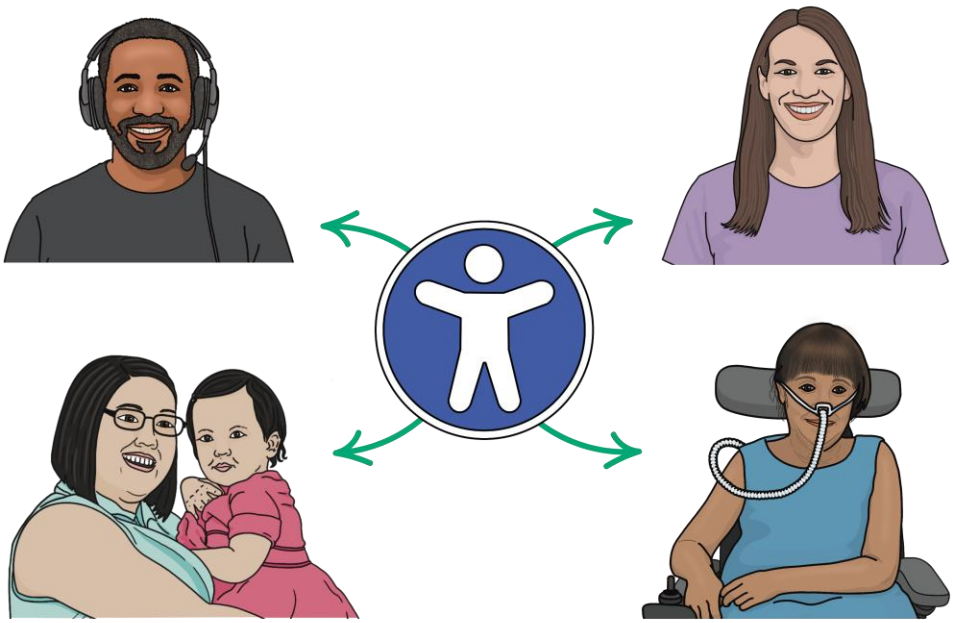
Young Audience Group

Easy Read Report



Report Part 2 – What Needs to Change

CREATIVE SCOTLAND

ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL

Developing Scotland's Young Audiences Sector

Contents

About this Easy Read document ..... Page 3

What did people say they want? ..... Page 4

How could the new group be better? ..... Page 6

What needs to change in the art world? ..... Page 9

Children matter too ..... Page 11

What happens next ..... Page 12

We want to build something better ..... Page 17

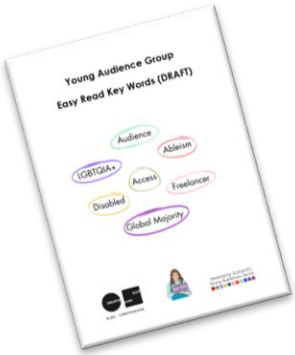
Who made this report? ..... Page 19

About this Easy Read document

This is Part 2 of our Easy Read report. You might want to read Part 1 first.

You can ask someone to help you read it.

We have put some words in **bold** and explained what they mean.



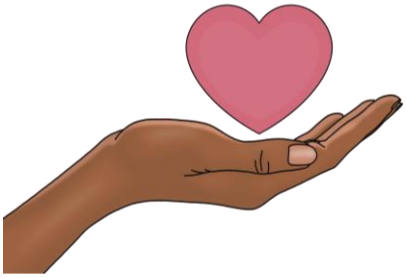
We also explain important words in our **Key Words** document.

What did people say they want?

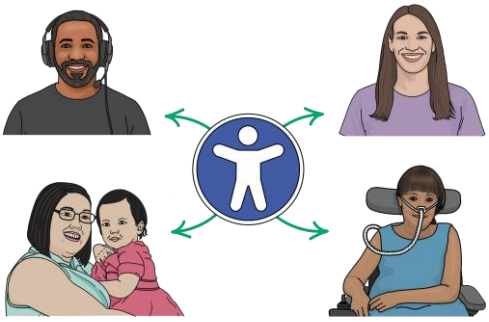
We asked people what would make it better and fairer for people who make shows for babies and children.

People want a **new group** for artists and organisations.

The group should be:



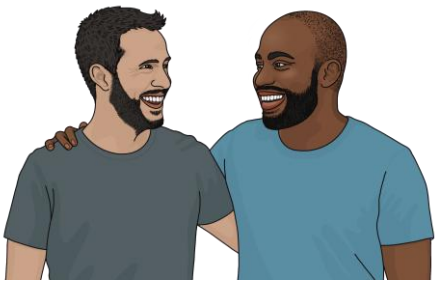
- safe, welcoming and kind



- accessible for everyone

- calm and not stressful

- run in a flexible way



- offering support, not just work.

