

UK THEATRE & SOLT SURVEY 3: IMPACT OF COVID-19

About this survey

UK Theatre and SOLT are continuing to investigate the impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19) on theatres' and producers' operations and income. Filling in this survey enables us to continue to lobby government on behalf of the UK theatre sector and to provide relevant services to our members.

Please only complete this survey if you are one (or both) of the following:

- A) Your organisation presents work (you are a theatre venue)
- B) Your organisation creates work for presentation (you are a producer/production company/producing venue)

The survey should be completed by one person in your organisation only. If you need to download the questions and share with colleagues, before filling in online, you can do so [here](#).

Please note – for this survey we are just gathering data relating to theatres and producers/production companies.

Please complete the survey by 17.00 Monday 11 May.

Data may be shared externally (with government and other relevant stakeholders). All commercial sales data will be aggregated and anonymised. If there are specific venue examples that we need to quote, we will seek the venue's permission beforehand. To see UK Theatre's privacy policy, visit [here: https://uktheatre.org/privacy-policy/](https://uktheatre.org/privacy-policy/). To see SOLT's privacy policy visit [here: https://solt.co.uk/privacy-policy/](https://solt.co.uk/privacy-policy/)

There are five sections to this survey: About your organisation; Re-opening; Recovery; Business Support Support Schemes; and Financial Measures Needed.

* 1. Do you agree to sharing your data in the above-mentioned ways?

Yes

* 2. Can you confirm that your organisation is one (or both) of the following:

Yes - our organisation presents work (we are a theatre venue)

Yes - our organisation creates work for presentation (we are a producer/production company/producing venue)

No - we are neither of these

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Organisation Details

* 3. Organisation / Company name

* 4. Are you a member of

- Society of London Theatre
- UK Theatre
- Independent Theatre Council (ITC)
- Creu Cymru
- Federation of Scottish Theatre (FST)
- Theatre NI
- None of these

* 5. What type of organisation are you representing?

- Theatre building/venue
- Production/touring company
- We do / are both of these

* 6. How are you funded, if at all?

- We're not, we're fully commercial
- Government subsidised (through Arts Councils / Creative Scotland)
- Both through one of the Arts Councils / Creative Scotland and Local Authority / Trust subsidised
- Local authority / Trust subsidised
- Social enterprise
- Charity / charitable trust
- Other (please specify)

* 7. Where is your organisation based?

- East
- East Midlands
- Greater London
- London's West End
- North East
- North West
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- South East
- South West
- Wales
- West Midlands
- Yorkshire And The Humber

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Re-opening

* 8. Have you planned various scenarios for opening?

- Yes
 No

* 9. If social distancing measures were completely lifted, how many weeks' / months' notice would you need to put on your first production? This includes set building, staff, contracts etc.

- 1 month
 2-3 months
 4-5 months
 6 months

10. If you are unable to put on pantomime/Christmas show in 2020, roughly what percentage of your overall yearly income / sales / revenue would you lose ?

- 10 % 20 % 30 % 40 % 50+ %

11. Would the absence of a pantomime/Christmas show put your organisation at risk of administration/insolvency?

- Yes
 No

12. Do you have an outdoor auditorium?

- Yes We have both indoor and outdoor
 No N/A - we are not a venue
 No, but we are looking into an outdoor set-up to happen in the coming months

13. How many auditoria do you have?

- 1 2 3 4

14. How many seats does your 1st auditorium have?

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> 0-50 | <input type="radio"/> 1001-1500 |
| <input type="radio"/> 51-250 | <input type="radio"/> 1501-2000 |
| <input type="radio"/> 251-500 | <input type="radio"/> 2000+ |
| <input type="radio"/> 501-1000 | <input type="radio"/> N/A - we are not a venue |

15. How many seats does your 2nd auditorium have?

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> 0-50 | <input type="radio"/> 1001-1500 |
| <input type="radio"/> 51-250 | <input type="radio"/> 1501-2000 |
| <input type="radio"/> 251-500 | <input type="radio"/> 2000+ |
| <input type="radio"/> 501-1000 | <input type="radio"/> N/A |

16. How many seats does your 3rd auditorium have?

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> 0-50 | <input type="radio"/> 1001-1500 |
| <input type="radio"/> 51-250 | <input type="radio"/> 1501-2000 |
| <input type="radio"/> 251-500 | <input type="radio"/> 2000+ |
| <input type="radio"/> 501-1000 | <input type="radio"/> N/A |

17. How many seats does your 4th auditorium have?

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> 0-50 | <input type="radio"/> 1001-1500 |
| <input type="radio"/> 51-250 | <input type="radio"/> 1501-2000 |
| <input type="radio"/> 251-500 | <input type="radio"/> 2000+ |
| <input type="radio"/> 501-1000 | <input type="radio"/> N/A |

* 18. Do you have a public restaurant / café / bar

- Yes
- No
- N/A - not a theatre venue

19. If **YES** is it possible for you to reopen these facilities whilst the current social distancing measures are still in place?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure
- N/A

