



# CYNGOR LLYFRAU CYMRU BOOKS COUNCIL of WALES

## ENGLISH-LANGUAGE PUBLISHING GRANTS

### GUIDELINES

#### CLASSICS GRANT

## 1 AIMS

The scheme funds the re-publication of out-of-print or otherwise forgotten classic works of Welsh literature in English. These titles may include prose, poetry, essays, anthologies, memoirs, drama, and journalism. Titles for children as well as adults will be considered. Grants are offered as contributions towards anticipated deficits.

## 2 ELIGIBILITY

### *Who may apply?*

The scheme is open to publishers in Wales who have a regular publishing programme or have viable plans to establish such a programme. Applications cannot be accepted from authors, self-publishing companies or publishers who wish only, or primarily, to publish their own work (see the **Information for Authors**, <https://llyfrau.cymru/en/awduron-2/>).

### *Which books are eligible?*

The scheme is targeted at rare or out-of-print books of particular literary or cultural merit which might be deemed 'classics' of Welsh literature in English. Categories eligible for support include poetry, fiction, drama, memoir, and anthologies, for children or adults.

All books (except, occasionally, books for small children) must contain at least 48 pages of text.

Where there is uncertainty as to eligibility, publishers are asked to discuss their projects with the Books Council's Publishing Development Department before submitting their application.

## 3 ASSESSMENT CRITERIA AND PRIORITIES

Applications will be assessed according to the following criteria, as appropriate:

- the work's status as 'classic' – what is the literary, artistic, or cultural merit of this work? What is the significance of the work and/or author? What contribution does it make to the existing canon of Welsh writing in English?
- the publisher's ability to edit, publish, market and distribute throughout Wales and beyond
- the degree to which the publisher's need for funding is demonstrated.

There will be stiff competition for these grants: it is important that each application argues the case for awarding a grant as fully as possible.

#### 4 THE GRANT

- The total annual budget for this scheme is in the region of £12,000.
- There is no minimum or maximum grant, but in general the Books Council seeks to meet the difference between the costs of publishing a book and the likely income from sales of this title in the first two years.
- There is no restriction on the number of applications a publisher may submit, but please bear in mind that competition will be fierce and funds finite.

#### 5 APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND TIMETABLE

- Applications must be made on the application form [GA Classics (2021)] which may be obtained from the address at the end of this document, or from the Books Council website.
- The completed form must be accompanied by a complete typescript of the book in digital form, or two hardcopies. In exceptional cases, a sample and/or synopsis may be acceptable, but publishers who wish to explore this option should contact the Publishing Development Department before submitting their application (please note that such applications will be competing against full manuscripts.)
- Publishers should highlight any additional information which will help the Books Council make an informed judgement (e.g. about illustrations or other material not signalled in the typescript).
- The Books Council will commission its own report(s) on the submitted work, which will recommend to the English-language Publishing Grants Subcommittee whether or not a grant should be offered. Copies of these reports will be sent to the publisher. The identity of the Books Council's reader(s), however, will only be made known with their consent.
- Applications are considered by the English-language Publishing Grants Subcommittee, which meets four times a year, usually in February, May, July and October. Deadlines for applications are posted on BCW's website. Applicants will be informed of decisions within a week of the Subcommittee meeting.
- Grants will not be awarded retrospectively. Publishers should allow sufficient time between a Subcommittee meeting and the planned publication date (six months) to avoid committing to publication before hearing the outcome of their application. Should the publication date be too close to the date of the Subcommittee meeting, the Subcommittee may assume that there is not a genuine need for grant-aid.
- All publishers in receipt of a Classics Grant must adhere to the General Terms and Conditions [GT&C CLASSICS (2021)], including the timely supply of bibliographical data and making grant-aided titles available through normal trade channels (including the Books Council's Distribution Centre). Publishers are asked to familiarise themselves with this document before proceeding with an application.

#### 6 PAYMENT OF GRANTS

The Books Council will release the grant to the publisher on receipt of four complimentary copies of the book (ordered from the Distribution Centre) and a completed claim form [GC CLASSICS (2021)]. The Books Council reserves the right to alter the amount of the grant payable if the details in the claim form differ significantly from information presented in the original application or if the publisher fails to adhere to the conditions of grant aid [GT&C CLASSICS (2021)]. Please note that grants that have still not been claimed 12 months after the publication date noted on the application form will be automatically revoked.

## 7 MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF WORK FUNDED

The Books Council will ask publishers to provide regular updates of sales figures for titles supported under this scheme and may also require copies of reviews to help monitor quality. It is a condition of grant that these figures should be supplied.

### NOTES ON COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM (as referred to on the form)

- Category** Please insert the Category of book you intend to publish. The Book Industry Communication (BIC) Standard Subject Categories & Qualifiers scheme is the standard classification scheme for the UK book trade and other English-language markets, and a full list of categories can be found at [www.bic.org.uk/productinfo-subjectcat.html](http://www.bic.org.uk/productinfo-subjectcat.html). The main relevant category headings are as follows, but please see the full list for more detail:

A	The Arts	G	Reference, Information & Interdisciplinary Studies
B	Biography & True Stories	H	Humanities (History, Archaeology, Philosophy, Religion)
C	Language	J	Society & Social Sciences
D	Literature & Literary Studies	W	Lifestyle, Sport & Leisure
F	Fiction & Related Items	Y	Children's, Young Adult & Educational
- Format** The format of the book you intend to publish should be appropriate for the category of book and follow industry norms, e.g. 'A format', normally a trimmed page size of 178 x 111 mm (unsewn), is the usual format of mass market paperbacks; 'B format', normally a trimmed page size of 198 x 126 mm (unsewn), is the usual format for paperbacks favoured for non-fiction and literary fiction. If in doubt, please consult the Books Council. Grants will not be awarded for books which have inappropriate formats or poor production standards.
- Publication Date** Please give a full publication date. You may amend this, if necessary, as long as adequate notice is given and the title does not slip beyond 12 months; see the General Terms and Conditions of Grant [GT&C CLASSICS (2021)]. Where only a month and year are given, the default date of the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month will be used by the Books Council.
- Royalties** The Books Council usually bases grants on royalties of 10% of the net receipts; see the General Terms and Conditions of Grant [GT&C CLASSICS (2021)].

**Application forms and further advice can be obtained from:**

**Publishing Development Department, Books Council of Wales, Castell Brychan,  
Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 2JB  
e-mail: [english.grants@books.wales](mailto:english.grants@books.wales)**