How could the new group be better?

The new group should:

- **be trauma-informed**

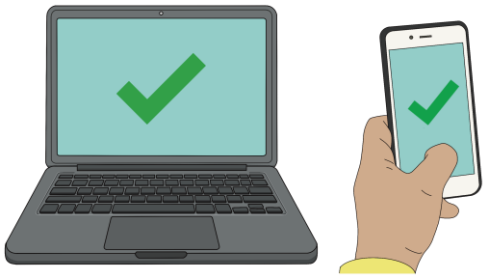
Trauma-informed means understanding that some people have had upsetting or difficult experiences.

It means helping people to feel safe, respected, and not overwhelmed.

For example, not rushing people. Or not making them talk about upsetting things.

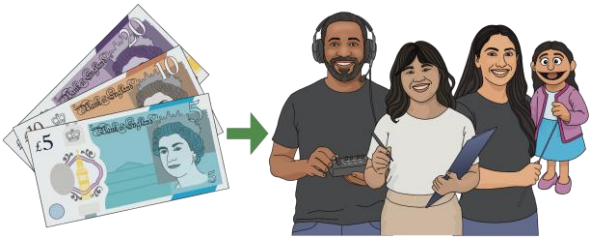
- **Use accessible online tools**

Not everyone feels safe using Facebook or Instagram.



The group should try other websites or apps that are simple to use.

- **Pay people fairly**

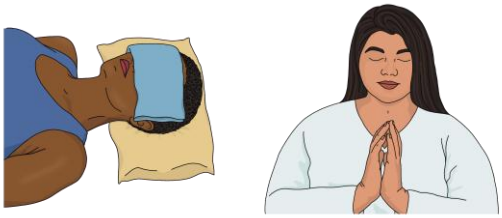


Artists need money to live. They should get fair pay and money for access support.

For example, money for:

- childcare

- BSL interpreters



- Rest time after doing upsetting work.

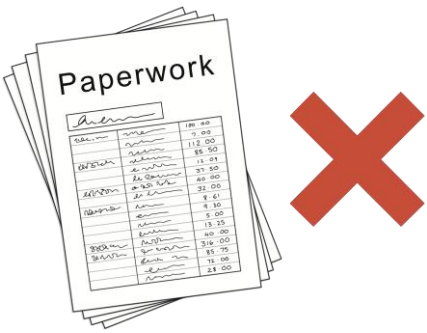
- **Build a caring community**

People want real friendships and support, not just formal meetings. There should be kindness, fun, and connection.

What needs to change in the art world?

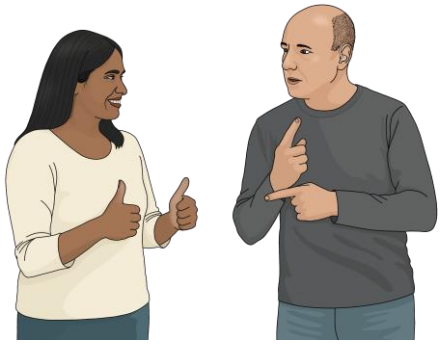
Artists told us the art world should:

- Offer longer jobs, not just short projects.



- Make it easier to apply. For example, have less paperwork.

- Support people who are parents or carers



- Understand that people communicate in different ways.

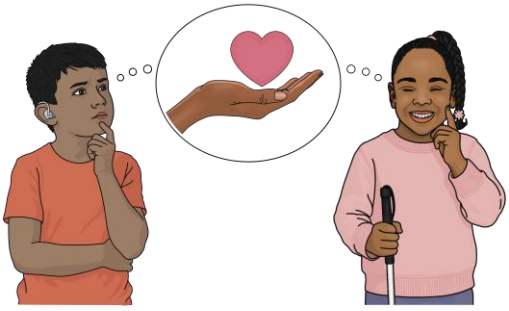
- Include more Global Majority, Disabled, working class, and LGBTQIA+ artists.

Children matter too

Adults talked about what they needed when they were young. They wanted:

- More art in rural and poor areas

- To see people like them making art



- Art that felt safe and worked for their needs.

What happens next?

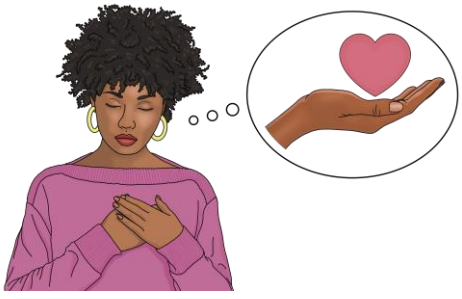
In the first year, the group will begin its work.

People said it is important to:

Take time to build trust

The group should take time to get to know each other.

