Fusion Pioneer Area Programme (From Fort to Pit to Port) 2016/17 Fund

**Merthyr & Cardiff Guidance**

**Want to propose an activity that supports engagement between cultural organisations and people living in Communities First areas in Cardiff and Merthyr Tydfil?**

**Fort to Pit to Port**

The Fusion Pioneer Initiative was developed following a report by Baroness Kay Andrews OBE to find ways in which cultural and heritage bodies can work more closely together to broaden access to, appreciation of and participation in, culture in ways that contribute to reducing poverty. For further information see <http://gov.wales/topics/cultureandsport/tackling-poverty-through-culture/?lang=en>

There are currently 10 Pioneer areas on Wales working to promote new ways of bringing arts, cultural and heritage partners and Communities First organisations and communities together.

From Fort to Pit to Port celebrates the shared cultural and social heritage of the Cardiff Capital Region but specifically involves two clusters in the Cardiff area and one in Merthyr Tydfil. These are:

* BRG Communities First consisting of Butetown, River side and Grangetown;
* Cardiff West (ACE) Communities First consisting of; Ely, Caerau, Fairwater & Pentrebane.
* North Merthyr Tydfil, consisting of Gurnos, Gulan Uchaf, Dowlais, Pant and Pennydarren

The lead for this Pioneer Area is Cardiff University and we invite cultural organisations to propose activities that will support the plans of the Communities First clusters involved.

The Cardiff & Merthyr Fusion Fund will be available to aid in the delivery of activities that make the most of the benefits of cultural involvement for those living in our most deprived communities.

**Who can apply?**

**From Fort to Pit to Port Fund** will award funding to arts and heritage organisations for activities that support people living in the above Communities First Clusters within the City and County of Cardiff and in North Merthyr Tydfil.

We particularly welcome proposals that are pilots used to test approaches that could be scaled up or used as the basis for further funding

All applicants must demonstrate how they will work with Communities First Cluster partners. **In order to do this effectively it is** **essential that you contact the relevant cluster teams prior to submission.**

**Timetable**

The deadline for submissions is 18 November 2016

Applicants will be informed of the decision on their proposal by 25 November 2017

Activities should be completed by 28 February 2017.

**Finance**

Projects will be eligible for grants up to the value of £3,000. Funds can be used to reimburse all costs associated with the project including: equipment hire, venue hire, purchase of materials associated with project delivery. The grant will not cover the costs of staff who are already fully funded but may cover contracts for additional staff such as artists or people working in community development. Funded organisations will be expected to provide resources in kind such as access to their archives, staff time and equipment.