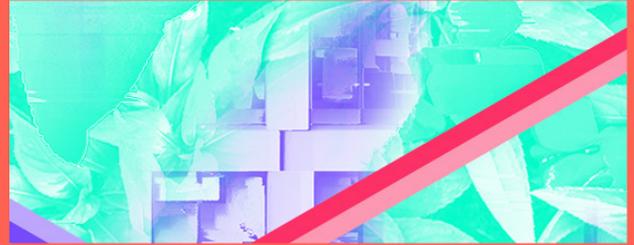


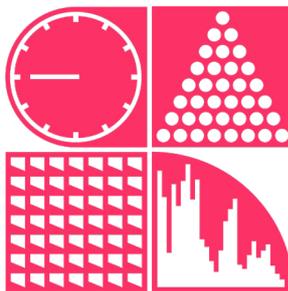
# REDUNDANCY RESOURCES FOR ARTS & CULTURE WORKERS

TWT Arts - Sep. 2020



*This document was compiled with the support of activists and organisers from PCS Culture and Acorn and distributed as part of the Day of Strategy for Arts and Culture Workers organised by The World Transformed. It contains a non-exhaustive list of links and contacts on interconnected issues, which participants facing redundancies or precarious working conditions in the context of Covid-19 may find helpful.*

*The document is intended as a supplement to, and should not be a replacement for, seeking support from relevant personnel such as medical professionals or Trade Unionists. TWT is not responsible for the content in these resources. In the present moment laws and available support are changing rapidly, so please be aware that information within the links provided, especially static documents, may become outdated.*



## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

First, it is advised to check these two websites for information about benefits you may be eligible for:

- **Job Seeker's Allowance:**

<https://www.gov.uk/jobseekers-allowance>

- **Universal Credit:** <https://www.gov.uk/universal-credit>

The benefits system can be complex to navigate. Your Trade Union may be able to help you with welfare or financial advice. Find out what's available and how to seek their advice from the member benefits/services sections of their website.

Non-sector specific advice can also be found via **Citizens Advice:** <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/>



## MENTAL HEALTH

Redundancy and its consequences can be highly detrimental to mental health. In addition to seeking advice from your GP, Mental Health services and Employee Assistance Programmes support and information is also available via charities and other services. Here are some which you may find helpful:

### **Able Future**

Provide a wide range of mental health support services delivered by qualified health care professionals. Freephone number at 0800 321 3137 (Monday to Friday, 8am – 10.30pm) <https://www.able-futures.co.uk>

### **NHS Mental Health Apps**

<https://www.nhs.uk/apps-library/category/mental-health/>

### **Mental Health in the workplace**

A guide produced by the Trade Union Congress (TUC):

<https://www.tuc.org.uk/resource/mental-health-and-workplace>

### **Samaritans**

Free 24 hour, 7 days a week, 365 days a year helpline <https://www.samaritans.org>

### **MIND**

The mental health charity, on redundancy: <https://www.mind.org.uk/workplace/coronavirus-and-work/coping-with-redundancy/>

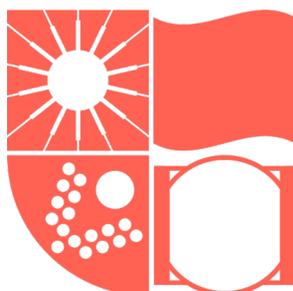
### **ArtsMinds**

Resources for performers and creative practitioners facing mental health issues:

[www.artsminds.co.uk](http://www.artsminds.co.uk)

### **Black Mental Health**

Video exploring lived experiences and getting help: <http://blackmentalhealth.live/>



## HOUSING

ACORN is a community union, that brings people together to defend our homes and communities and fight for what we deserve. They have a track record of winning gains for tenants - from repairs and compensation to preventing evictions.

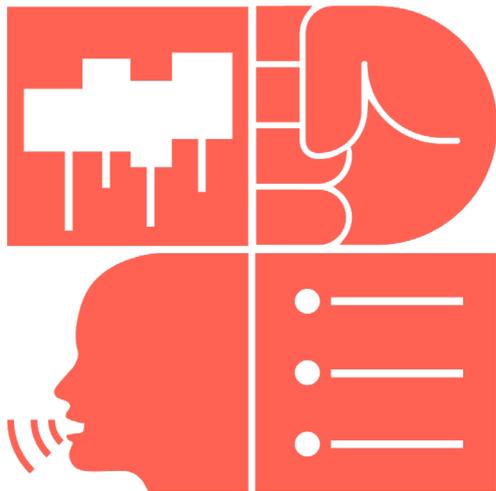
**If you have a housing issue, join ACORN** and you can work with other members to take direct action on it: <https://acorntheunion.org.uk/join/>

**If you're in London, join London Renters Union:** <https://londonrentersunion.org/join/>

**Or in Scotland, join Living Rent:** <https://www.livingrent.org/join>

Sources of information and support on specific housing issues can also be found here, though do bear in mind that policies are changing frequently:

<https://acorntheunion.org.uk/coronavirus-latest-information-for-renters/?fbclid=IwAR0DCi5OUxcnuppGgdQrL9IDkKJmImL-IYVryN5IdtmNYo4QnJ9-Sms7ac20>



## EMPLOYMENT, REDUNDANCIES AND KNOWING YOUR RIGHTS

An **outline of your rights when facing redundancy** is on the government website here: <https://www.gov.uk/redundancy-your-rights>. Your company's policy may entitle you to more than your statutory rights. Check what's outlined in your employment contract/house agreement.

