

***For immediate release***

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## CREATIVE LIVES UNDER LOCKDOWN

### Seed seeks artists with ideas for new small commissions

**Monday 19 April 2020:** Seed, the Arts Council England funded Creative People and Places project for Sedgemoor, is seeking expressions of interest from artists to develop and deliver activities or small collaborative artworks which will engage, support and creatively connect people in Sedgemoor during the Covid-19 lockdown.

Consortium chairperson Claire Tough from Homes in Sedgemoor explains "Social isolation and lack of community connection are significant issues for some in the Sedgemoor district at the best of times. With the community being locked in for the duration, this is being exacerbated. So, we are looking for artists to deliver creative responses to the challenges posed by the lockdown. They should be creative in nature and bring engagement and fun. They should keep people connected and enable new connections to be made."

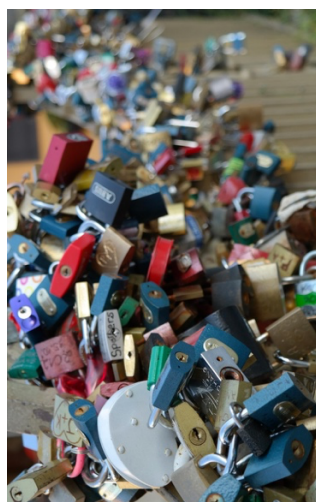
Seed Director Scott O'Hara said "We are interested in any creative ideas that will bring people together within the confines of lockdown. Artists can apply via an expression of interest on our website [www.seedsedgemoor.com](http://www.seedsedgemoor.com). The most promising ideas will be commissioned to undertake a research and development stage. We will provide £400 as a fee for these ideas to be developed into a full proposal which will be due one week later. The best Stage 2 proposals will be funded for delivery."

Depending on the number and scope of each proposal a further figure between £600 and £1500 will be available for each commission. The first round expressions of interest must be received by 12 noon on Monday 27 April 2020.

The campaign is part of a larger effort to consult with the community about the kinds of creative arts activities they would like to see developed through the Creative People and Places programme. Anyone living or working in Sedgemoor is invited to join the conversation at [www.seedsedgemoor.com](http://www.seedsedgemoor.com) where you can complete an online survey which is also available at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/QZLMR3Q>.

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## IMAGES



Full size Images to accompany this release can be downloaded via:

[https://drive.google.com/open?id=1WfUoCn43t35L7oDNqglS8\\_xV92ZnbDDu](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1WfUoCn43t35L7oDNqglS8_xV92ZnbDDu)

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### **Seed Sedgmoor**

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**Seed** is a Consortium of local organisations comprising:

Homes in Sedgemoor,  
Community Council for Somerset,  
Bridgwater Senior Citizens Forum,  
Somerset Film; and  
Bridgwater Town Council.

We believe that arts, culture and creativity are not elite activities, but should be an ordinary part of everyday life, created by, with and for the people. This can be achieved in partnerships with artists in all forms of the creative arts, working in response to the collective imagination and reflecting the things that are important to the communities of Sedgemoor. We seek to make creative arts, culture and heritage part of everyday life in Sedgemoor by growing new opportunities for its people to participate, create and celebrate.

**Seed** is part of the **Creative People and Places** programme, initiated and funded by Arts Council England through the National Lottery. Creative People and Places is about more people taking the lead in choosing, creating and taking part in art experiences in the places where they live. There are 30 independent projects, each located in an area where people have traditionally had fewer opportunities to get involved with the arts. Between 2013-2018 Creative People and Places projects have reached over 3 million people, 89% of who do not regularly engage in the arts

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If you would like further information about Seed, this announcement or to arrange an interview please contact Scott O'Hara via [scott@seedsedgemoor.com](mailto:scott@seedsedgemoor.com) or on 07484 820672

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