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Arts Portfolio Wales Organisations Survey 2016/17: Key Findings from 1st April 2016 to 30th September 2016.

Introduction

This report summarises the findings for the first half of the 2016/17 Arts Portfolio Wales Organisations survey. The APW survey is a bi-annual survey of all Arts Council of Wales APW funded clients who are required to complete the survey as part of their funding agreement. There are currently 67 clients in receipt of funding.

The survey primarily collects data on the number of arts events delivered and attendances made to these activities.

Key results for the first half of the 2016/17 year: 1st April to 30th September 2016¹

(Please refer to Table 1 & 2 in Annex A)

During the six month period (1st April to 30th September 2016):

- Arts Portfolio Wales Organisations delivered a total of 12,196 arts events during the six month period which generated attendances of 1.72 million.
- The events delivered during this time include 242 exhibitions of visual arts and craft, 7,717 film screenings, 1,288 performances by touring companies and 2,949 performances at presenting venues.
- The highest levels of attendances were made to exhibitions of visual arts and crafts which received 728,638 attendances. Performances at presenting venues attracted 401,138 attendances, 360,254 attendances were made to performances by touring companies and 225,720 were made to film screenings.
- 30,268 participatory arts sessions were delivered, with 621,698 attendances made to these workshops.
- Of the total participatory art sessions delivered, 16,967 were specifically for children and young people, while 13,301 were delivered as general participatory sessions. Of these 3,157 were specifically targeted at people in the Protected Characteristics groups.²
- There were 351,880 attendances made to participatory sessions targeted at children and young people, while general participatory activity sessions generated attendances of 269,818.
- Participatory sessions targeted at those in the Protected Characteristics groups resulted in attendances of 68,215.

¹ Please note Employment Data is only collected annually and will therefore only be included in the full year's report in October.

² Protected Characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010, include disabled people, people from a BME background, children and young people, lesbian, gay or bisexual people, pregnant women and new mothers, people with specific religious beliefs and transgender people. The groups are not mutually exclusive and therefore people can be included in more than one group.

Comparisons with the same period for 2016/17 (1st April to 30th September 2016)

(Please refer to Table 3 & 4 in Annex A)

The following findings compare the data from the latest six month period against the same period in the previous year (1st April to 30th September 2015). While comparisons have been made between the two datasets, fluctuations in the data would be expected due to changes in organisations' programmes of activity as well as other influencing factors. These are referred to where relevant. It must also be noted that as a result of the Arts Council of Wales Investment Review the number of organisations within the portfolio was reduced from 69 to 67 and the inclusion of 4 new organisations to the portfolio.

The comparisons between the two datasets show:

- In terms of events, there has been a 39.8% increase in the number of events compared to the same reporting period for 2015/16, increasing from 8,723 to 12,196.
- Overall attendances to events have increased by 2.5% compared to the previous year. The latest survey return shows arts events received attendances of 1.72 million, compared with 1.67 million in the previous year.
- Overall attendance to visual arts and craft exhibitions have decreased by -12.7% (from 834,334 to 728,638). Attendances to performances at presenting venues have increased by 17.3% (from 342,057 to 401,138). Attendances to performances by touring companies have increased by 16.6% (from 308,934 to 360,254).
- Overall participatory sessions in the arts have decreased by -8.4% from the same reporting period in the previous year, down from 33,038 to 30,268 sessions in the latest survey. Attendances to these sessions have increased by 11.7% from 556,631 to 621,698.
- The number of General Participatory Activity Sessions not specifically targeted at Children and Young People have decreased by -4.2% when compared to the same period last year (from 13,891 to 13,301). Attendances to these sessions have experienced a decrease of -3.1% (from 278,383 to 269,818).
- Participatory sessions targeted at Children and Young People fell by -11.4% when compared to the same period last year (from 19,147 to 16,967) whilst attendances to these sessions experienced an increase of 26.5% (from 278,248 to 351,880).

