks and update this every year



We think this is a good way for the separate group to run.



Read the [Charity Governance Code](#) to find out good governance works.

More about what the Board or separate group has to do



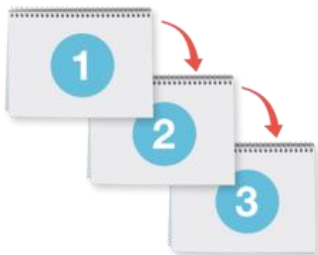
We expect the Board or separate group to follow how the Arts Council work and carry out what we believe in.

We want all arts and culture organisations to be well run and work in a modern way.



We will start with the NPOs and ISPOs but then make this part of all our funding for creativity and culture.

You can read more about [governance and our principles](#).



Our **Investment Programme** plan will test how people apply for public money for creativity and culture.

We will need to know that creative and cultural organisations and practitioners who make work, know how to run things well.



If they don't have good governance they might not get funding.

[Get this information in a different format or way.](#)