**Case Closed First Chapter Competition**

**Eligibility Criteria**

You can view the **BSL** video, listen to the **audio** and read the **.doc** versions of these FAQs on the Case Closed project page website:

<https://www.spreadtheword.org.uk/projects/case-closed/>

Spread the Word is delighted to announce the Case Closed First Chapter Competition in partnership with C&W Literary Agency. We are **inviting first chapter entries** for new crime, thriller and mystery fiction from emerging writers aged over 18 and resident in the UK who are underrepresented in UK publishing, we define this as:

* 1. By underrepresented we mean writers from one or more of the following communities:
     1. Black, Asian, Global Majority
     2. Deaf and/or Disabled
     3. LGBTQIA+
     4. Working Class
  2. By emerging we mean:
     1. Unagented
     2. Does not have a publishing contract for a full-length work at the time of entering (please let Spread the Word know if you sign a publishing deal for a full-length work after you have entered the Competition, as this would render you ineligible).
     3. Has not previously published in print a full-length work. We define a full-length work as:
        1. A complete work of fiction or non-fiction over 50,000 words;
        2. Ten or more short stories either in a collection or published individually;
        3. A professionally produced theatre script or screenplay, or radio play;
        4. Twenty or more poems either in a collection or published individually.

The Case Closed website is: <https://www.spreadtheword.org.uk/projects/case-closed/>

If you are considering submitting an entry to the Competition, please make sure you have read the **Terms and Conditions** and **FAQs**, available on the website in BSL video, audio and .doc formats in the link above.

If you have any questions about entering the Case Closed First Chapter Competition please contact:

Bobby Nayyar at Spread the Word at: [Bobby@spreadtheword.org.uk](mailto:Bobby@spreadtheword.org.uk)

The Case Closed First Chapter Competition is managed by Spread the Word in partnership with C&W Literary Agency.

July 2023