Frequency

This survey is conducted every 6 months.

Terms and Definitions

Participation is defined as active involvement in the arts, such as attending workshops, classes or rehearsals.

Attendance is defined as experiencing the arts as an audience member.

The number of **attendances** represents the total number of audience visits or the number of participations. That is they are not unique visits; an individual can attend or participate more than once.

A participatory **session** is defined as a half day or less.

General participatory activity sessions are available to all.

Protected Characteristics include the following groups of people: disabled people, people from a BME background, children and young people, lesbian, gay or bisexual people, pregnant women and new mothers, people with specific religious beliefs and transgender people as defined by the Equality Act 2010. The groups are not mutually exclusive and therefore people can be included in more than one group.

Presenting venues is a term used to include theatres, arts centres, concert halls or other spaces where arts performances are presented.

A **touring company** produces a show (drama, dance, music, etc.) for performance at a venue or a range of venues.

Children and young people are defined as those aged under 26 years.

Annex A

Table 1

Attendance	1 st April to 30 th September 2016	
	Events	Attendances
Exhibitions	242	728,638
Film Screenings	7,717	225,720
Performances by Touring Companies	1,288	360,254
Performances at Presenting Venues	2,949	401,138
Total Attendances	12,196	1,715,750

Source: ACW survey of Arts Portfolio Wales Organisations

Base: 67 organisations

Table 2

Participation	1 st April to 30 th September 2016	
	Sessions	Attendances at Participatory events
Children & Young People	16,967	351,880
General Participatory Activity	13,301	269,818
Total Participation	30,268	621,698

Source: ACW survey of Arts Portfolio Wales Organisations

Base: 67 organisations

Table 3

Attendance – Events targeted at people in the Protected Characteristics groups	1 st April to 30 th September 2016	
	Events	Attendances
Exhibitions	24	94,407
Film Screenings	1,351	39,772
Performances by Touring Companies	325	43,792
Performances at Presenting Venues	235	23,675
Total Attendances	1,935	201,646

Source: ACW survey of Arts Portfolio Wales Organisations

Base: 67 organisations

Table 4

Participation – Sessions targeted at people in the Protected Characteristics groups	1 st April to 30 th September 2016	
	Sessions	Attendances at Participatory events
Children & Young People	1,111	22,370
General Participatory Activity	2,046	45,845
Total Participation	3,157	68,215

Source: ACW survey of Arts Portfolio Wales Organisations

Base: 67 organisations

Table 5

Attendance	1 st April to 30 th September 2015		1 st April to 30 th September 2016		% Change	
	Events	Attendances	Events	Attendances	Events	Attendances
Exhibitions	255	834,334	242	728,638	-5.1%	-12.7%
Film Screenings	5,371	189,324	7,717	225,720	43.7%	19.2%
Performances by Touring Companies	1,253	308,934	1,288	360,254	2.8%	16.6%
Performances at Presenting Venues	1,844	342,057	2,949	401,138	59.9%	17.3%
Total Attendances	8,723	1,674,649	12,196	1,715,750	39.8%	2.5%

Source: ACW survey of Arts Portfolio Wales Organisations

Base: 67 organisations

Table 6

Participation	1 st April to 30 th September 2015		1 st April to 30 th September 2016		% Change	
	Sessions	Attendances at Participatory events	Sessions	Attendances at Participatory events	Sessions	Attendances at Participatory events
Children & Young People	19,147	278,248	16,967	351,880	-11.4%	26.5%
General Participatory Activity	13,891	278,383	13,301	269,818	-4.2%	-3.1%
Total Participation	33,038	556,631	30,268	621,698	-8.4%	11.7%

Source: ACW survey of Arts Portfolio Wales Organisations

Base: 67 organisations

Further Information

If you have any comments or queries on this data release or if you would like to be added to our regular users list then please contact our Research Team: research@arts.wales or go to our website: www.arts.wales

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Next Update

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