* 20. Assuming that you have a full programme in place, is it possible for you to reopen your theatre whilst the current social distancing measures are still in place and break even?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure
- N/A - we are not a theatre venue

21. If you opened whilst social distancing measures are still in place, roughly what percentage of your auditorium would you be able to sell? (If you have more than one auditorium, please combine)

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 40-50% |
| <input type="radio"/> 1-10% | <input type="radio"/> 50-60% |
| <input type="radio"/> 10-20% | <input type="radio"/> 60-70% |
| <input type="radio"/> 20-30% | <input type="radio"/> 70%+ |
| <input type="radio"/> 30-40% | <input type="radio"/> N/A - we are not a venue |

* 22. **Venues:** If you were to open under current social distancing measures, what concerns might you have, aside from reduced income generation due to limited seating plans / capacity? (Please rank these: **1 IS OF THE MOST CONCERN, 10 IS OF THE LEAST.**)



Staff safety



Safe use of toilet facilities for customers



Getting people to their seats



Safely evacuating the building if needed



Safe use of bar / restaurant / café facilities for customers



Safely travelling to and from the theatre on public transport for customers and staff



Lack of customer confidence to return to public gatherings



Lack of money / willingness for customers to spend on theatre tickets



Less money spent on ancillary sales by customers



Impact of potential recession on customer behaviour and spend



Possibility of no / reduced local authority funding



Possibility of no / reduced national funding

* 23. **IF** government permit venues to reopen with all seating on sale, as of this week / today, when do you plan on re-opening/opening productions?

- September/October 2020
- Pre-Christmas 2020
- Spring 2021

24. Will you be able to reopen if you don't have a full programme of shows in place?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

* 25. Do you think the whole the UK theatre sector should reopen at the same time?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

26. If **YES** – when?

- As soon as possible, even if social distancing measures are still in place
- As soon as social distancing measures are completely lifted
- September/October 2020
- Pre-Christmas 2020
- Spring 2021

27. If you're a **London West End venue**, do you think all London West End theatres should reopen at the same time?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure
- N/A - we're not a London West End venue

28. If **YES** – when?

- As soon as possible, even if social distancing measures are still in place
- As soon as social distancing measures are completely lifted
- September/October 2020
- Pre-Christmas 2020
- Spring 2021
- N/A - we're not a London West End venue

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Recovery

* 29. In which month do your cashflow projections show that you have an issue financially?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> June 2020 | <input type="radio"/> Q1 2021 |
| <input type="radio"/> July/August 2020 | <input type="radio"/> Q2 2021 |
| <input type="radio"/> September/October 2020 | <input type="radio"/> Q3 or after 2021 |
| <input type="radio"/> November/December 2020 | |

* 30. **IF** the government lockdown continues beyond May/June, will you require further government support, similar to what is currently being provided, in order to continue operating your business?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

31. **Only answer this if you are a theatre venue:** how far ahead have you cancelled performances?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Until the end of May | <input type="radio"/> Until end of August |
| <input type="radio"/> Until the end of June | <input type="radio"/> Until end of September or further |
| <input type="radio"/> Until the end of July | |

32. **Only answer this if you are a producer/production company or producing theatre:** roughly how many weeks of future performances have you postponed or cancelled?

- 1-5
- 6-10
- 11-20
- 21+

33. **Only answer this if you are a producer/production company or producing theatre:** for any shows that were running at the time of the lockdown announcement, or were planned in the next few months, what have you decided to do with it/them? (if more than one, please say what you did with the majority of them)

- Cancel it completely
- Postpone it to a later date/s this year
- Postpone it to a later date/s next year
- Dates are still held, and I've not decided yet

34. Only answer this if you are a theatre: if you have shows currently pencilled in for the coming weeks and months, what is your rationale for not cancelling or postponing them? (answer as many as you like)

- I'm waiting for government advice
- I'm waiting to hear from the producer
- I can't afford to cancel due to insurance issues
- Other (please specify)

35. Only answer this if you are a producer/production company or producing theatre: if you are producing a show/s or a tour/s that has dates currently pencilled in for the coming weeks and months, what is your rationale for not cancelling or postponing it/them? (answer as many as you like)

- I'm waiting for government advice
- I'm waiting to hear from the theatre
- I can't afford to cancel due to insurance issues
- Other (please specify)

36. Only answer this if you are a theatre: once the government lockdown is removed including being able to sell all seats, how long do you think it will take for you to return to 100% full programming?

- 1-3 months
- 4-6 months
- 7-9 months
- 10 months +

37. Only answer this if you are a producer/production company or producing theatre: how long from the government lifting its lockdown (with all seats in relevant venues being able to be sold) will it be until your next show can be ready for its first performance?

- 1-3 months
- 4-6 months
- 7-9 months
- 10 months +

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Financial Measures Needed

We are at another critical point in lobbying government. We need to be very clear and concise in what the sector needs to both tell government, and our asks of it.