If your workplace recognises a Trade Union, your workplace rep would be a good first point of contact if you are facing the possibility of redundancies. If your workplace does not recognise a Trade Union this does not mean you can't join one!

You can **find out which union is the most appropriate** for your role and sector via the Trade Union Congress website here: <https://findyourunion.tuc.org.uk>

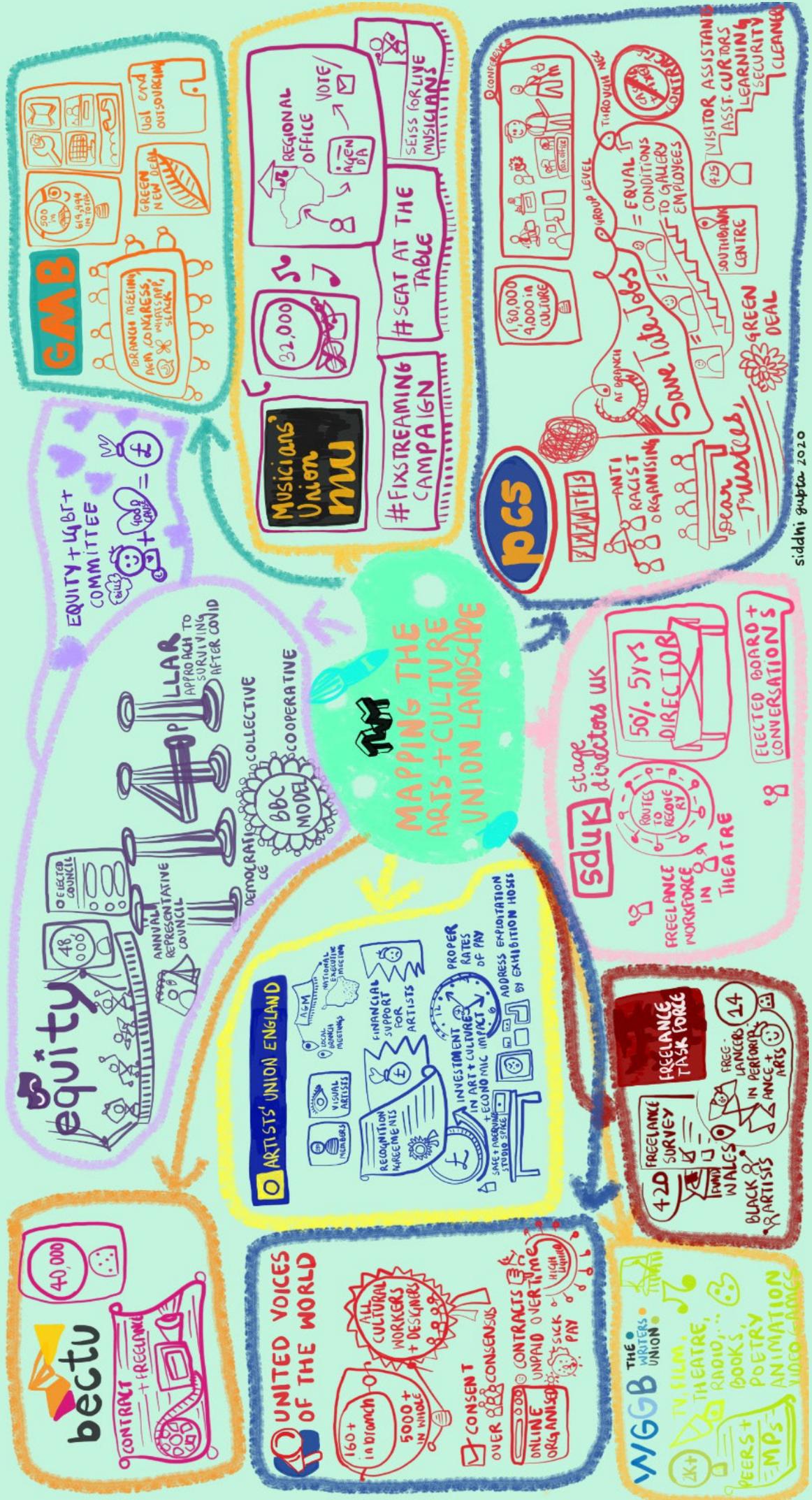
In addition to the TUC unions listed here, **other grassroots unions** such as UVW and IWGB have sections related to the arts and culture sector and freelance workers. Here is the "Know Your Rights" pages on UVW's website: <https://www.uvwunion.org.uk/know-your-rights>





# MAP OF ARTS & CULTURE UNIONS

Video description available at: <https://youtu.be/OgzaMcPHsWY>



siddhi gupta 2020