

QUESTIONNAIRE

General

- Name of Bid:
A: SMOFcon 2021 in Europe
- Person(s) Smofcon should contact about this questionnaire and about the Fannish Inquisition at Smofcon 35 (*including email address*):
A: Vincent Docherty Vincent.Docherty@gmail.com
[A discussion/research group is being set up currently for those interested in helping with the bid.]
- What dates are you bidding for?
A: 2021 – likely the weekend of 3-5 December.
- What is your proposed convention host city? Is your convention site in a city center location or a suburb? If a suburb, what are the transport options into the city center? How far is the site from the city center?
• A: Somewhere in Europe (which, despite current events, includes the UK!) – either somewhere easy to get to, with a significant local fannish population, like London (perhaps near Heathrow Airport), Glasgow, Dublin or Amsterdam, or somewhere warmer and with attractions, such as Prague, Barcelona, Nice, Rome.
- What are your main facilities? How far are your hotels from your main venue?
• A: Likely site will be a hotel including meeting facilities.
- Who is your bid chair? Who is on your committee? What experience do they have in general? In running Worldcons?
A: Committee to be formalized in the next year, and chair is likely to be Vincent Docherty (twice Worldcon chair, and 2011 SMOFcon chair) and a multitude of people from Europe and other places, many with a lot of experience.
- If known, who will be the chair of the convention? What experience do they have?
A: Same as above.
- Have you agreed to participate in Pass-Along Funds? Would you be willing to increase the percentage from 50% to 70% of surplus?
A: N/A

Travel

- What is the typical current airfare to your closest airport from world cities such as London, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, Melbourne?
A: Assuming a London facility, then current rates are around: Boston/Chicago \$600+, LA 700+, Melbourne \$1200+ (There are some even cheaper rates, when I look around.)
- Do international flights, as well as domestic, fly into your local airport? Which airlines? If not, where is the closest international airport? Are direct flights from the cities above flown into your local airport?
A: If London then many, many flights. The other options all have major international airports.

- How far is your convention site from the nearest airport/train station and what is the likely cost of getting to the hotels by both public transport and taxi from that airport/train station?
A: If Heathrow then very convenient including free bus service. Most major European cities have good transport links.

Facilities

- What hotel(s) are being used for the convention? How many rooms, what type, accessibility issues, etc.?
A: If Heathrow, then one of several hotels close-by which have been used by conventions such as the UK Eastercon (eg. The Park Inn, Heathrow.) They have lots of function and social space.
- What are your hotel room rates? Do these rates include breakfast? Do they include internet in the room? How firm are these rates? What additional taxes and fees are there?
A: For the same weekend in 2018 the Park Inn is showing a Radisson member rate of £78 B&B. All include UK Sales tax. It's not high season in most of the other European cities, so a rate in the low \$100 per room, including tax is likely.
- What does parking cost at your main hotels?
A: Often available – tbc.
- What is the distance from the nearest door of your main hotel(s) to the closest entrance of the convention site? What are the transportation options for those who prefer not to walk or who have mobility difficulties?
A: N/A
- Where will your large events (i.e. Hugo Ceremony and Masquerade) be held?
A: N/A
- Please describe the restaurant scene near your site.
A: Varies. In Heathrow mostly in the hotels. In most other cities, the hotel will likely be near the restaurant areas.
- What arrangements will be made for evening socializing and party space? Do you have a corkage waiver?
A: Almost certainly in the hotel bar area, as usual in Europe, supplemented with limited catering in function space, subject to corkage - To be worked on.
- Please describe the policies / laws regarding smoking in your hotel(s), convention center, and city.
A: Pretty universally no smoking now, except in designated rooms/zones.

Miscellaneous

- What type of weather can we expect during your convention? What is the average temperature during that time of year?
A: It's Europe in December – likely cold (possibly frosty) and wet - bring layers, sensible shoes and an umbrella. Some of the southern options might be a bit warmer.
- What are some of the main tourist attractions of your city?
A: They'll all have museums, buildings and ruins older than some countries, and loads of other attractions.
- Are you planning to have any membership discounts for certain groups, such as young adults,

military, or seniors?

A: TBC.

- Do you have a code of conduct?

A: There will be one.

- Other: Yes, I expect to get asked about Brexit. I have no idea, and nor does anyone else at this stage...