**SUTCo Accessible Runs Community Consultation**

Thank you for taking the time to respond to our consultation, we really hope that your feedback will help us to improve our accessible runs to ensure they are helping our community! Please note, if there are alternative formats which make responding easier and/or more accessible, such as submitting a video or voice recording, an email, or other format, please feel free to respond to any questions in this manner. Please email all submissions to [**inclusions.sutco@gmail.com**](mailto:inclusions.sutco@gmail.com). Thank you, we really appreciate your help & insights!

**~ Sophie Layton (she/her)**

**Welfare & Inclusions Officer**

**Sheffield University Theatre Company (SUTCo)**

**Have you been to a SUTCo accessible run before?**

Yes No Unsure

Other:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**If yes, what were your thoughts? (Feel free to name the production, & add or omit any details you wish to)**

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***What is the Purpose of this consultation?***

*As Welfare & Inclusions Officer, I recognise that our current system of organising accessible runs is not ideal, with many production teams unsure what alterations to make, & whether these are beneficial to our audiences. By running this consultation, we are hoping to produce a guidance document for our production teams on curating their accessible run, as well as give our welfare team the information we need to advise them as they seek to make their changes*

***What can't we adjust?***

*Whilst we aim to make our accessible runs as inclusive as possible, due to a variety of factors, there are some factors which cannot be adjusted. Some of those factors include:*

* *The venue - Our show's entire run, including the accessible run, will play at the same venue, which cannot be altered. Whilst we can adjust how the space & resources available are used, we are unable to use an alternative venue for a single performance*
* *The script - Whilst sections can be altered, adjusted or omitted, our cast learn the standard script for their performances, which largely cannot be changed. This includes the words spoken, the way the scene is blocked (how performers are placed within the space) & the general plot or storyline, although some alterations to address specific triggers can usually be accommodated*
* *Timing - Standard SUTCo productions begin at 7:30pm, & run for their entire length, usually with an interval. Both the start time & total runtime usually cannot be altered, due to restrictions on our bookings of the spaces we use*
* *What shows we platform - The show selection process is different to the process to establishing accessible runs. During the pre-proposals & proposals period, time is specifically allocated to discussing content of the productions, its intentions & any issues the proposing team can foresee with their show. Once it has passed proposals, that show will be created, although adjustments can still be made*

***How does a SUTCo Accessible Run currently work?***

*Our current system for facilitating accessible runs works by each show's Technical Officer discussing with the Production Team what adjustments can & need to be made to the standard run of the show. This can involve reducing lighting & sound states, keeping house lights up at a low level & emitting some more graphic content, if this is applicable*

*However, this system is largely very ad-hoc, with many not certain what adjustments should be made or whether these changes are actually effective, hence the running of this consultation*

***The Planning Stage***

*To begin, we're looking at the planning stage - from the first discussions until the day of the Accessible Run*

* *Currently, our TO sits down with the Production Team & discusses adjustments for an accessible run from the standard production & agrees with them any changes that need to be made, which are then passed onto cast & technical teams for them to adjust their departments*
* *Our productions usually run from Wednesdays to Saturdays, with one evening performance on each day. The Accessible Run is currently held on the Thursday evening*

**When is the best time for an Accessible Run, in your opinion? This can be in general or for you specifically**

*(\_)*

**What is the best way to communicate information about the Accessible Run beforehand, & what information would you like to see included in any such communication?**

*(\_)*

**Do you have any other comments, ideas or suggestions about improving the planning section of an Accessible Run?**

*(\_)*

***Arriving at an Accessible Run***

**We currently use an online ticket service, which sends a QR Code ticket to audience’s emails. Is this system one that is useful for an accessible run? If not, what would be preferable?**

*(\_)*

**We usually open the venue at 7pm, with audiences able to go to their seats at 7:15pm. Is this system optimal for an Accessible Run? If not, what would be preferable?**

*(\_)*

**We display content warnings before every performance & have script extracts available if required.  Is this system optimal for an Accessible Run? If not, what would be preferable?**

*(\_)*

**Once an audience member has entered the auditorium, are there any features you would like to see pre-show during an accessible run, such as being introduced to the cast & characters, being able to explore the playing space, etc.?**

*(\_)*

**Do you have any other comments, ideas or suggestions about improving the pre-show section of an Accessible Run?**

*(\_)*

***During the Show***

**What sort of adjustments to the standard performance would be beneficial for an Accessible Run / you? This can include lighting, sound, the way the script is performed, accessible features such as hearing loops & interpretation, house lights, the ability to leave, the content covered, etc.**

*(\_)*

**Do you have any other comments, ideas or suggestions about improving the show section of an Accessible Run?**

*(\_)*

***Interval***

**In your opinion, what is the maximum time a show should be playing before needing to have an interval?**

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**How long should an interval be during an accessible run? Our standard interval length is ~20 minutes**

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**Are there any features that you would like to see during an accessible run's interval? This can include visibility / access to the playing space, interval music, or anything else that you would like to see / not see**

*(\_)*

**Do you have any other comments, ideas or suggestions about improving the interval section of an Accessible Run?**

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**Thank you for filling in the Accessible Runs Consultation! We hope that we will be able to make Accessible Runs as effective as possible!**

**Do you have any further comments, ideas or suggestions you wish to make / feedback to us?**

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