People may come from different backgrounds and have different needs.



It is important that **all** people safe and respected in the group.

Go slowly and carefully

The group should not rush. It should take small steps. And try not to do everything at once.

This helps people feel included and not overwhelmed.

Listen to what people need

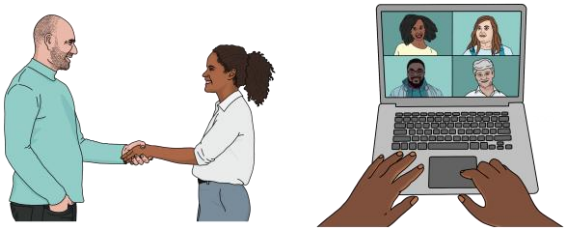
The group should ask people what kind of support or change they want.

It should listen carefully, especially to people who are often left out.

Meet people in different ways and places

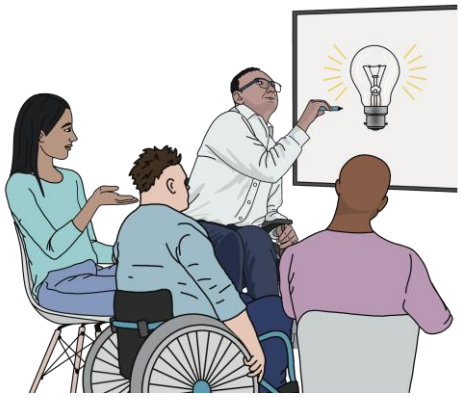
Not everyone likes the same kind of meeting.

Some people prefer small groups, online chats, or relaxed spaces.



The group should find different ways to connect and hear people's views.

Try new ideas and see what works



The group can test out small ideas.

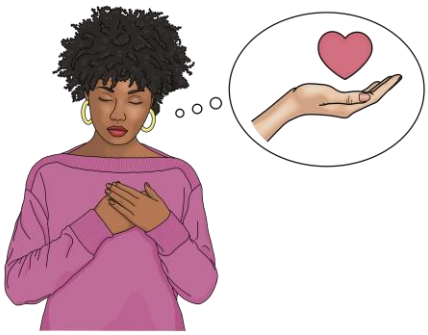
If something works well, it can grow.

If something does not work, that is OK – it is all part of learning.

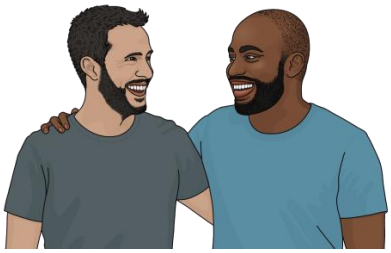
Do more research in the first year

The group still needs to find out some important things. For example:

What kind of support would help Global Majority People feel:



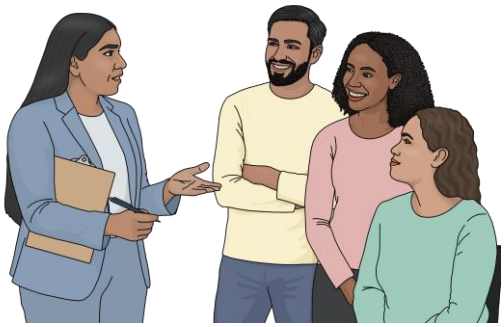
- Safe



- Included

- Able to take part.

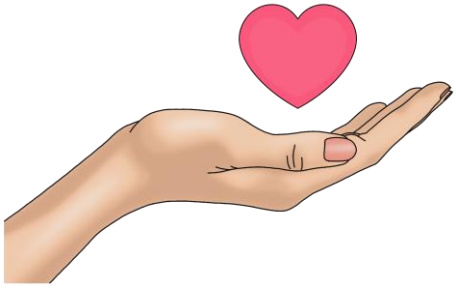
This research should be done by someone from the Global Majority.



This helps make sure the research includes different life experiences. Not just the same voices again.

We want to build something better

The way things work now is not fair for everyone.



We need something better and kinder.

Everyone should have a chance to be part of making shows for babies, children and young people.

Who made this report?

Kirstin Abraham wrote this report in April 2025. Kat Gollock took this photo of her.

Developing Scotland's Young Audiences Sector

The **Young Audience Group** asked her to write it.

The Young Audience Group includes:

- Action Boat
- Barrowland Ballet
- Catherine Wheels & Shona Reppe
- Curious Seed
- Frozen Charlotte
- Imaginate
- Independent Arts Projects
- Lyra
- Scottish Theatre Producers
- Starcatchers
- Visible Fictions

Creative Scotland paid for the report.

Door in the Wall Arts Access CIC made it into Easy Read in July 2025.