

Are you a theatre maker or company with an idea for a new piece of drama/ theatre you want to develop and tour to rural and community venues?

Background

Create Tour Connect (CTC) is a new innovative partnership project commissioning, developing and touring theatre and drama across the rural touring network in England. CTC supports the regional creation and touring of new work and connects this with a network of partners dedicated to small-scale touring.

CTC is a unique collaboration of over 18 partner organisations from the rural touring network, with four regional hubs (consortia) covering the North, Midlands, Southwest and Southeast. They represent a diverse range of small-scale community spaces including village and community halls, libraries, pubs, and other locally led venues. Each regional hub will offer a commissioned opportunity for new contemporary theatre and drama pieces for national touring.

The commission for the North will be led by regional consortia lead Culturapedia who deliver Spot On Lancashire.

Commission opportunity

- Proposal for a new piece of theatre relevant to contemporary rural adult audiences (2 hander).
- Fully funded 36-45 date tour across the Network (Feb/April 2026)
- The company or artist must be based in the North region of England as defined by Arts Council regions. (Commissions for artists based in the Southeast and Southwest will be announced at a later date).
- The company or artist must demonstrate understanding of or experience in touring to community spaces
- Availability to develop a new show (2025) and tour across the network in Spring 2026

Budget:

Development: £18,000 (inclusive) for the creation and production of a tour ready 2 hander theatre show

Associated Touring: The company will tour in spring 2026 fulfilling a national tour of between 36-45 dates over a 9-week period organised by the regional touring partners.

Touring fees: £31, 950 to cover all costs for two people on tour to deliver a 9 week (36-45 date) national tour.

Timescale:

- Development period (tbc during 2025)





- Touring – 36-45 dates from Feb-April 2026

Application process

Deadline: **3rd December 12 noon**

Shortlisted interviewees informed: **18th December 2024**

Interviews (online): **Wed 8th January 2025**

Decision: **15th January 2025**

Draft publicity assets for tour menus: **17th February 2025**

The successful artist/company will be selected by a panel of representatives from the commissioning organisations. A shortlist will be selected from the received applications who will be invited for an informal online chat on 8th January 2025 to discuss your proposal further before a final decision is made.

How to apply

Applications will be via the [Eventotron](#) online platform.

If you are already registered with **Eventotron** you can apply to **Create Tour Connect – North**. Otherwise, you will need to [register](#) first and then apply to the season above.

We are committed to equality of opportunity and welcome applications from individuals or companies, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, social background, religion and/or belief.

We want to hear about

- you/your company and the work you do
- your proposal and your experience or understanding of rural and community touring
- your budget and touring fees
- your approach to sustainability

If you feel more comfortable applying by video or voice recording, please contact Applause – office@applause.org.uk for further information.

If you have any questions about this commission call out and want to discuss your application before applying, please get in touch by emailing Sue Robinson: sue@culturapedia.co