* 38. Below are some financial support measures we have identified that the sector needs. The sector, whether commercial or publicly supported, will need support to navigate this next period. We recognise they are all very important, and will ask for them all, however, please rank the measures you would find most impactful to your business. **(Please rank these: 1 WOULD HAVE THE MOST IMPACT, 10 WOULD HAVE THE LEAST IMPACT.)**



Additional grant funding – which needs to reach the whole sector not just those funded by ACE, Creative Scotland etc



Exploring concepts such as long-term bonds to recapitalise the sector



JRS continuance



Wage subsidy after JRS to enable organisations to get back to full employment but with help to pay people until audiences/confidence return



Extension of Theatre Tax Relief – either through increasing the % claimable, or though allowing additional items to be claimed (such as marketing spend)



Looking at whether a reduction in VAT on tickets would encourage consumers to purchase



A proper and coherent support package for freelancers / self employed

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Business Support Schemes

This section asks questions on the **Job Retention Scheme (JRS) (furloughing); Insurance; Loan Schemes; and the Retail, Hospitality, Leisure Grant (RHLG).**

39. How many **full-time staff** did you have on **1 March**?

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 51-100 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1-20 | <input type="radio"/> 101+ |
| <input type="radio"/> 21-50 | <input type="radio"/> Unsure |

40. JRS: What percentage of **full-time staff** have you furloughed?

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 40% | <input type="radio"/> 80% |
| <input type="radio"/> 10 % | <input type="radio"/> 50% | <input type="radio"/> 90% |
| <input type="radio"/> 20% | <input type="radio"/> 60% | <input type="radio"/> 100% (apart from me) |
| <input type="radio"/> 30% | <input type="radio"/> 70% | <input type="radio"/> Don't know |

41. How many **part-time/zero contract staff** did you have on **1 March**?

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 51-100 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1-20 | <input type="radio"/> 101+ |
| <input type="radio"/> 21-50 | <input type="radio"/> Unsure |

42. JRS: What percentage of **part-time/zero hours contract staff** have you furloughed ?

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 40% | <input type="radio"/> 80% |
| <input type="radio"/> 10 % | <input type="radio"/> 50% | <input type="radio"/> 90% |
| <input type="radio"/> 20% | <input type="radio"/> 60% | <input type="radio"/> 100% (apart from me) |
| <input type="radio"/> 30% | <input type="radio"/> 70% | <input type="radio"/> Don't know |

43. Roughly what percentage of **freelance/self-employed** people are working for you now?

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 40% | <input type="radio"/> 80% |
| <input type="radio"/> 10 % | <input type="radio"/> 50% | <input type="radio"/> 90% |
| <input type="radio"/> 20% | <input type="radio"/> 60% | <input type="radio"/> 100% |
| <input type="radio"/> 30% | <input type="radio"/> 70% | <input type="radio"/> Don't know |

44. Roughly what percentage of your workforce was **freelance/self-employed** on **1 March**?

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> 0 | <input type="radio"/> 40% | <input type="radio"/> 80% |
| <input type="radio"/> 10 % | <input type="radio"/> 50% | <input type="radio"/> 90% |
| <input type="radio"/> 20% | <input type="radio"/> 60% | <input type="radio"/> 100% |
| <input type="radio"/> 30% | <input type="radio"/> 70% | <input type="radio"/> Don't know |

45. Do you think you will be able to get **insurance** cover to allow you to re-open/produce new work?

- Yes
- Some, but not all
- No

46. Loan Schemes: Have you or do you intend to apply for the new '**Bounce Back loans**' scheme?

- Yes
- No

47. If **NO**, why not?

48. Loan Schemes: If you did not need access finance in the 12 months before the outbreak, are you now considering applying to (**Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme**) **CBILS**?

- Yes
- No

49. Loan Schemes: Did you try and apply for **CBILS** and not get one?

- Yes
- No

50. If **YES**, why were you unsuccessful?

51. Loan Schemes: Did you want to apply for **CBILS**, but were not eligible?

- Yes
- No

52. If **YES**, why weren't you eligible?

53. Loan Schemes: Do you have cashflow issues, but were not interested in **CBILS**? If so, why not?

54. Loan Schemes: Have you taken on a loan via the **CBILS** scheme?

Yes

No

55. If **YES**, what medium to long term impacts will this loan have for you (e.g reduced cashflow, additional business planning)?

* 56. Retail, Hospitality, Leisure Grant (RHLG): Are you a producer/producing theatre, or a Theatre?

Producer/producing theatre

Theatre

57. RHLG: Is the **rateable value** of your business over £51k?

Yes

No

58. RHLG: Are you eligible for the **RHLG**?

Yes

No

59. If **NO**, is it because

Our rateable value is over £51k

Other (please specify)

60. RHLG: Are you taking up the RHLG grant?

Yes

No

61. If **NO**, why not?

62. **RHLG**: Have you been contacted by your local authority about the new **discretionary business grants fund** which has been set up to accommodate certain small businesses previously outside the scope of the business grant funds scheme?

Yes

No